



The Japan Foundation London provides grants of up to £3000 for non-profit-making projects or activities which promote Japanese language education in the UK. Further details can be found [here](#).

Successful Grant Applicants 2014-2015



In 2014-2015 we received a total of 53 applications and awarded 47 grants. The grants have been spread all over the UK, from Plymouth to Orkney.

Primary projects:

Bilton Grange Preparatory School

Title: BG Ichi, Ni, San, NihonGO!

This project introduced Japanese to all 113 students in Year 4 and Year 5 at Bilton Grange Preparatory School. For this first year, all students were able to learn the basics of Japanese (along with Arabic and Chinese), and then they will be able to choose which language to continue with next year. The Japanese classes went well so far. One student, Feranmi in Year 4, said “we play all these great games and learn all the numbers. It’s great.” Another pupil, Tegan in Year 4, said “Japanese was really fun because we were learning something really hard.”



Charlton Manor Primary School

Title: Konnichiwa!

Charlton Manor Primary School used this grant to teach basic Japanese language and Japanese culture to Years 3-6 once a week. Because the school is located in a deprived area they were keen to

provide a variety of lessons and opportunities for their pupils. As well as learning basic Japanese, the children made sushi and various arts and crafts from Japan. They also entered the [Japan Webpage Contest for Schools](#), so it is possible to see some of their activities on their [website](#).



Dartford Grammar School

Title: Japanese Primary Outreach

Dartford Grammar School is one of the UK’s largest schools to teach Japanese within the main curriculum at GCSE and A-level. This project was to set up an outreach programme so that Dartford Grammar School teachers could visit and teach Japanese in their local feeder primary schools. This has helped students that will have the chance to study Japanese once they get to secondary school. The DGS teacher used the Japan Foundation’s [Scheme of Work for Primary Schools](#) and taught 120 pupils and 4 teachers at Wilmington Primary School and Oakfield Primary school.



Dawlish Community College

Title: Primary outreach Japanese Language Course

This project aims to create an outreach programme from this secondary school to the surrounding feeder primary schools. This allowed pupils from 5 local primary schools, Exminster Primary School, Kenton Primary School, Starcross Primary School and Kenn Primary School to learn Japanese as their main language in Key Stage 2. You can read more about the project on the Dawlish website [here](#).



Edwinstree Church of England Middle School

Title: Introduction to Japanese in Year 5 and Japanese Club

Edwinstree Church of England Middle School applied for two grants in 2014-2015. One was to set up a Japanese language club, and then later in the year, they re-applied to introduce Japanese to all Year 5 pupils (115 pupils) within the curriculum. The headteacher from this school also joined the Japan Foundation's [Group Tour Programme](#), and visited Japan in November 2014.



Edwinstree
Middle School



Fen Ditton C. P. School

Fen Ditton Primary School

Title: Japanese Literacy and Ready Steady NihonGo: Fen KS2

This application was for a primary school to introduce Japanese in Key Stage 2. They used the grant to hire an external teacher to teach the children this year, but the class teachers plan to be involved as well so that they will be able to teach basic Japanese themselves in the future. As well as learning Japanese, the children were able to try on kimono, have a go at karate, and play games such as chopstick races, origami, and "banzai bingo," as well as sing songs in Japanese.



Holbrook Primary School

Title: Japanese Year

This project was to introduce Japanese to all children in Key Stage 2 and provide a cross curricular approach to learning about another culture that would involve all pupils as well as members of the wider school community. The grant was used for teaching staff costs and teaching resources. The school employed an external teacher of Japanese, but all class teachers were present during her classes so that all KS2 teachers received Continued PD in Japanese. An event was held each term to promote Japanese culture. This included art competitions, manga workshops and research of famous Japanese people. The Headteacher, Roger Whitewick, said the following: "The highlight of my year has been observing Japanese lessons with children enthusiastically embracing this new language. The impact can be seen through anecdotes such as the Year 6 boy who spoke Japanese to a Japanese person in Trowbridge and was thrilled to be understood."

Holbrook Primary School also entered the [Japan Webpage Contest for Schools](#), winning the Bronze Prize and £300 worth of Japanese resources.

Kingsthorpe Grove Primary School

Title: Teaching Japanese in the Primary School

The Headteacher of Kingsthorpe Grove Primary School attended the Japan Foundation's [Head Start](#) event in March 2014, and then decided to introduce Japanese as the school's main language. The school hired an external teacher for the first year to allow class teachers to learn alongside the students so they can teach the classes themselves in the future. All the Key Stage 2 teachers were actively involved in learning alongside the children, and they received extra weekly Japanese lessons with the teacher of Japanese.



Longman's Hill Community Primary School

Title: Nihongo o hanashimasho!

This project was to introduce a new Japanese language club at this primary school, which until this year only offered French and Spanish. The club was open to Year 3 and Year 4 students for the first term, and then Year 5 and 6 students later in the year. The grant was used to pay for staff costs and teaching resources. Ofsted visited the school in November 2014 and mentioned Japanese positively in their report about the school. The Ofsted report stated:

"Through many sporting events and activities, such as the choir, playing musical instruments, learning about life in other communities and learning French and Japanese, the school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well."



Prince Rock Primary School

Title: Japanese Language Club

This project was to introduce a brand new Japanese club at Prince Rock Primary School. The headteacher from this school joined the Japan Foundation's [Group Tour Programme](#), and visited Japan in November 2014. They have subsequently entered the [Japan Webpage Contest for Schools](#) and won the Primary School Public Vote Award. This grant was to help cover teaching staff costs and teaching materials.



St Andrew's Primary School

Title: Language Teaching

This grant was for a small primary school in Bath, which has children that speak a wealth of different languages, but they were not sure what to teach as their main language. They used this grant to introduce Japanese for 45 minutes a week to Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 as well as 20 minutes for Year 2s (a total of 184 children). The headteacher from this school joined the Japan Foundation's [Group Tour Programme](#) and visited Japan in November 2014. The grant was for staff costs and for teaching resources. The children have loved learning Japanese, dressing up in Japanese clothes and demonstrating their learning in assemblies. The headteacher commented that "the rich culture has proved to be a great draw for the children." The Year 4 pupils even won a [Primary School Art Competition](#) organised by the Museum of East Asian Art, with a ram that they made to celebrate the lunar New Year.



St Edmund Campion Catholic Primary School

Title: Introducing Japanese to the primary Curriculum

This grant was for a maintained primary school located between London and Reading. They have introduced a carousel of five languages (Japanese, Latin, French, German and Spanish) so each language is taught for a term in Year 4, and then they will continue to study one of these languages in Year 5. The grant was for staff costs, teaching materials and transport to [Club Taishikan](#) at the Embassy of Japan. One of the school's teachers attended an event about dobutsu shogi (animal chess) at the Japan Foundation, and then bought some boards to introduce the game to her pupils. Both the dobutsu shogi and the Japanese classes (using the Japan Foundation's [Scheme of work for primary schools](#)) have gone very well, and the class teacher, Catherine Rodrigues, won an award for [Primary MFL Teacher of the Year](#) from the Association of Language Learning at [Language World](#) 2015.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Thame

Title: Japanese lessons at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

This project introduced Japanese into the curriculum at a primary school in Oxford. This school had started with a Japanese taster, and then hired the volunteer to run their Japanese class. The programme was for 106 children in Years 2-5 to learn Japanese for 2 hours a week. The school also started a Japan club for an hour each week, with 12 regular attendees. The grant was for staff costs and for teaching resources. The Headteacher, Paul Roberts, commented that "the Japanese lessons have been exciting, new and refreshing."



St Mark's CE Primary School

Title: Japanese Club

This project introduced a Japanese club for 10-15 children in Year 5 at this primary school in Bromley. The school is close to a secondary school that also teaches Japanese, so students may be able to continue to study Japanese in the next level of their education. The grant was for staff costs and for teaching resources.



St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary Academy

Title: Japanese club

This project introduced a weekly Japanese club to this small primary academy. The school already teach Spanish as their main language, so Japanese is their second language. 26 pupils from Year 3-6 took part each week. One of their feeder schools teaches Japanese so students may be able to continue to study Japanese at secondary school. The children gave some fantastic comments about their classes such as "I like our teacher as she makes it fun and she is really clever!", and "After only a few weeks I am already able to write my name." The grant was for staff costs, travel and for teaching resources.

St Saviour's Junior School

Title: Konnichiwa

This project introduced a lunchtime club at St Saviour's Junior School. The club was aimed at up to 15 pupils in Key Stage 2 and taught about Japan as well as basic Japanese language, including greetings, numbers, colours and songs. The grant was for staff costs and for teaching resources. The pupils also shared their learning enthusiastically through presentations in assemblies. The children all agree that the club has been a great success. Oliver (aged 8) said, "It's been such fun. I've really enjoyed learning about Japanese culture, how to speak Japanese and I can't wait to make sushi."



St Saviour's Nursery and Infant School

Title: Discover Japan!

This project introduced basic Japanese to infant school pupils during a lunch time club. Their feeder school, St Saviour's Junior School, also introduced a Japanese club, so they will be able to continue learning Japanese. The staff and children involved in the club have been enthusiastic, sharing their learning with their peers and families. The Headteacher from this school also joined the Japan Foundation's [Group Tour Programme](#) and visited Japan in November 2014, which "has helped to build an understanding and enthusiasm for Japanese culture and language within our school." In addition to the club, elements of Japanese have been embedded into the school's culture. Japanese greetings are used in assemblies and class registration and simple sentences are used in the Year 1 classroom.



Tollgate Primary School

Title: Japanese in the new curriculum

This project has helped introduce Japanese as the main language for this primary school for 90 pupils across Key Stage 2. Their headteacher attended the Japan Foundation's [Head Start](#) event in March 2014, and also joined the Japan Foundation's [Group Tour Programme](#) and visited Japan in November 2014. The enthusiasm of the children was so infectious that they requested support staff to make Japanese displays all over the school. The school also held a Japan Day in the spring term to immerse themselves in Japanese culture; this included a celebration assembly which parents were invited to. Tollgate Primary School feeds into a local secondary school that also teaches Japanese, so the two schools have shared teachers. Students from their feeder school, County Upper School also mentored children from Tollgate to the benefit of both schools.



Secondary projects:

Barr Beacon School

Title: Enrichment Lessons for Sixth Form

This project introduced a weekly hour enrichment class for sixth formers. The classes were one of the school's most popular enrichment activities. Attendees also created their own resources to teach Japanese to Year 8s and visited local primary schools to teach Year 5s and Year 6s what they had learnt. The teacher at the local primary school commented that one pupil who was of average ability was almost falling out of his seat to explain how numbers in Japanese worked as the sixth formers lessons were so engaging. Pupils that have siblings in the primary school also commented that the primary children returned home shouting Japanese numbers and animal vocabulary at their parents, and that it felt like they have "really ignited a spark" for learning Japanese. Sixth formers also visited SOAS for the Japan Society's [Sixth Form Japan Day](#). You can see their article about it [here](#).



Bexley Grammar School

Title: Nihon go Gambare!

The school already teaches Japanese in the curriculum at IB and GCSE level. However, they are starting to struggle to attract students. This project is to help expand the provision at Bexley Grammar School by introducing a Japanese club. Each week up to 25 students were able to learn basic Japanese along with origami, calligraphy try making sushi etc. This encouraged participation in both the club and the main Japanese courses. One of the students, Lucy Hawksley, was also selected as a finalist in the [2014 Nihongo Cup](#) Japanese speech contest. The club members made a website for the [Japan Webpage Contest for Schools](#) and won the Secondary School Public Vote Award. You can also read about their visit to the Japan Society's [Sixth Form Japan Day](#) [here](#).



Campion School and Language College

Title: Japanese in Key Stage 5

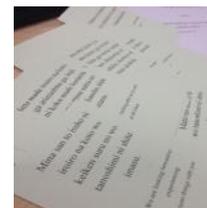
Japanese has slowly been growing at Campion School, for the last 6 years, since they started teaching Japanese in the curriculum to year 7s. The first students to study Japanese have finished their GCSEs, but the school did not have enough students to introduce AS-level Japanese. This grant was to plug the shortfall, so the students could continue to study Japanese, even though the number of students was low. The classes have gone well so far, and one student even wrote to the Japan Foundation to express his thanks that he was able to continue to study Japanese.



County Upper School

Title: Instant Speech!

This project was to create a set of cards with basic speeches written in Japanese, so that students could use them on their visits to Japan. The cards were created and used during the [Clifton Scientific Trust's](#) Japan-UK Young Scientist Programme's trip to Japan during the summer of 2014. Students responded enthusiastically to the cards and although the level of formality in the events they were involved in was above what they were used to, the cards gave them the confidence to speak. One of the teachers who accompanied the students to Japan commented that "those that heard their speeches in Japan expressed delight at their efforts and were keen to expand and improve their fluency." You can download the speeches from the Japan Foundation's mailing list (JLE-UK) archive [here](#).



County Upper School

Title: Japanese for Artists

This project is to design a new language course and teaching materials for a Key Stage 3 Japanese language course that would benefit students of fine art. One of the students on the course commented that "it is more fun learning a language when it is related to something." County Upper School previously received a grant to make a scheme of work for Science students to study Japanese in 2013, so now both of these resources are available. Please contact josephine.austin@jpf.org.uk to request a copy.



Gildredge House School

Title: Japanese for Secondary School students

Gildredge House School is a maintained through school and teaches children from age 4-19. There is a teacher at the school who already speaks Japanese, so the school mainly needed teaching materials. They started a weekly extracurricular club this year, but plan to introduce Japanese GCSE Japanese and A-level Japanese in the future.



Gresham's School

Title: Introduction of IB Japanese onto the main school timetable and Japanese club for beginners in Y9-11

This project planned to introduce Japanese as an IB subject (both ab initio level and subject level B) for the first time, as well as start a Japanese club for Year 9 – Year 11. In the end the school decided to introduce AS level Japanese instead, but they might still introduce IB Japanese in the future. The funding helped raise the profile of Japanese in the school with extra events such as an anime night, a cooking night and a calligraphy workshop for Year 8s. The school used some of the funding to set up a small manga lending library within the Japanese department. One of the students, Lucas, showed off his Japanese when he commented, 「まんがのとしょかんはとてもおもしろいです。いろいろなまんがを読みたいです。」 (*The manga library is really interesting. I want to read all sorts of manga.*) In addition, the teacher of Japanese and four of Gresham's students took part in the Hakuho [Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children](#) which took them to Japan in Spring 2015.



Harrow High School

Title: Japanese Language Club

This project was to introduce Japanese as a club activity for the first time at this secondary school. One of the science teachers at Harrow High School speaks Japanese which she learn by taking part in the [Japan Exchange and Teaching programme](#). The grant was paid for teaching resources for the club. The taught a different topic each week, and many of the students managed to master hiragana while also learning useful phrases and about Japanese culture. The students who participated in this club also had the chance to visit [Club Taishikan](#) at the Embassy of Japan.



Haydon School

Title: Japanese GCSE

This project was to introduce Japanese into the curriculum for the first time at Haydon School. Up until now one of the MFL teachers (who learnt Japanese on the [Japan Exchange and Teaching programme](#)) has taught Japanese as a club, but now Haydon School has decided to introduce Japanese more formally. The grant was to pay for teaching resources for the new Japanese GCSE class. The teacher mentioned that the grant money was essential in helping the school to resource the new course. You can see information about Haydon School's Japan Day on their website [here](#).



Hockerill Anglo-European College

Title: Video Tutorials to support the GCSE Japanese course, Unit 2

This project follows on from Hockerill Anglo-European College's previous grant to create Unit 1 of the GCSE Japanese course. These free resources can be used to supplement lessons in schools that teach Japanese, or used by students who would like to study Japanese alone. You can access the resources on [Rajakuma-sensei's Japanese page](#). There are 220 videos so far, and the YouTube channel has attracted 169 subscribers, with 20,467 views in 113 countries in the first six months! After their teacher created these fantastic resources, students created their own website to complement them. They entered the [Japan Webpage contest for schools](#) and won the Gold Prize of £1000 worth of resources for their school. You can see their website [here](#).



Howden School

Title: Nihon-go o benkyo-shimasho

This school started to teach Japanese for the first time as a club activity last year, and then used this grant to make their extracurricular activity more serious and provide accreditation for the students. The school has a member of staff who speaks Japanese, so they used this grant to buy teaching resources and to pay for some training to help their current teacher improve her Japanese. The teacher attended a WJEC training course and has been able to accredit student's learning with the [WJEC QCF qualifications](#). Ofsted visited the school in December 2014, and mentioned Japanese in a positive light, stating that the school challenges more able students by providing interesting opportunities for challenge. Howden School also entered the [Japan Webpage Contest for Schools](#), and you can see their website [here](#).



Hungerhill School, Doncaster

Title: An Introduction to Japanese language learning

This project was to introduce Japanese as an enrichment class. It will be a 12 week course for 25 students. The class will be on the main timetable, but will not count towards exams. Hungerhill School did not teach any non-European languages before this and they did not have a teacher, so the grant was used for teaching staff costs. The club had really good feedback from pupils. One pupil, Molly Elliott, commented "I have learnt simple greetings and numbers in Japanese as well as parts of Japanese culture. I have enjoyed learning the language most."



Morpeth School

Title: Japanese clubs

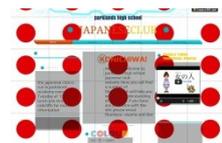
Morpeth School, located in Tower Hamlets, started a pilot Japanese course last year and then applied for a grant to extend their Japanese provision through two activities. Firstly they started a club that teaches about Japanese language and culture, then they introduced another course for students who would like to study Japanese more seriously, to work towards [GCSE Japanese](#) or [JLPT exams](#). The pupils have been very enthusiastic and also went out on cultural visits. One of the club attendees said, "It is quite hard for beginners to understand, but once you've learnt the alphabet, it is quite easy to write in Japanese."



Parklands High School

Title: Exploring Japanese

This project introduced a Japanese language enrichment activity at Parklands High School for Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students. 80 students came to the initial Japanese taster. The school hoped that 15 students would continue to study Japanese after their initial events, but in the end 28 attended regularly. The students involved in this project made their own Japanese teaching resources, and then took their resources to a local primary school to teach Japanese as part of a Japan day. You can download the resources that Parklands High School children made and see their blog [here](#).



Queen Elizabeth II High School

Title: An Introduction to Japanese

This project was to re-introduce Japanese to Queen Elizabeth II High School on the Isle of Man. The Isle of man has strong links to Japan with the TT races and rally, as well as [Beckii Cruel](#), who is a local student who is now famous in Japan. The school found two volunteers to teach the club, but they needed some teaching resources to help them get started. The students have been doing well so far and between September and March they managed to master *hiragana*, and are now learning *katakana* and some *kanji*.



Red Balloon Learning Centre Norwich

Title: Red Balloon Japanese Language and culture programme

Red Balloon is a centre run by a charity that provides a safe environment for young people who are not able to attend mainstream school as a result of the severe bullying. In 2014 they started a trial Japanese programme and it went so well that they decided to introduce it into the main curriculum. The centre already had a teacher who speaks basic Japanese, so this funding helped them to purchase teaching resources. They have a Japanese class at least once a week for students in Key Stage 3 and 4. One of the students commented, "I find studying Japanese relaxing, and it helps my handwriting." Another said, "I would like to live and work in Japan when I get older."



St Dominic's High School for Girls

Title: Extended Day Senior Japanese

This school previously applied for our funding to introduce Japanese into the junior school, so this grant was to introduce a similar project for the senior school. This project introduced Japanese as an extended day club for Year 7s and 8s. The grant was for staff costs and for teaching resources. The girls involved especially loved their sessions on Japanese food. They visited a local Asian supermarket, spoke in Japanese to staff and then prepared some Japanese dishes for their classmates to try. St Dominic's now plans to introduce Japanese onto the curriculum from September 2015.



Stonyhurst College

Title: Introduction to Japanese language and Culture

This project introduced Japan related activities at this college in Lancashire. They introduced a fast paced Japanese language class for their secondary school students, who all had a strong interest in Japan, or who had already started to teach themselves Japanese. They planned a whole range of activities, including visiting the Japan Day at the University of Central Lancashire, as well as visits to museums and Japanese film screenings. They also held mini lectures with Q&A sessions about various aspects of Japanese history, art, literature, events etc. The grant was for a Japanese teaching assistant, travel costs and for teaching resources.



Stromness Academy

Title: Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture

This project was for a school on the small island of Orkney in the far north of Scotland. The reason they have chosen to study Japanese is due to the island's links with Japan due to their research into renewable energy. They have a science exchange with a school in Japan so the children are keen to learn more Japanese. They have introduced Japanese on the main timetable for one hour per week with team teaching from a Japanese native speaker and a non-Japanese with teaching experience. The results exceeded the schools expectations with lots of interest from the students even though they felt like they were only "scratching the surface" of language learning. The grant was for staff costs, travel costs and for teaching resources. The teachers are happy to continue to volunteer at the school, so they hope this project will mark the beginning of a longer term Japanese language and culture programme at this school.



Success4 All

Title: Walker Technology College Japanese Club

Success4 All is a social enterprise that aims to increase educational opportunities available to disadvantaged young people. This project has allowed Success4 All to run a Japanese club within Walker Technology College's "learning hub." In addition to the club, they have a link with a local school for Japanese students (Oxclose Community Academy in Sunderland) and have arranged Skype chats with children in Fukushima prefecture. You can see some articles about their Japan related activities [here](#) and [here](#). The grant helped pay for a teacher of Japanese to come to the college as well as two volunteer teachers (a Japanese lady who recently graduated from Newcastle University and a British lady who also graduated from Newcastle University with a degree in Japanese.) One of the volunteers said, "Helping with Japanese club helped gave me the chance to refresh my own Japanese and pass on some of my enthusiasm for the language; it was great to see kids getting excited about the same things I loved when I was learning, like the strangeness of katakana pronunciations and the intricacies of kanji." Some of the club attendees are now working towards an AQA qualification.



University projects:

Newcastle University

Title: Expansion of resources to enhance Japanese language education in North of England

This grant helped to create a Japanese resource section of Newcastle University's library, so that teachers of Japanese and volunteers who teach Japanese in the north east of England will have access to Japanese teaching resources. Newcastle University has been working closely with the [Association of Language Learning](#) in the North of England to promote Japanese, so they announced their new resources during ALL's [Language World](#) Conference in March 2015.



Oxford Brookes University

Title: Japanese Story Telling at Outburst

This project allowed Japanese Studies students at Oxford Brookes University to perform with a well-known pianist and composer to introduce Japanese language education in Oxfordshire. The performance featured stories read in Japanese with a piano accompaniment. Local schools were invited to join the event and see the traditional Japanese stories for themselves. In feedback for the event, one attendee wrote, "The readings were great, and the music excellent. It was fantastic to hear Japanese spoken, and I thought 'the grateful crane' and 'hana oni' were particularly effective and affecting."



University of Hull

Title: Ano Hana Project

This project was to set up a brand new Japanese course at the University of Hull, where students will be able to learn Japanese through a *anime* TV series. This grant is a contribution towards translation work, teaching materials and the printing of publicity. The course is due to start in September 2015.



Withdrawn Projects:

Ashford Church of England Primary School, Drayton Manor High School, and Sheringham High School 6th form Centre withdrew from the funding programme although they were originally successful with their grant applications. UCL's Centre of Languages and International Education (CLIE) also ran a project to create an app that will help guide university students to learn *hiragana* and *katakana* before they start their courses in September, but this project was slightly delayed, so will finished in 2015.

You can find out more about Japanese Language Local Project Support Programme: <http://www.jpj.org.uk/language/funding.php> or contact Josephine Austin Josephine.austin@jpj.org.uk Tel: 020 3102 5021