

# The 'How Language Works'

## Professional Development Programme

**"The most joined up approach to language in learning across the curriculum that I have come across."**

How Language Works trainee, London 2011

'How Language Works' is a comprehensive and innovative professional development programme that extends teacher knowledge and understanding about language and learning across the full range of school curriculum contexts, with the specific aim of moving pupils from everyday to academic language.

The course puts language at the heart of teaching and learning and addresses the following:

- What do pupils need to be able to do with and through language to succeed at school?
- What do teachers and pupils need to know about language to ensure pupils succeed?
- How can teachers scaffold lessons, units of work and whole curricula so that the development of academic registers of language within subject disciplines takes place?

### Programme Rationale

The variation between the language of the home and community and the language of school is at the heart of a great deal of underachievement for identifiable groups of learners. These learners may speak English either as a first or second language. They draw on the language of home and community to make meanings within school. School subjects draw on different kinds of language. These variations in language do not match. How can we address this gap? How Language Works is based on a functional model of language and genre pedagogy, an approach that has been shown, both in the UK and beyond, to at least double pupil progress. When we, as teachers, make the language of our subjects visible to ourselves, we can empower students to develop control over knowledge, make better choices with language, and so become more independent learners. How Language Works equips teachers with the tools for teaching subject content in a language-explicit way that improves all pupils' control of academic language.

### Who should attend?

This course is designed to equip teachers, teaching and learning/literacy leaders and senior leaders with the foundation of knowledge they need to drive progress both within their own teaching and at a strategic level. It should, therefore, be attended by those interested in rolling out the principles and practices of the course across the school post-training.

### What former participants have said:

*"Excellent course." "Totally absorbing."*

*"This has certainly opened my eyes to how teaching and learning works and how to deliver literacy..."*

*"The course has had a big impact upon my planning and teaching."*

*"...it could have a very logical and powerful place in the future of language development in schools."*

## Logistics

The course is split into 10 modules, each lasting 3.5 hours and will be delivered by **Helen Handford**, Language in Learning/EAL consultant and How Language Works accredited tutor. The course will be delivered at Sans Souci from 1.00pm-4.30pm on the following dates.

Module	Date
1	28 <sup>th</sup> September
2	16 <sup>th</sup> October
3	26 <sup>th</sup> October
4	13 <sup>th</sup> November
5	30 <sup>th</sup> November
6	11 <sup>th</sup> December
7	8 <sup>th</sup> January
8	25 <sup>th</sup> January
9	29 <sup>th</sup> January
10	15 <sup>th</sup> February

Participants will be able to work towards a certificate by completing 6 Between Module Activities (BMAs) and Between Module Readings (BMRs). For the duration of the training period participants have access to 1:1 personalised guidance, support and feedback from the tutor. There is also an option to accrue Masters level credits with Birmingham City University via completion of the How Language Works certificate for those who may be interested.

## Cost of programme

The cost of the programme will be **£650 per participant** with a 10% discount available if there is more than one participant from a school. This covers tuition (35 hours), between module supervision of the BMAs and BMRs, course materials and refreshments.

If you would like to participate in the programme please send your name and email address of the participant to [inset@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:inset@solihull.gov.uk) by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Further details about How Language Works can be found at [www.lexised.com](http://www.lexised.com)