

SUPPORTING BEGINNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS

Like all newcomers to the various professions, beginning teachers of English need to be supported in order to help them apply the theoretical knowledge and skills acquired in their teacher preparation course to the complexity of real-life teaching. One effective method of easing the way for these beginning teachers is to pair them with a more experienced teacher-mentor for guidance and support.

This course provides the opportunity for experienced English language teachers to develop a critical awareness of their own beliefs and attitudes about supporting newly qualified English language teachers. In addition, it gives them the basic skills for providing professional support to these beginning teachers.

Objectives

During this course, participants will:

- Examine and gain insights into their own beliefs, attitudes and feelings about teaching
- Be aware of the concerns of beginning English language teachers
- Develop an understanding of how school culture affects the development of beginning English Language teachers
- Understand the basic concepts of mentoring and the roles and responsibilities of a mentor towards novice teachers of English

Content

Topics covered include:

- Understanding teacher concerns
- Describing teacher concerns
- Understanding the school culture
- Roles mentors play
- Attributes of good mentors
- Mentoring skills

Duration

6 days (32 hours)

Mode of Delivery

The course consists of 2 three-day block of face to face interaction. During these interactions there will be a lot of opportunities for participants to draw on each others' experiences. Group sharing and critical self reflection during the face to face interactions will be a critical component of the course. The methods of training will include lectures, workshops, oral presentations, discussions and directed reading.

Participants

This course is designed for English language teachers who have had more than five years of experience teaching English language in primary and secondary schools.