**Rethinking year 7 MFL teaching**

**Differentiation ideas for a very mixed year 7 group (some 4 yrs Primary French, some 4 yrs Primary other languages, some little or no language learning experience).**

The topic of personal information

Group 1

* A new context for familiar (to some) language, eg. a book, story-telling, poems, history, other countries, recipe (purpose)
* Recycle/teach core vocabulary while developing skills that may be less well-developed, e.g. through speaking spontaneously eg. picture description type activities
* Teach/practise core vocabulary but using a different persona, role play
* Base work around a clear, tangible end of topic outcome, e.g. display, video clip
* Provide textbook/mat for those with little language; dictionary for those with lots, and differentiated tasks to use language accordingly
* Encourage learners to take part in spelling bees, competitions, to develop core vocab for those who need it and expand the vocab of those with basics already
* Differentiated homework tasks
* Teach independent learning skills and make learners aware of where to progress to (checklists – self-assessment)
* Independent open-ended project-type activities

Group 2

* Based on a book eg Astérix, Tintin (for cultural aspect too)
* Language mats for support, colour-coded eg.
* Blue for core vocab/phrases that ALL need as a minimum (FR and ENG)
* Red for what MOST will be expected to use (FR and ENG?)
* Green for SOME for possible extensions (FR only)
* What can each group with prior learning contribute?
* 4 yr FR – peer teaching of language, leading groups etc.
* 4 yr other langs – peer teaching, sharing of strategies and skills for language learning
* Mixed groupings for support during core activities – extracts for reading aloud, looking for cognates/parts of speech/towards gist/translation
* 4 yr FR to create new chapters and characters to introduce to the rest of the class (end of unit goal?), both orally and written.