



Welcoming Languages

Project Report for Children



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HELLO

مرحبا

Arabic

salam

Farsi

ciao

Italian

czesc

Polish

hej

Swedish

barev

Armenian

bonjour

French

konnichiwa

Japanese

oi

Portuguese

sawatdee

Thai

nah hoh

Cantonese

guten tag

German

ahnyoung

Korean

privyet

Russian

merhaba

Turkish

hej

Danish

yasou

Greek

ni hao

Mandarin

hola

Spanish

xin chao

Vietnamese

hoi

Dutch

namaste

Hindi

hallo

Norwegian

jambo

Swahili

en le

Yoruba

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

We are Giovanna, Lavinia, Grazia and Sahar.

We work at the University of Glasgow. We are happy to introduce this report to you which is done by two teams: our team at the University of Glasgow, Scotland and our team at the Islamic University of Gaza, Palestine.

Our key message is that when Scottish teachers (and other people who work in Scottish schools) learn the children's languages, they make those children feel welcomed.



WHY ARABIC?

We chose Arabic for two main reasons.

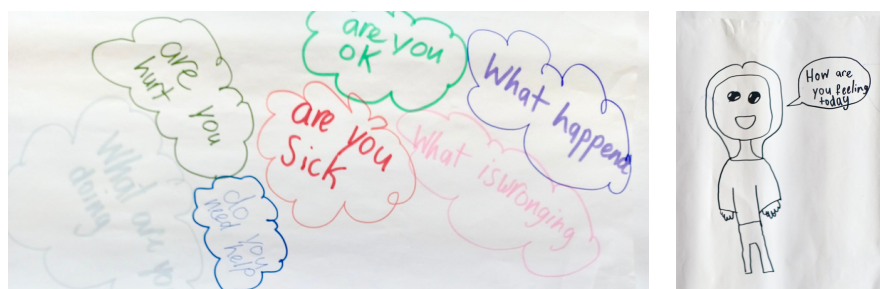
1. There are many Arabic-speaking families that came to live in Scotland recently. We wanted Arabic-speaking children and their families to feel welcomed in their schools even if they don't speak a lot of English yet. So we decided to teach Arabic to some of the teachers in their schools.

2. We as a team have a lot of experience in making beginner Arabic courses, so we are good at it!



WHAT DID WE DO?

1. We asked everyone what Arabic we should teach



“are you sad? Is there anyone bothering you? Did you argue/fight with your friend? Or anything like that” (Mother, Arabic in the original)

“to be able to communicate at basic level [...] so that they feel that they are welcomed into the school and the community and [inaudible]. I mean maybe 'we value you" (Class teacher)

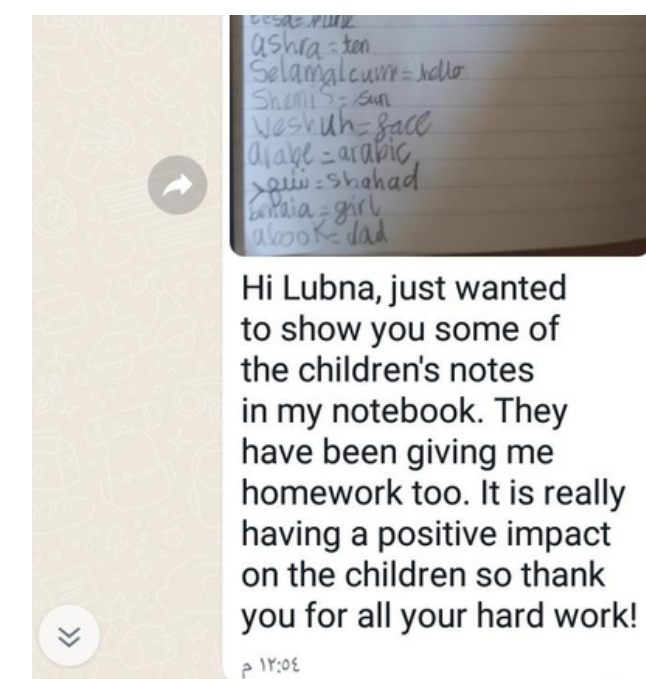
3. We taught our course to Scottish teachers in schools



2. We made an Arabic language course for the teachers



4. We asked for everyone's feelings about the course!



WHAT DID THE TEACHERS LEARN?

Greetings

Hello, how are you, what's your name, where are you from, where do you live? Nice to meet you, etc.

Classroom Language

What did we do yesterday? When will (subject name) exam be? What time will x be? Etc. It also included asking about the time and the days of the week.

School instructions

Let's write, let's play, where is the pen? Use this paper, add, take away, and multiply, can I ask a question? Which page, please? Thank you, etc.

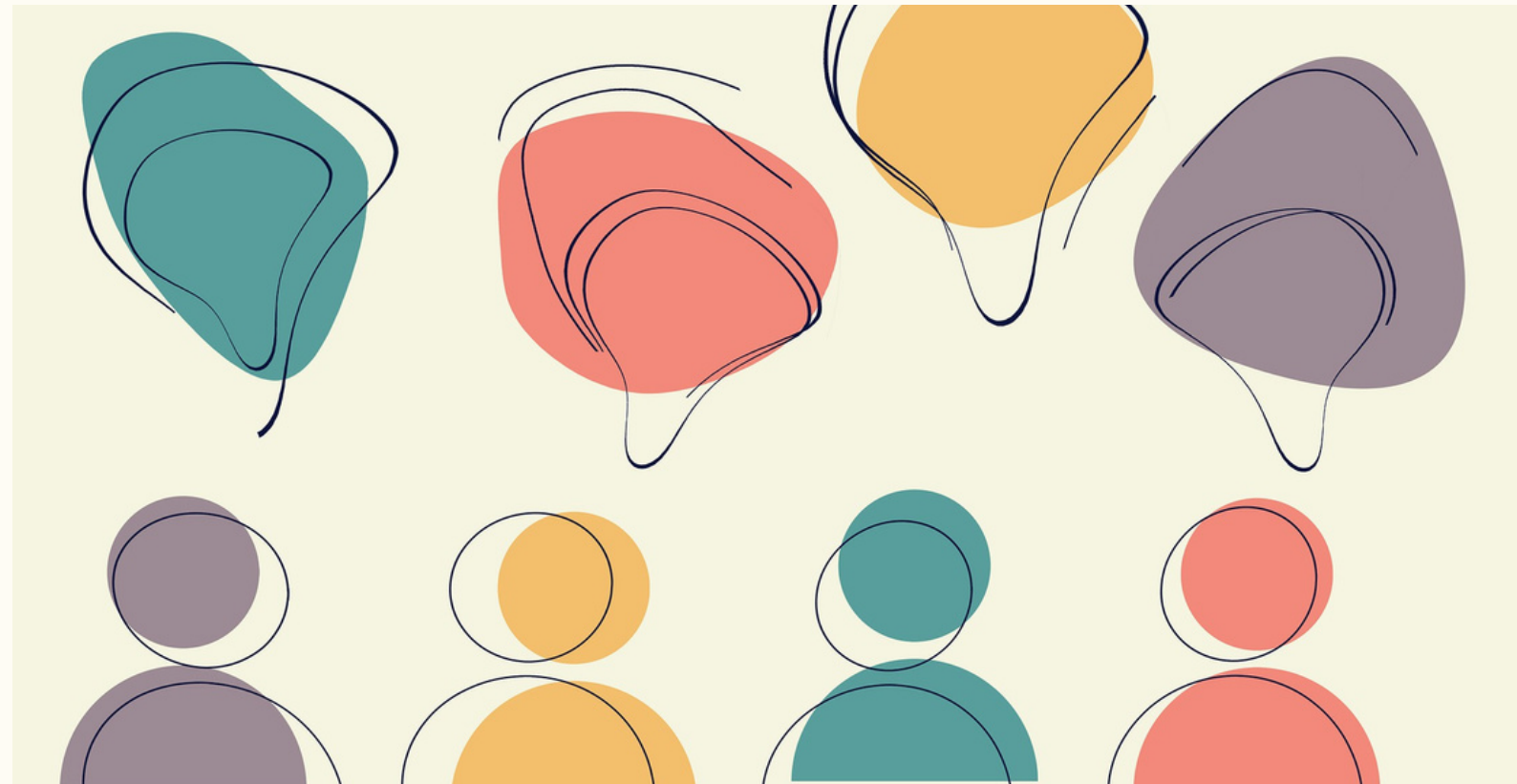
Emotions and feelings

Are you okay? What happened? Why are you sad? I am sick, I have a headache, do you want me to call mum/dad? Etc.

Parents Meeting

How's my son/daughter doing? What is your job? Where do you work? etc.

WHAT DID THE TEACHERS THINK ABOUT IT?



3. The teachers now can welcome children and their parents in Arabic, and say a few useful words and sentences.

“ it's more just kind of building a bond with parents, to know that actually, we're making an effort. They're making an effort to learn English, but also we're making the same effort to make them feel part of the school community ”

1. The teachers LOVED the course. It made them happy to see the children smiling when hearing Arabic.

“ and they are looking at you like 'Ah! I can't believe you're learning Arabic'... to see the smile on their faces when they hear Arabic”. ”

2. The teachers now know that learning a language is hard.

“ it's allowed me to kind of build an awareness of how difficult it must be for these children who come to Scotland and don't have English. And actually when... when the shoe's on the other foot and you're learning a new language that you know nothing about, it's really, really difficult ”

WHAT DID THE CHILDREN SAY?

The Arabic-speaking children and their parents are **happy** that the teachers are learning Arabic.



"How did it feel to hear your teacher speak Arabic?"

(Researcher)

"Happy" (Pupil 1)

"Good" (Pupil 2)

"Nice" (Pupil 3)

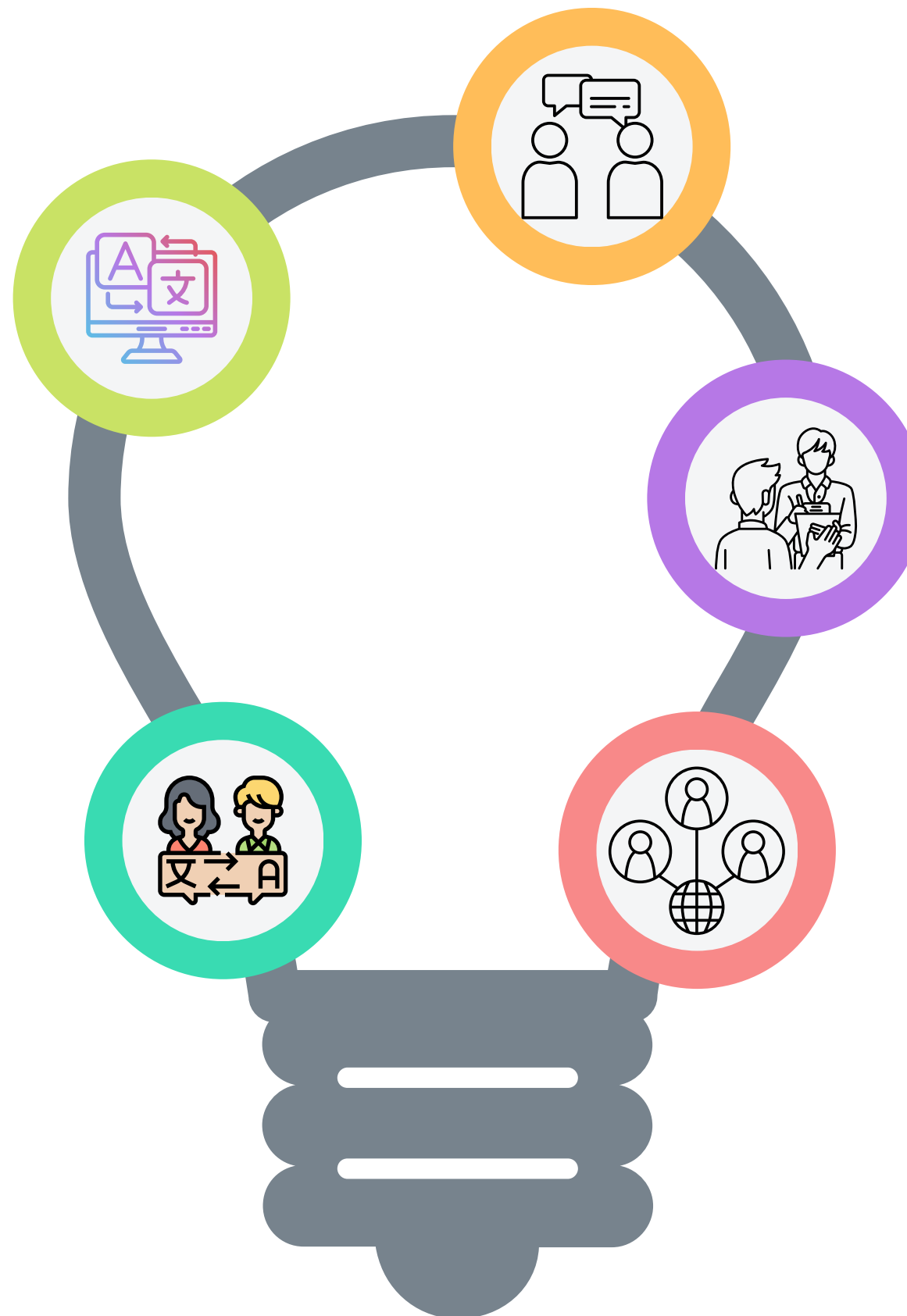
"[My parents] are happy because ... some Arabic people can't speak English a lot, and the teacher can speak Arabic and they feel comfortable because they can speak with them in Arabic" (Pupil 2)



WHAT'S NEXT?

We want to see **more languages spoken by children** included in Scottish schools to make pupils proud and happy about their own languages.

We want to see **more Scottish teachers learn the languages spoken by pupils** to provide a welcoming environment to the pupils and their families.



We want to make sure that **all languages are welcomed** and valued in Scottish education.

We need to ask people **what they want to learn** before we make courses for them

We want to **continue using online tools** for teaching so teachers can take the lessons anytime and anywhere!

WHO ARE WE?

WE ARE AN INTERNATIONAL TEAM
BASED IN SCOTLAND (UK) AND IN
GAZA (PALESTINE)



University of Glasgow (School of Education)

Giovanna Fassetta - Principal Investigator

Maria Grazia Imperiale - Co-Investigator

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Lorraine Shekleton - Project Officer

Islamic University of Gaza (Arabic Center)

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Nour Mezeid - Digital Designer

Mohammed Al-Masri - Voiceover

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