

ESOL Development Day

Monday, 27 March 2023
Cardiff and Vale College Business Centre, Cardiff

- 10:00am Registration, refreshments & networking
- 10:30am Welcome: Joshua Miles, Director for Wales, Learning and Work Institute
- 10:35am Tetiana Kovalenko, 2023 Inspire! Tutor Award winner
- 10.45am **Plenary session**
- Exploring the emergent curriculum in ESOL**
Sam Shepherd, Kirklees College
- Drawing on participatory pedagogy, dogme ELT and elements of task-based learning, this session will examine how ESOL practitioners can develop a curriculum which responds to the changing and developing needs of the students.
- 11:30am **Welsh Government ESOL Review**
- Introduction to the ESOL Review and context:
Susan Edwards, Head of ESOL, Welsh Government
- ESOL Review overview of findings and recommendations:
Dr Mike Chick, USW & Alex Stephenson, Learning and Work Institute
- Next steps: Susan Edwards, Head of ESOL, Welsh Government
- 12:30pm **Lunch and networking**
- 1:15pm **Breakout groups**
- A choice of four sessions to explore further the findings identified in the ESOL review and to focus on solutions: What can be done? Who needs to do it? What needs to change? What needs to improve? How do we get there? What are the barriers? How do we remove them?
- Breakout 1:** Access and infrastructure
- Breakout 2:** Curriculum Innovation

Breakout 3: Workforce Education/ Supply and Continuous Professional Development

Breakout 4: Inclusion

2.15pm **Coffee and walkabout to breakouts**

2.45pm: **Plenary session**

The role of hope and identity in ESOL: Boosting ESOL learners' language learning and integration trajectories: Dr Jill Court, University of Bristol

This session shares ESOL learners' accounts of their language learning and integration experiences in Britain and the implications for ESOL practice and integration policy.

3.40pm **Close**

More about our speakers

Plenary 1:
Exploring the Emergent Curriculum in ESOL: Sam Shepherd, Kirklees College

Drawing on participatory pedagogy, dogme ELT and elements of task-based learning, this session will examine how ESOL practitioners can develop a curriculum which responds to the changing and developing needs of the students. We will question the concepts of learning outcomes and targets and look at how an ESOL course can emerge from the students' interactions with each other and with their tutor; as well as from their interactions with texts and with the wider world.

The session will have a practical focus as much as a theoretical one; the model is rooted in an action research project being undertaken as part of PhD, and will include practical advice, as well as honest examples of the challenges as much as the benefits!

Sam Shepherd is an ESOL teacher and teacher trainer at Kirklees College in West Yorkshire. He has been teaching ESOL since 2004, prior to which he was a teacher in the private EFL sector. He has been interested in materials-light and student-driven ESOL practices for some time, as well as the policy context of ESOL, and is currently doing a PhD investigating ESOL curriculum practices at the University of Sunderland.

Plenary 2:
The role of hope and identity in ESOL: Boosting ESOL learners' language learning and integration trajectories: Dr Jill Court, University of Bristol

This talk describes my doctoral research which captured ESOL learners' accounts of their language learning and integration experiences in Britain. I share findings on the challenges and opportunities for learning English, settling and thriving in Britain, and discuss the roles of identity and hope in shaping these. I then reflect on the implications of my research for ESOL practice and wider ESOL and integration policy.

Dr Jill Court is an Associate Teacher at the University of Bristol and has over 15 years' experience of teaching ESOL. Her research interests include researching ESOL from critical and social justice perspectives and exploring ways to collaborate with ESOL teachers to strengthen links between theory and practice.

