

The Japan Foundation London  
Japanese Taster for Schools (JTS) Programme



# Free Japanese Taster Sessions for schools



Are you curious about teaching Japanese language at your school, but not sure where to start?

Is your school planning a Languages Day, International Day or Japan Day?

Are your students mad for martial arts, sushi or Japanese comics and cartoons?

The Japan Foundation's **Japanese Taster for Schools (JTS) Programme** could be just right for you!



# The Japan Foundation London

## Japanese Taster for Schools (JTS) Programme

### What is the Japanese Taster for Schools Programme?

The Japanese Taster for Schools (JTS) Programme (formerly known as “StepOutNet”) exists to create links between schools and Japanese-speaking volunteers. JTS volunteers carry out school visits across the UK to introduce students at any level to the Japanese language, often as part of an International or Japan day. The main purpose of a Japanese Taster is to introduce schools who are not currently teaching Japanese to the language and culture, and to inform them of how to go about introducing the language as an extra-curricular activity or curriculum subject. JTS visits can be arranged to take place at schools around the UK.

### Who are JTS Volunteers?

Our volunteers have a high level of Japanese fluency but may or may not be native Japanese speakers. They will not necessarily have teaching experience or qualifications, but are interested in teaching. The Japan Foundation holds regular training sessions for JTS volunteers, and provides advice and resources for their visits.

### Who benefits from the JTS Programme?



#### Teachers

- ✓ Have a free, flexible Japanese taster lesson that can easily be integrated into other cultural and language events at the school
- ✓ Get first-hand experience of a Japanese class, and learn about introducing Japanese
- ✓ Join Japan Foundation’s growing network of Japanese educators



#### Students

- ✓ Have a rare opportunity to try Japanese language
- ✓ Learn about Japanese culture
- ✓ Have a lot of fun!



#### Volunteers

- ✓ Get an insight into UK school life
- ✓ Gain teaching experience with primary and secondary students
- ✓ Expand their network of schools interested in offering Japanese

### How much will it cost?

Your school must pay the volunteer’s transport costs to and from the school. The Japan Foundation will try to find a volunteer as close as possible to your school. If necessary and if agreed by the school and the volunteer, the school should also pay one night’s B&B accommodation, e.g. if an early start is required. We encourage schools to offer an additional payment to the volunteer, if they are able to do so. However, this is not a requirement. For your information, British Council Japanese Language Assistants generally receive £16.74 per hour, as of 2010. However, where schools are able to offer an additional payment, the amount is up to the school and may be more or less than this. The school does not need to pay the Japan Foundation any fee.

## The Japan Foundation London Japanese Taster for Schools (JTS) Programme

### What happens during a JTS visit?

1. First, contact us to request a Japanese taster session, or simply complete and send us the application form at the back of this pamphlet.
2. We will contact our JTS members about the school visit request and identify a suitable volunteer. We will confirm with you that your school is able to pay travel expenses for this volunteer, based on their location.
3. The volunteer will contact you directly to arrange the details of the taster lesson visit, and send you a simple form to confirm the equipment they would like to use.
4. The volunteer will arrange their own transport – to be paid for by the school.
5. The volunteer will then visit your school to deliver the Japanese taster lesson. As the teacher in charge of organising the visit, you will take responsibility for the smooth running of the taster on the day. Please note there must be a classroom teacher present at all times during the taster.

After the visit, both you and the volunteer fill out separate evaluation forms and return these to the Japan Foundation, in order to let us know how the visit went and to see what other ways we can support you with Japanese education.

### Can we stay in touch with the JTS volunteer after the taster?

Yes, you are welcome to contact the volunteer independently on subsequent occasions.



### What services does the Japan Foundation provide for Japanese taster sessions?

The Japan Foundation provides free regular training days for JTS volunteers, and provides advice and resources for tasters. We also serve as the initial contact point for schools and keep control of all applications. Please note the Japan Foundation cannot take any responsibility for either the arrangement between the Japanese teacher and the school, or the successful delivery of taster sessions.

We are also currently in the process of developing a taster lesson sample package, filled with lesson plans and teaching ideas, for the use of both volunteers and teachers.

**Any other questions? Please give us a call at 020 7436 6698, or send us an email at [info.language@jpf.org.uk](mailto:info.language@jpf.org.uk).**

**Ready for a Japanese Taster? Please complete the form overleaf and send it back to the Japan Foundation to book your Japanese Language Taster Session today!**

## JTS – Application Form for Schools

**This form should be completed by the teacher in charge of organising the Japanese language taster.**

Title:                      First Name:    Surname:

Position:

Name of School:

Address:

Postcode:

Tel:

E-mail:

**Please answer the following questions as thoroughly as you can at this time.**

1. Date of the planned Japanese taster session:
2. What time will the volunteer(s) be required to arrive at and leave school?
3. How many volunteers would you like to attend?
4. How many sessions would you like during the day?
5. How old are the students and how many students will be in each session?
6. Are there any particular topics which you would like the volunteer(s) to cover?
7. Is the Japanese taster going to be part of an International Day/Languages Day/Japan Day?
9. Does your school have any links with Japan already? e.g. previous Japan-related activities or any Japanese-speaking teachers at the school?
10. Any other information:

**FUTURE PLANS FOR JAPANESE:** Is your school planning to introduce Japanese as part of the curriculum or as an extra-curricular subject? (Please tick as appropriate)

Yes, as part of the curriculum     Yes, extra-curricular     Not sure     No

Details:

**PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT:** (Please tick as appropriate)

I agree that the school will reimburse the volunteer for transport costs and B&B accommodation if necessary. If paying by cheque or bank transfer, I will confirm with the volunteer that he/she has a UK bank account. Otherwise, the school will pay the volunteer by cash on the day of the visit.

I agree that the school will pay an additional payment to the volunteer (**optional**).

Amount: £

I agree that the school will cover photocopying costs of handouts, within reason.

I agree to be contacted by Japan Foundation in the future and to complete an evaluation form following the taster session.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

**Please return this application form by email, fax or post to: Japanese Taster for Schools, Japan Foundation London, Russell Square House, 10 -12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5EH.**

**Fax: 020 7323 4888 E-mail: [info.language@jpf.org.uk](mailto:info.language@jpf.org.uk)**