Head Start- Japanese from Scratch

On Tuesday the 27th February the JFLLC welcomed 7 teachers for the annual 'Head Start- Japanese from Scratch' course; for teachers, Heads and curriculum planners. The course was designed to allow participants to get to grips with some of the issues specific to the teaching of Japanese at primary and secondary level. The participants benefited from an Introduction to Japanese Culture and Language, which included the chance to learn some Japanese, lead by Japanese Language Advisor Masumi Tanaka, and colleague Shoko Iizuka ran the session on Accreditation and Resources. Participants were shown around the Japan Foundation Library, and listened to a presentation from Japanese Teacher Anu Jain and Head Teacher Paul Nock, from Greenford High School and Language College, who have worked together to integrate Japanese in to the school curriculum. When asked what had motivated Jo Leggett, Head of MFL at Lorswood Boys' School, to attend the course, she said that her interest had been sparked by the students, who had asked if they could learn Japanese. The group were very enthusiastic, some of whom are already involved in teaching Japanese at their school. After the session John Hawkins, Head of Edward Field Primary School in Oxford, said he was very interested in using the Ready Steady NihonGO! Primary course with their Japanese Language Assistant, who the school will be welcoming later this year. Other participants described the course as 'very inspiring' as it 'opened up the idea of Japanese and made it seem accessible'.

Japanese Language Advisor Shoko iizuka introduces participants to Hiragana

Participants take a look at the Japanese language resources available in the JFLLC library