

Southampton Language Service (SLS)

Training opportunities guide



Foreword



One of the many strengths of Southampton is our diversity. Our story as a city is one where we see the range of people, backgrounds, identities, and languages as both a strength and a resource. That's why I'm proud to introduce this guide to the training opportunities that are available through Southampton Language Service.

Our Language Service has been meeting the needs of bilingual children and professionals for over 25 years. We do this because we believe education must be an inclusive experience, and know that being able to speak more than one language is proven to have social, psychological and even economic advantages.

So we want every child with English as an Additional Language (EAL) to have the opportunity, at home and at school, to build strong communication skills in the multiple languages they use. As a linguist myself, I know that this will open doors and empower language learners to understand and engage in the community, city and world around them as they grow and develop.

I'd like to thank all of our bilingual teachers and assistants who work in this area, and I believe it's crucial that professionals can get the support they require in order to harness the opportunities that bilingualism brings. This guide shows you what is available across Southampton and I hope that all schools and practitioners will be able to take part in the many beneficial training opportunities set out here.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darren Paffey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Councillor Dr Darren Paffey

Cabinet Member for Children and Learning

University Lecturer in Language and Linguistics



WELCOME...

To the Southampton Language Service training brochure designed to support schools and professionals who are working with children, young people and families whose English is not their first language.

Throughout the brochure are a selection of training opportunities that Southampton Language Service currently provide, that is aimed at supporting professionals and their settings to support EAL pupils. The offer is not an exhaustive list; but a collection of current training packages we feel deliver value for money development in key, nationally identified areas.

If there is something that is not on the list that you are interested in please contact us. Training sessions can be tailored to your needs as appropriate. Bespoke courses may incur additional charges if a large amount of preparation is required.

WHO ARE WE?

Southampton Language Service has offered services for schools and settings throughout Southampton for over 25 years (previously the Ethnic Minority Service). The aims of the service are to meet the needs of Bilingual learners and pupils where English is an additional language.

Our team provides an in-depth training programme and effective use of bilingual strategies for raising the attainment and wellbeing of EAL pupils. We have a team of trained and experienced Bilingual Assistants who can support accessing the curriculum, using their first/home language.

Meet the team



Bryn Roberts
**Service Manager
for Inclusion**

Bryn has worked for Southampton City Council for nearly 12 years and took over the oversight of the service back in 2015.

Bryn states 'the importance of inclusive education is one of the most fundamental ethos's we can affect within our education system. For children and young people to come into a new country and not get the support they need to excel, would be a travesty and work against the very skills and experiences we know education can provide.

For over 30 years it has supported countless families and young people to thrive in their city and communities and enrich the lives of their peers and our own culture'



Sonia Malhotra
SLS Co-ordinator

Graduated from Liverpool John Moores University with a business studies degree, but for the last 14 years have devoted my career to education. I have worked in the specialist area of English as an additional language for 12 years, and have first-hand experience of learning English in addition to Hindi which I fluently speak.

I train and manage a team of Bilingual Assistants and offer training and support for schools and teachers in the field of EAL. As a member of NALDIC (the national subject association for EAL) which is a renowned association for EAL, I look to them for National articles and statistics to support schools in the city.



Magdalena Ofman
Bilingual Assistant (BA)

I have been working for the Service since 2010. My passion is to help others, especially children. The work I do in school gives me great satisfaction.



Dorota Zienkiewicz
Bilingual Assistant (BA)

I have been working for the service for 7 years. In my work I love helping to build pupils' confidence, self-esteem and independence so that all pupils are enabled to reach their full potential alongside their peers. Using pupil's first language is crucial to support and develop their learning.



Refaa Elnafis
Bilingual Assistant (BA)

I am an Arabic speaking Bilingual Assistant and have worked for the service for approximately 15 years. I love working with children and enjoy making their mammoth tasks look much smaller at the end of a 1-1 session in school. I share bilingual techniques to deliver the appropriate information to the children.



Jackie Holgate
Team Standards
Co-ordinator

My name is Jackie Holgate, and I am a Team

Standards Co-ordinator supporting the Inclusion Team, Educational Psychologists and Virtual School. My role with the SLS Team is mainly working on the financial side, looking after both income and expenditure, and supporting Sonia and her BAs in any way I can.

We also have a pool of highly experienced Casual BA's who are used on an as and when required assignment. These BAs all have a DBS and attend training sessions provided by the SLS Co-ordinator.

Please let us know if you require any language support and we will endeavour our best to recruit these people in our team.

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Our training offer



'Advanced bilingual learners are defined as pupils who have had all or most of their school education in the UK and whose oral proficiency in English is usually indistinguishable from that of pupils with English as a first language but whose writing may still show distinctive features related to their language.

This course seeks to give you the answers to some very important questions.

How important is it to allow EAL students to reach their full potential over and beyond basic conversational skills in school?

What strategies can be used in the classroom to support the EAL pupils to reach the next level?

This course provides successful strategies for developing the language skills of advanced learners with English as an additional language in a school setting.

Learning outcomes

You will be able to:

- Enhance the teaching team's knowledge and understanding of barriers which prevent advanced EAL learners attaining the higher levels of achievement.
- Support the teaching team to further develop strategies and resources to ensure advanced EAL learners can achieve high levels of performance.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: Sonia Malhotra – EAL Lead, Southampton City Council

Cost: £250

EAL learners are as diverse as any large group of people (according to the January 2018 School Census, there are now more than 1.5 million pupils in the UK who are recorded as having EAL). *Written by Emma Parsons, published 10 January 2019*

We will show you the different types of EAL strategies that are required to develop the levels of English proficiency needed for EAL pupils to access the curriculum. These strategies will also help all pupils in your setting.

This course seeks to give you the answers to some very important questions you may be thinking in your school, such as:

Can I support EAL pupils?

If pupils can speak English, does that mean they do not require further support?

Should EAL pupils work outside the classroom?

Should EAL pupils only speak English at home?

This course provides successful strategies for developing the language skills of EAL pupils in a learning setting.

Learning outcomes

- Staff to have a range of strategies they feel confident to apply in the classroom.
- Staff to be able to use resources suggested to support all pupils with EAL.
- Staff to engage in the initial assessments and what they can show us.

You will also get an opportunity to meet an experienced BA who works alongside EAL parents and teachers and how they engage with them.

Q&A session.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: SLS Co-ordinator

Cost: £250

Ongoing research shows that family engagement in schools improves student achievement, reduces absenteeism, and restores parents' confidence in their children's education. Students with involved parents or other caregivers earn higher grades and test scores, have better social skills, and show improved behavior. 18 Nov 2014 (News and Features from the National Education Association)

EAL parents should be integrated into schools and this is extremely important. We will support you in how this can be done.

This course aims to give you the answers to some very important questions.

What can schools do to support EAL pupils and their families?

First language is very important, shall parents continue using this at home or stop?

This course provides successful strategies for developing the language skills of EAL pupils in a school setting.

Learning outcomes

- Staff to be able to use resources suggested to support all pupils with EAL.
- Staff to engage in the initial assessments and what they can show us.
- Staff to have a range of strategies they feel confident to apply in the classroom.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: SLS Co-ordinator

Cost: £250

Cultural diversity - the existence of a variety of cultural or ethnic groups within a society.

This course will show you how Cultural Diversity training is an ongoing process to Show respectful ways of working with people from a diverse range of backgrounds. Equality and diversity are important in any learning environment.

Learning outcomes

- Develop a greater understanding of the demographics in Southampton.
- Explore how these demographics have changed.
- Deepen your knowledge and understanding of diversity and cultural differences.
- Reflect on situations that may arise.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: Sonia Malhotra - EAL Lead, Southampton City Council

Cost: £250

A PGCE student from Winchester University attended this course and said, 'It was useful to see practical resources that are used by pupils that have EAL, not just theory'. (May 2019)

This course seeks to provide you with resources which aim to make the language of the curriculum accessible.

'Many teachers use bilingual resources successfully to support the teaching and learning of EAL and bilingual pupils'. NALDIC

www.naldic.org.uk/eal-teaching-and-learning/eal-resources/bilingual/

You will have an opportunity to look at examples of resources used by our experienced BAs in settings.

Learning outcomes

- Staff to be able to use resources suggested to support all pupils who are EAL.
- Staff to have a range of strategies they feel confident to apply in the classroom.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: SLS Co-ordinator

Cost: £250

A fifth of student educators still had little confidence in their ability to support EAL learners and 13% felt they still had very little or no understanding of the needs of EAL learners. (The Bell Foundation 21st March 2019)

The role of the specialist EAL leader is to: share opportunities to draw on pupils' prior experience and first language. ... provide or develop differentiated resources to ensure pupils' access to the curriculum and development of EAL. Enable pupils with EAL to transfer skills from one topic/subject to another.

Developing EMA co-ordinators: New to role – This course provides an opportunity for staff to fully understand the scope of their work, develop their knowledge and skill base and also to strategically plan their support in school.

Areas we will explore

EAL Policy

Job role

Rules and responsibilities

Importance of encouraging the pupils to maintain their home language

Increased and accurate understanding of the cultural and home backgrounds

Prioritise which EAL pupils needs support and how much

Learning outcomes

- Staff to be able to use resources suggested to support all pupils with EAL.
- Staff to have a range of strategies they feel confident to apply in the classroom.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: Sonia Malhotra – EAL Lead, Southampton City Council

Cost: £250

Supporting newly arrived learners who have English as an Additional Language (EAL)

2hrs

The course explores a range of strategies and resources to support learners who arrive in schools or settings with little English or with English as an additional language.

What can you do when an EAL family arrives at your school?

What strategies are in place to ensure the EAL pupil and their family have the information they need?

Is your school website “welcoming” to EAL families and is the information clear and accessible?

Does the school know about the strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes of a new EAL pupil?

Who and what information is given to EAL parents?

Is communicating in your first language important?

- Delegates will develop confidence in addressing the emotional, communication and academic needs of children arriving in school with little or no English.
- Delegates will develop familiarity with a broad range of strategies and resources that support learners with English as an additional language across the stages.

Learning outcomes

- Staff to be able to use resources suggested to support all pupils with EAL.
- Staff to engage in the initial assessments and what they can show us.
- Staff to have a range of strategies they feel confident to apply in the classroom.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs
- Lunchtime supervisory assistants and admin staff.

Delivered by: Sonia Malhotra – EAL Lead, Southampton City Council

Cost: £250

A First Language Assessment aims to establish a pupil's level of competence and skill in his/her first language, i.e. Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing, and to enable comparison between the pupil's levels of competence in first language versus additional language, i.e. English.

This course seeks to give you resources for you to use with your pupils.

Examples of resources used by our experienced BAs in schools.

This course provides successful strategies for developing the language skills of EAL pupils in a school setting.

Learning outcomes

- Staff to highlight when EAL pupils require a 1st language assessment. Understand best practice of how first language assessment can benefit a pupil and school.
- Discussion around examples of case studies that have been assessed by SLS BAs.
- The difference between SEN/EAL.

Who should attend?

- EAL and mainstream teachers
- Teaching assistants
- Subject leaders
- Inclusion leaders
- SENCOs
- NQTs

Delivered by: Sonia Malhotra – EAL Lead, Southampton City Council

Cost: £250

Festival assemblies and workshops

Southampton Language Services offers a selection of assembly's and workshops on different Festivals.

We will ensure your school has excellent cultural awareness around a selection of festivals. Our Bilingual Assistants celebrate these festivals in the UK having the experience and knowledge from their home country.

Our Bilingual Assistant's would like to tell you about the festivals, what they do, show you exemplar resources and use first language so that pupils can say some phrases in another language.

What assemblies and workshops can offer?

AIM:

Assemblies will be delivered for around 30-40 minutes on a school morning. An introduction will be given by using the Bilingual Assistant's first language and engaging the pupils. 2 members of staff will be delivering the session.

Outcome

Pupils will be able have an understanding of the festivals and will be able to share these important days with their friends in school. This will be part of every child's future.

AIM:

Workshops will be tailor made to be age specific and will give the pupils a much more cultural feeling of the festival as practical activities will be used. In some cases dance and singing will be used to make it more enjoyable. 2 members of staff will be delivering the session.

Outcome

To be involved in cultural relevant tasks and to have more exposure to culture and diversity at school.

Assemblies

Festival	Assembly Outline	Cost
Diwali	<p>To share personal experiences about Diwali delivered by 2 Hindi speaking members of the team.</p> <p>Re-tell the story about Diwali, there are 2 different ones!</p> <p>Bring in resources, Diya and puja thali.</p> <p>Teach how to greet in Hindi.</p> <p>Show a Hindi film Diwali song, showing colour and culture.</p> <p>A mini quiz at the end for the pupils.</p>	£75
Polish Christmas	<p>Sharing how Polish people celebrate Polish Christmas.</p> <p>Showing cultural resources.</p> <p>Learn how to greet friends in Polish.</p> <p>A mini quiz at the end for the pupils.</p>	£75
Polish Easter	<p>How Polish Easter is celebrated.</p> <p>Want to know what Wet Monday is?</p> <p>Bring in traditional resources.</p> <p>A mini quiz at the end for the pupils.</p>	£75
Ramadan	<p>To share the relevance of Ramadan for Muslims.</p> <p>Show resources to the pupils.</p> <p>A mini quiz at the end for the pupils.</p>	£75
Eid	<p>To share the celebration for Muslims.</p> <p>How, what and when.</p> <p>Share artefacts.</p> <p>A mini quiz at the end for the pupils.</p>	£75

Workshops

Festival	Workshop Outline	Cost
Diwali	Write pupils name in Hindi for each pupil. Teach Bollywood dance steps. Lakshmi foot prints A sensory light activity	£200
Polish Christmas	Sing Polish song Polish Dancing Tailor made activities to suit the year group.	£200
Polish Easter		£200
Clothes from different cultures	Try on clothes from other cultures. Talk about the materials and textures used.	£75

Testimonials

A teacher emailed us from a Primary school:

"It was a very special moment when I introduced Bilingual Assistant from (SLS) to the little girl in year one, her face lit up at the sound of a Polish voice and her whole body seemed to show relief that someone in her classroom could speak to her in a language she clearly understood. It was lovely".

Pre-School/Primary School

Supporting Families & children with English as an additional language (EAL)

"Really interesting, will take lots back to the team."

Primary School

1st language assessment march 2019

"The Bilingual Assistant (BA) was absolutely fantastic. The BA was great with the pupil and the pupil thoroughly enjoyed working with the BA. The BA communicated well with myself, the class teacher and the pupil's mum. Can't thank the BA enough."

"Class teacher benefitted from the service and was happy with feedback."

"The pupil enjoyed the sessions (pupil even wanted more!) and mum was over the moon with the feedback and was very glad to hear how well her child was doing, she was very grateful."

Interpretation & Translation

At very short notice, this was appreciated:

"The BA is a key part of the team and has a great relationship with the children and their parents. This meant they felt comfortable talking to them and this was a great support."

"We had concerns for the family after receiving a phone call from the parent. The BA was able to contact them and explain fully what had happened and offer them school support as needed."

Polish Christmas – Primary School Year 5 feedback Workshop

"Children learnt so much and it was very engaging!"

"even though I am Polish I found out new things that I didn't know before."

"we've never learnt about Polish Christmas before and other people can learn too."

Primary School - Teaching Assistant's

An Introduction to EAL

"Made me think about vocab topic word banks to send home. Real life objects."

PGCE Students – Primary EAL Strategies

"It was very informative & helpful, many thanks."

"I think I need more experience with children with EAL during my training."

Fun with EAL

"Informative, helpful, range of strategies to teach children with EAL."

"Informative about a range of techniques to use with EAL children."

"The trainer is a brilliant speaker and very knowledgeable. The service sounds fantastic."

"My knowledge of teaching children with EAL has greatly improved."

PGCE Students - Secondary

Practical strategies for working with EAL students

"I found the workshop very helpful. The presentation covered a lot about EAL and as a result I have a deeper understanding."

EAL Training for SENCOs – newly qualified SENCO teachers (EP service referral) Winchester students.

"Inspiring!"

"Enjoyed the session, thank you."

"Very informative & well presented. Thank you."

University Students

Southampton & Winchester

Using Resources to Enhance Your Teaching of Children with EAL

"Great session, the trainer was really helpful and knowledgeable. Super friendly."

Special School

School meeting with parents and teachers

"Excellent service and communication. The BA was early to the meeting, extremely friendly and really helped us achieve our meeting goals. I have recommended her to my team for any further work needed."

Interpretation meeting with professionals and parents

"The BA was an asset to the meeting for both parents and professionals. It was stated to me that the BA was able to put across the parent's views very well. Many thanks for an excellent service. We would not hesitate in using this service again."

Senior Lecturer

Institute of Education

Faculty of Education, Health and Social Care

"Your help in making the day a success is hugely appreciated. Thank you!"

Southampton City Council - Housing – interpretation meeting

"Excellent service as usual and the BA is always professional and helpful. really appreciative of service that is provided."

"The BA was extremely professional but at the same time put the pupil's grandmother at ease, the BA listened to her with empathy and was very clear in her translating. It would be a pleasure to work with this BA again in the future."

Secondary School

EMA leader

"Thank you ever so much for you superb communication and support."

Pupil in Year 10

"Additional help from the BA in school was helpful because it increased my understanding and commitment. The weekly conversations helped me understand how important it is for me to be in school. Now I am more confident in school and I am now thinking about further education, such as college. Also because of the BA's cooperation, I am now more talkative to my family and others."

Contacts

Email SLS Co-ordinator: language.service@southampton.gov.uk

Telephone number: 023 8083 3072

For Billing Queries, please contact: 023 8083 3480

Fill in the electronic version of the form which you can download as a pdf and return to language.service@southampton.gov.uk