



# Maidenhead's bilingual school

A project to boost Maidenhead

# Benefits of our bilingual class project?



- **For Maidenhead**

*Schools influence people's choices of residence*

- ✓ Attract and retain new residents
- ✓ More “expats” to settle in RBW
- ✓ A differentiating factor for families leaving London to select Maidenhead
- ✓ Part of a relocation package to attract new companies in borough

- Low cost, high impact
- Open to all local children
- 1<sup>st</sup> state-run bilingual school outside London

**Maidenhead will offer something  
that other local towns don't**

# Benefits of our bilingual class project?



- **for the children:**

- ✓ Offers a unique chance for local children to become bilingual ;
- ✓ Ensures French speaking children receive a bilingual education;

- **for the school:**

- ✓ a high-profile project;
- ✓ Raises the school's image and attractiveness;
- ✓ Unique differentiating point;

# A bilingual school: tell me more



- 1 selected state school becomes the local bilingual school
  - 1 class per year set up for “bilingual” education
  - Running in parallel other classes in the school are “normal” monolingual classes
- Follows British curriculum as any other school
  - Some subjects are taught in English, others in French on a 50/50 shared time basis.
- Open to all children
  - Selection criteria are from local LEA
  - Some places must be reserved to already bilingual children to maximise the project’s success. 50% recommended
- State-run school
  - No extra fees to be paid by the parents
  - Same application process as other schools in the borough including catchment area grid

# How does it work?



- Within the school 2 teachers work in partnership
  - 2 teachers share 2 classes
  - Mr Pink teaches in English, Mme Bleue teaches in French
- Curriculum is divided between the 2 teachers
  - English Maths and Geography by Mr Pink, Science, History and French by Mme Bleue
- Cost
  - French manuals,
  - Extra lesson to support monolingual children joining the class. This can be provided by a modern language teacher

This model is based on an existing scheme running in bilingual schools. It can be adapted and structured to Maidenhead's specific needs and population such as 2/3 English and 1/3 French

# Route to bilingual classes



## 1. **Select a school**

- Big enough to have several classes per year
- The project can run from Reception/Y1 → early start to gain early French proficiency  
OR from Y3/Y4 → pupils are proficient in reading and writing

## 2. **Define the curriculum**

- Identify French and English teachers to work as a team
- Reorganise teaching: split curriculum into 2
- Prepare accelerated French tuitions for the new children who do not speak French

## 3. **Local publicity: Create local awareness for the bilingual class**

- Using 1.2.3. Soleil's parents network
- With the French Embassy help and support
- During application process and any special entry requirements

## 4. **Start the project**

### **Longer term:**

- Open a new class every year throughout primary,
- Increase teaching of French in Infant schools to prep for bilingual class
- Continue project in secondary education, leading to International Baccalaureat, A-levels, AS levels

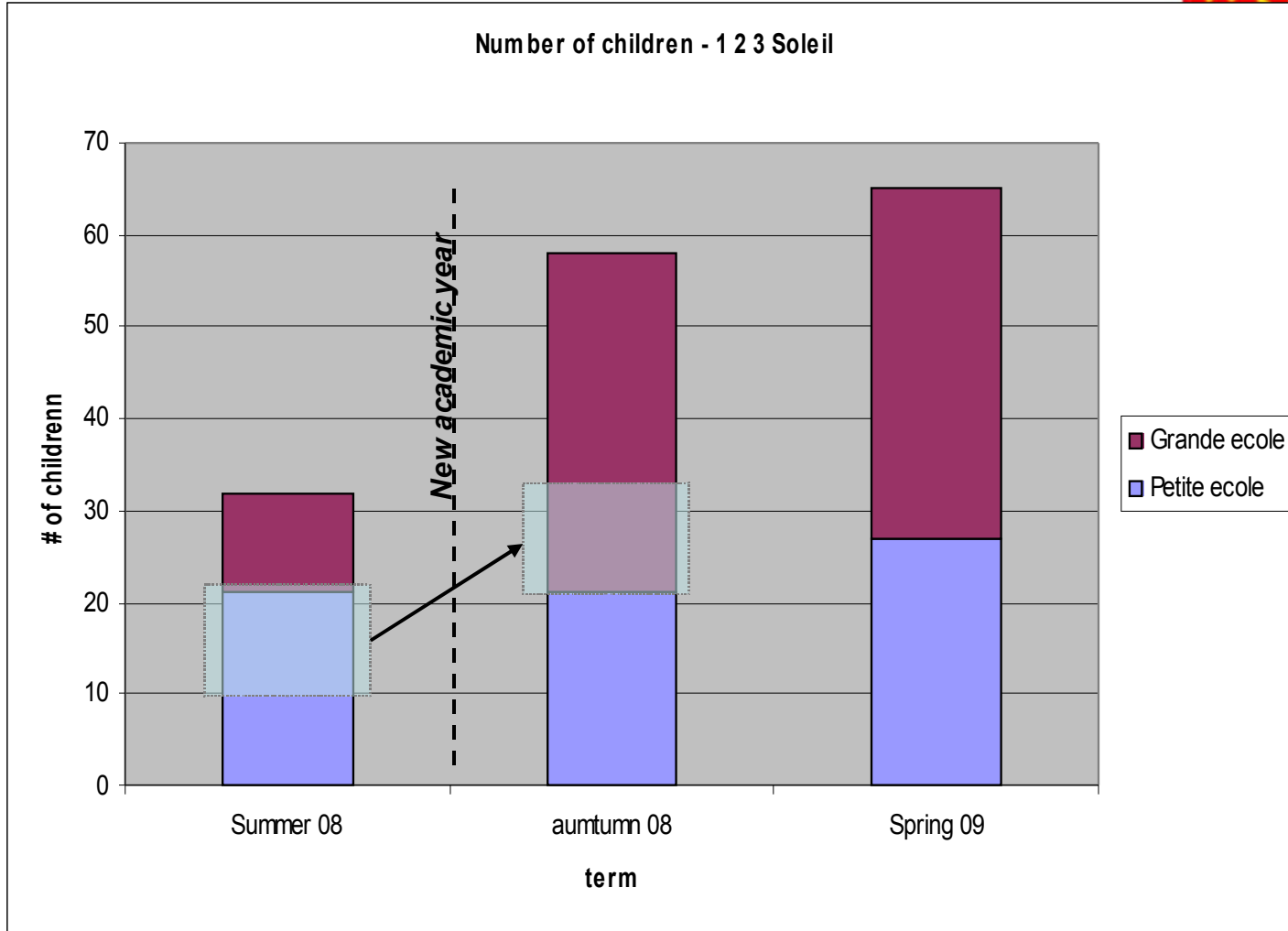
# Appendix



# Who's doing it?

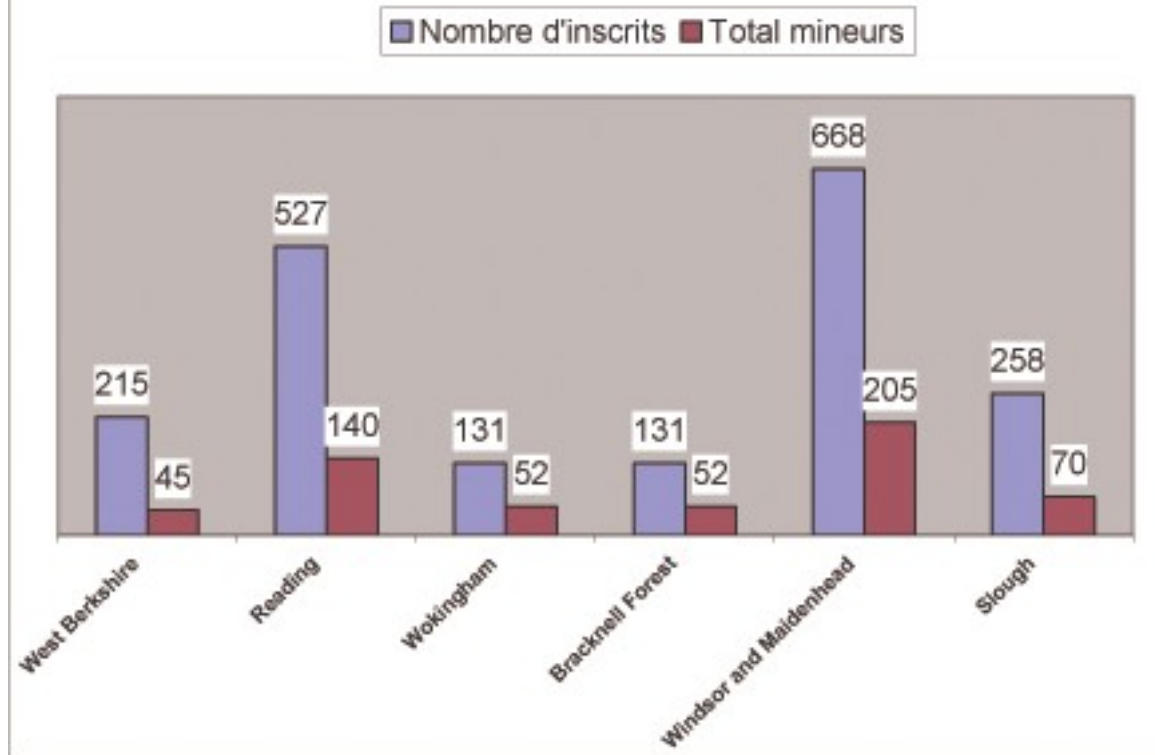


- **Wandsworth: Wix primary school**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> classes opened in 2006, in a undersubscribed school
  - Today Wix is oversubscribed by 1 place for 3 applications
  - Contact: Paul Robinson, Director of Children's Services, Borough of Wandsworth
- **Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham**
  - 2 New bilingual schools hosted in borough's existing schools.
  - Contact: Steve Greenghlagh, Leader London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham





## Répartition de la population française - Comté du Berkshire -



Source: January 09, French embassy

# Joint UK-France Summit Declaration (27 March 2008)



## EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Equipping our citizens with the right skills is crucial in enabling them to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalisation, with education and skills central to ensuring an effective and well-functioning social dimension in Europe.

Together we will

- Ensure that the Spring European Council's call on the Commission to present a comprehensive assessment of future skills requirements in Europe up to 2020 is followed-up under the French Presidency, and urge the Commission to work in collaboration with Member States and to launch the review as soon as possible.
- Continue our long tradition of learning each other's languages including through our Memorandum of Understanding:
- We will step up cooperation in teaching the partner's language at primary level with an emphasis on the use of information and communications technology and the development of links between schools.
- We will develop greater collaboration in the field of Content and Language Integrated Learning, particularly at primary level.
- We will look closely at the evaluation of existing bilingual schemes and consider how practice could be applied more widely.
- We will also explore the feasibility of a bilingual option in the new Languages Diploma, which will be developed by the Diploma Development Partnership.

# For reference



Interview by Wix Head teacher

- <http://www.wix.wandsworth.sch.uk/documents/PressReports/TheConversations>

About Wix:

- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/4115316.stm>
- [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life\\_and\\_style/education/article426952.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/article426952.ece)
- <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/bilingual-sch>

Aberdeen

- [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/north\\_east/7351654.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/north_east/7351654.stm)

Fulham:

- <http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23417905-details/Bilingual+sc>

# For illustration purposes, a possible time-table



		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
		French speakers	monolingual children	French speakers	monolingual children	French speakers	monolingual children	French speakers	monolingual children	French speakers	monolingual children
9:00 - 10:00	Year x										
	Year x+1										
10:00 - 15:15	Year x										
	Year x+1										
						French teacher			English teacher		