

# languages ICT

Transforming teaching

## Software and hardware

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The links listed below may be useful when considering the purchase of software and hardware for modern languages.

### Software

**CILT library catalogue:** you can search by title or by using the Power search functions to bring up a list of software titles for your language.

**CILT information sheets** (PDF downloads): language learning software and publishers' contact details.

CILT library **Enquiry Service**

**TEEM** (Teachers Evaluating Electronic Media): teacher reviews of products.

**Evaluate** which originally evaluated products available on Curriculum Online (defunct from August 2008) continue at the date of publication (summer 2008) to provide a searchable database of product evaluations.

**Schoolzone:** reviews by UK teachers of numerous educational websites, plus teacher evaluations of products based on their use in the classroom.

**Linguanet Forum:** a place to contact other teachers and pick up tips and advice.

**ICT4LT** (ICT for Language Teachers): detailed guidance on evaluating software and a downloadable evaluation checklist prepared by CILT. See Module 3.8

### Hardware

**Becta** (British Education and Communications Technology Agency): the government's agency overseeing the use of technology in education.

**BESA** (British Educational Suppliers Association): all suppliers (mainly hardware but some digital content) listed adhere to the BESA code of practice.

**ICT4LT** (ICT for Language Teachers): useful explanations of basic hardware of relevance to language teachers. See Module 1.

**National ICT Register:** details of schools with expertise and experience in using ICT, who may be willing to discuss hardware decisions made in their own institution. The database can be searched by keyword, such as 'MFL,' and results can be given in order of proximity to your own school. Initial enquiries are answered free-of-charge and the purchase of more extensive support can be negotiated.

**Teachernet Online Publications** offers a range of downloadable PDF documents on the uses of **interactive whiteboards**, including **Embedding ICT @ Secondary: Use of interactive whiteboards in modern foreign languages**.

The **Modern Foreign Languages Environment** from Learning and Teaching Scotland offers an excellent section (see Sharing Practice > ICT in education) on the use of **interactive whiteboards**.

**Boarding and surfing** from the Cardiff LEA Whiteboard Development Group is another useful resource, offering a range of useful tips and step-by-step materials for using MS PowerPoint.

**Global-leap**: part of the **Video-conferencing in the classroom** initiative from the DfES. Archived newsletters and case studies are available. You can also enlist as a member of the project. The 2004 free publication **Video-conferencing in the classroom** gives an excellent summary of the technical options for video-conferencing and lots of good practice tips, including guidance for language teachers and case studies from Devon Local Authority project schools. Funded by the DfES, the publication is also available on the Becta website: go to **Becta** > Schools > Leadership and Management > Communications. Should you wish to purchase a printed copy of the book, go to **Devon Education Services**, access the online shop and enter a suitable term such as 'videoconferencing' into the search engine.

The **BETT Show** takes place every January in London. The free exhibition is an excellent opportunity to explore cutting-edge hardware and software, much of which is relevant to language teaching and learning, along with some languages-specific products. There is also an annual show in Scotland called the **Scottish Learning Festival** and **The Education Show** in Birmingham, which include similar content.

### Where to look

The addresses listed below were correct at the time of publication of this document in summer 2008.

Becta Schools: <http://schools.becta.org.uk/>

BESA: [www.besa.org.uk](http://www.besa.org.uk)

BETT Show: [www.bettshow.com](http://www.bettshow.com)

Boarding and surfing (Cardiff LEA Whiteboard Development Group):  
[www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/vtc/ngfl/ict/boarding\\_and\\_surfing](http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/vtc/ngfl/ict/boarding_and_surfing)

CILT Library catalogue: [www.cilt.org.uk/libcat](http://www.cilt.org.uk/libcat)

CILT information sheets: [www.cilt.org.uk/infos](http://www.cilt.org.uk/infos)

CILT Library Enquiry Service: [www.cilt.org.uk/irs](http://www.cilt.org.uk/irs)

Devon Education Services: [www.deseducation.org/default.asp](http://www.deseducation.org/default.asp)

Global-leap: [www.global-leap.com](http://www.global-leap.com)

ICT4LT: [www.ict4lt.org](http://www.ict4lt.org)

Linguanet Forum: [www.mailtalk.ac.uk/linguanet-forum](http://www.mailtalk.ac.uk/linguanet-forum)

Modern Foreign Languages Environment (Learning and Teaching Scotland):  
[www.ltscotland.org.uk/mfle](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/mfle)

National ICT Register: [www.ict-register.net](http://www.ict-register.net)

TEEM: [www.teem.org.uk](http://www.teem.org.uk)

Schoolzone: [www.schoolzone.co.uk](http://www.schoolzone.co.uk)

Scottish Learning Festival: [www.ltscotland.org.uk/sett](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/sett)

Teachernet Online Publications: <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk>

The Education Show: [www.education-show.com](http://www.education-show.com)

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