



E.S.L.



ESL IN THE MAINSTREAM

Primary News

In the year 2000-2001 many more colleagues have successfully participated in ESL in the Mainstream. Clearwater Bay, Glenealy and Bradbury chose to run courses as whole school INSET, enabling school action plans to be drawn up immediately. Kowloon Junior and Beacon Hill have now trained almost all their current staff and are implementing action plans. Kennedy and Quarry Bay ran courses for teachers in specific year bands and these schools will be finished by Easter 2002. Peak has chosen a whole school approach commencing in September 2001 and, when Shatin Junior train their remaining teachers in January 2002, it will mean that all current Primary colleagues will have completed the ESL in the Mainstream course.

From September 2002, centralised courses will be organised for new teachers to ESF. This means that the burden placed upon Primary tutors will lessen considerably. Enormous efforts have been made to respond to the requests of the primary schools to train their teachers as efficiently and effectively as possible and we would like to extend our thanks to all tutors who have enabled the tight schedule to succeed. Our thanks also to the principals who have released tutors and supported them throughout this programme of INSET. We appreciate this continued support as tutors are called upon in the future.

Early Years

In February this year Rosemary Matwiejczyk was in Hong Kong again. The ESF Kindergartens hosted a tutor-training course for Early Years specialists – “Early Literacy and the ESL Learner”. The course was offered to teachers in other Hong Kong kindergartens but there were also places available for six ESF Early Years teachers to train as tutors.

From September 2001, the ESF kindergartens will begin training their staff in-house. The ESF teachers who are now Early Years tutors will offer open courses in January 2002 for any new teachers to ESF Primary schools who are Early Years specialists and also to those who have completed ESL in the Mainstream but would like to further their knowledge and understanding from an Early Years perspective.

Secondary News

Four Secondary courses were organised for 2001, two on Hong Kong island and two in Kowloon. All four courses commenced in the Spring Term, as tutors and participants alike had found it difficult to complete assignments the previous year, with the onset of the long holidays and the short length of the Summer term. Hopefully the earlier start proved more satisfactory for all concerned.

In the secondary sector, tutors are battling with much larger numbers of teachers. This year tutors increased numbers of participants at both courses on Hong Kong island. Some teachers joined colleagues at Kowloon-side schools to ensure themselves a place, as numbers of participants there remained slightly lower. We are looking at more creative ways of enabling the EAL INSET program to speed up in Secondary schools. Four secondary teachers will go to Australia to train as tutors in January 2002.

Please read the schedule for 2001-2002 detailing course availability and tutor placement on page 12 in Reshuffle. Specific dates and times will be sent to participants as they become available.

The tutors would like to take this opportunity to thank Liz Muscroft for her tremendous support and encouragement throughout the last two years. It has been absolutely essential to have a representative at FMO steering key aspects of this ESF-wide programme.

We look forward to working with Siu Ming Cheung in a similar way this year.

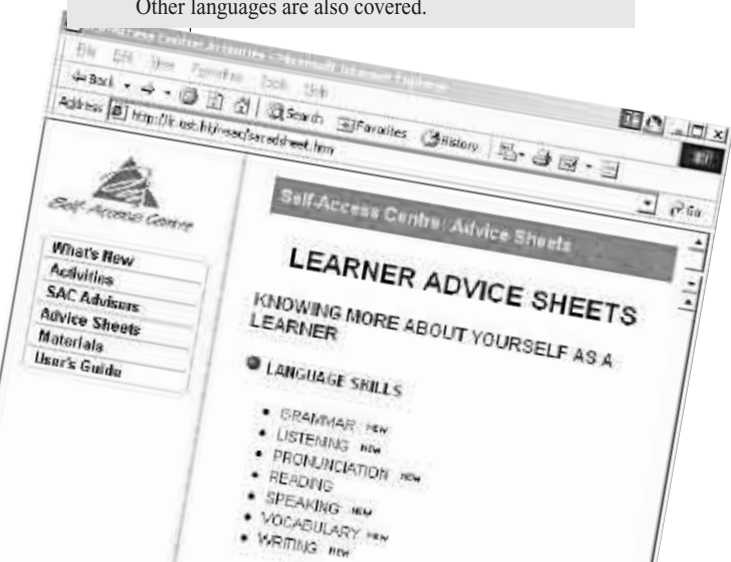
Carole Denny / Course Coordinator / KJS

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Hong Kong UST have a Languages Self Access Centre based at the campus in Clearwater Bay. To support their programme they also have a website with some materials to support language learning.

The page at <http://lc.ust.hk/~sac/sacadsheet.htm> may be of particular interest and relevance to ESL learners and teachers.

Other languages are also covered.





ESF Self-Access Language Learning Centre

The ESF Self-Access Language Learning Centre (scheduled to open on November 1st, 2001) is a facility available to ESF students which is intended to enhance language-learning opportunities across the Foundation's Secondary Schools.

SALL(y)

Our aims are to provide the best self-access materials and resources to enable successful autonomous language learning in a range of languages, and to support learners as they develop the skills needed for life-long autonomous language learning.

Initially we are offering courses in French, German, Modern Standard Chinese and Spanish, from beginner to A Level, to two groups of students:

- o Those recently arrived who need help to catch up with the level of their classmates;
- o Those who cannot continue studying their language in normal classes because it is not offered in their school.

As the Centre develops we shall expand the scope of our activities to include ESF students wishing to learn an additional language, classes whose teachers wish to include a self-access component in their normal classroom-based activities, adult learners and learners from the local community.

Learners come to the Centre (situated in the J.C. Sarah Roe Centre) for initial assessment, negotiation of learner contracts and selection of materials.

Learning is then done at a time and in a way that suit the individual learner.

Day-to-day tutor support is carried out via the Internet.

Doug Taylor

Contacts

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- o Spanish
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Or visit our website: <http://www.esfsall.net/>

SALL is housed in the J.C. Sarah Roe Centre, see the inside back cover for details of how to get to the Centre.



<http://www.esfsall.net/>

