

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2019**

Question

What bench-marking, if any, takes place in the field of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) to measure the percentage of Jersey students leaving secondary or further education with proficiency or qualifications in MFL, compared to other European countries? If none, why? If benchmarking is conducted, can the latest figures be provided?

How many students in States-funded schools (including Victoria College and Jersey College for Girls) have a language other than English as their first language? Out of these, how many are entered into a GCSE of that language?

Answer

No routine benchmarking to European countries is currently undertaken by the department. This is partly due to the difficulties in direct comparisons with education systems in other countries.

In January 2018, 2,567 pupils at States primary, secondary and special schools or in alternative provision had a first language other than English (EAL) recorded.

Of the 120 pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL) in Year 11, 63 entered a GCSE in their first language. Of the 57 other pupils, 27 entered at least one GCSE in a language other than English.

The Minister for Education would like to renew her previous invitation to Deputy Tadier to meet with her and departmental officers, to foster a collaborative working relationship in line with his delegated political oversight for culture, arts and heritage.