



## Training opportunities

**EAL Network meeting:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Sans Souci, free to Solihull schools, £50 for out-of-borough/independent schools. If you wish to book a place, please email [inset@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:inset@solihull.gov.uk)

**Training for EAL co-ordinators:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 1.30pm to 4pm at Sans Souci, £70. If you wish to book a place please email [inset@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:inset@solihull.gov.uk). Please see below for details of what we will cover.

**Bespoke training:** We offer bespoke training to schools which is free of charge. If you wish to book this please contact us on [nicola.hunter@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.hunter@solihull.gov.uk). Please note the following:

- The quality of training will depend on the amount of detail you give us on the booking form. This should not only include the numbers of children in school with EAL but also the number of staff you anticipate will attend.
- If your school closes its doors after 3pm please ensure that office staff are aware that our staff will be arriving to deliver training – we have had occasions where we have been locked out and then the training has been late starting.
- We generally like to email any PowerPoint presentations to school to ensure there are no compatibility issues. Please ensure that the presentation is readily available when staff arrive in school, again to avoid delays.



## **New admin assistant:**

We are delighted to welcome Nicola Hunter on to the team. Nicola has a lot of experience working in different office environments, including the council. She is the first point of contact for enquiries and will be dealing with referrals from schools. Her email address is [nicola.hunter@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.hunter@solihull.gov.uk) and she can be contacted on 0121 704 8613

## **Training for EAL co-ordinators, 11<sup>th</sup> November, 1.30pm – 4pm, Sans Souci**

This term we are offering half day training for EAL co-ordinators. Whether you are new in post or have been doing the job for a while, this course will cover all the essentials you need to know for your role including

- Identifying EAL learners and managing data
- Working with parents
- Classroom strategies
- Resources
- SEN or EAL – distinguishing the difference

The course costs £70 – to enrol please email [inset@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:inset@solihull.gov.uk)

## **Collection of proficiency in English (PiE) codes (all schools)**

Only 20% of schools responded to our request for PiE data in June many thanks to those schools who sent it in. We will be continuing to collect this in this year (in June 2020) and encourage staff to ensure that they have systems in place to do this

- Assessment of English proficiency empowers teachers to understand, and therefore better meet, the learning needs of their EAL learners.
- Schools in Solihull have improved greatly in identifying their EAL learners as a direct consequence of this requirement.
- These data also allow the service to identify trends and therefore target resources, training and support more effectively.
- Collection of PiE data will also inform our risk assessments

If you require support with this, or additional information, please contact the Service or consider attending our EAL co-ordinator training session on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Solgrid – information for schools**

The EAL Service is in the process of moving information from the Extranet to the Solgrid website <https://www.solgrid.org.uk/education/support-services/english-as-an-additional-language/> . In the next few months we will have all our documentation on the website and you will be able to go there for advice and information as well as to download forms etc.

## **Advisory visits for schools:**

The Service continues to offer advisory visits for schools. These are free of charge and are entirely supportive in nature. We can advise on a range of things, such as how to write an EAL policy, supporting children in the classroom, data collection and analysis, working with parents, writing and action plan and planning lessons. Please contact us if you would like one of our advisory teachers to visit.

## **EAL Ambassadors programme**

We are continuing to provide EAL Ambassador training to schools. This is a programme that trains children and young people to support their peers with English as an additional language in schools and helps to promote multilingualism. We currently have a waiting list of schools that are keen to participate in this. If you would like to add your school to the list, or would like to know more about it, please contact the programme co-ordinator, Aggie Polanski [agnieszka.polanski@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:agnieszka.polanski@solihull.gov.uk)

**For enquiries please phone 0121 704 8613 or email [nicola.hunter@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.hunter@solihull.gov.uk) or for courses [inset@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:inset@solihull.gov.uk)**

If you have ideas for topics you would like to be covered at the EAL Network, please contact us.