

Student engagement and measuring outcomes for the ESOL classroom.

Thursday 18 May 2023 – 9.30 to 3.15.

(ESOL is English for Speakers of Other Languages)

The Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street, Dublin.

There is **no fee** for attending this conference.

9.30 Registration: tea and coffee.

10.00 Welcome and opening remarks.

Chair: Basheer Abdallah, ESOL student, Parnell Adult Learning Centre, City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDET) Adult Education Service.

10.10 NALA update.

Colleen Dube, CEO of NALA.

10.20 Engaging your student to get the most out of your resources: The need for teachers to be mindful of their students' engagement, to give them space to develop ideas, question us as the teacher, and have room to practice, confirm understanding and engage in the task.

Dom Le Good, Quality and Programme Coordinator, SEDA College, Dublin.

10.40 Assessment, tracking and measuring outcomes for ESOL students from a professional background.

Mary Kenny, ESOL Development Officer and Cambridge Exams Manager.

11.00 Workplace ESOL: Reflections on developing, delivering and evaluating bespoke work-related ESOL courses for adult learners in Northern Ireland.

Declan Flanagan, ESOL practitioner, advocate and English for Academic Purposes (EAP) lecturer, National Association for Teaching English and other Community Languages to Adults (NATECLA), Island of Ireland branch.

11.20 Questions and answers.

11.35 Go to workshops.

11.45 to 1.00 Workshops:

- (a) ChatGPT: A game-changer for ESOL teachers and learners! Helping you to understand what it is, how to use it and how to introduce it to your students -**
Arthur McKeown, Volunteer ESOL trainer, Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre and
Claudia Belloni, Volunteer Coordinator, Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre and
ESOL Tutor with Tipperary ETB.
Note: This workshop will look at the ChatGPT language model. ChatGPT is an artificial intelligence chatbot developed by OpenAI (released - November 2022).
- (b) Backward designing your ESOL class: ‘Backward design’ involves identifying the desired learning outcomes and then planning the teaching strategies, assessment methods, and learning activities that align with these outcomes –** Ana Marques, FET Educator, Course designer and Workshop facilitator, Limerick and Clare ETB.
- (c) Evaluation of a bespoke work-related English language course for newcomers in Northern Ireland: The necessity for designing, developing and evaluating a work-related ESOL course (plumbing and electrics) arising from the current ESOL landscape in Northern Ireland -** Declan Flanagan, ESOL practitioner, advocate and English for Academic Purposes lecturer, NATECLA.
- (d) Getting the most out of your resources: Engagement and spinoffs to motivate the ESOL learner –** Dom Le Good, Quality and Programme Coordinator, SEDA College, Dublin.
- (e) Applying phonics to ESOL lessons: The case for phonics and strategies for applying a phonics-based approach to ESOL learning –** Michelle McGrane, ESOL Literacy Provision Coordinator, Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB.
- (f) Assessment, measuring outcomes and mental health of ESOL learners who are professionals: What can we do to support professionals from a refugee or migrant background on their learning journey? Discussion and demonstration of the Cambridge English Placement test -** Mary Kenny, ESOL Development Officer and Cambridge Exams Manager.

1.00 Lunch

2.00 - 3.15 - Afternoon workshops:

- (g) ChatGPT: A game-changer for ESOL teachers and learners! Helping you to understand what it is, how to use it and how to introduce it to your students -** Arthur McKeown, Volunteer ESOL trainer and Claudia Belloni, Volunteer Coordinator, Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre.
- (h) Incorporating digital literacy into lower level ESOL literacy classes -** Mary-Claire Hally, Tutor and Online Learning Coordinator, Dublin Adult Learning Centre.
- (i) Applying phonics to ESOL lessons: The case for phonics and strategies for applying a phonics-based approach to ESOL learning –** Michelle McGrane, ESOL Literacy Provision Coordinator, Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB.
- (j) Developing critical thinking skills as an essential element of language learning –** Jane Langley, ESOL Trainer and Academic Director, SEDA College, Dublin.
- (k) Signposting in the classroom: Offering advice and information on services and supports outside of the classroom, and how we can make this a part of our ESOL lesson -** Angus O’Riordan, ESOL Tutor, Trainer and Psychosocial Officer, Spirasi.

Registration fee:

Note: There is no fee for attending this conference. [We’d be delighted if you joined NALA as a member.](#)