

The Bell Foundation is seeking regional partners to embed EAL provision across England

Are you interested in developing cost effective, sustainable support for EAL learners in your region?

Are you a high performing organisation or Teaching School Alliance with wide reach into schools?

Are you keen to develop the skills and EAL expertise of your staff?

Would you like to enhance your existing offer to schools by adding a comprehensive EAL training intervention?

Become a Centre of Expertise

The Bell Foundation is recruiting strategic partners to join its emergent and growing network of Centres across England that are committed to creating sustainable EAL provision in their regions and improving outcomes for learners with EAL.

Becoming a Centre of Expertise presents an opportunity to enhance and expand your current training offer to include high quality, evidence informed EAL training and support via a licensed partnership with The Bell Foundation.

“The training was really well received, and it has already raised the profile [of EAL] and is having an impact on practice.” Senior vice principal

Why work with us on this issue?

There are over 1.5 million learners in UK state schools who speak English as an Additional Language (EAL), a figure which has more than doubled over the last ten years. However, despite growing numbers of EAL learners, there is no clear strategy to develop teacher expertise in EAL. Current EAL support for schools can be inconsistent and difficult to access and Bell Foundation research demonstrates an urgent need for evidence informed, cost effective EAL CPD, particularly for schools based in areas of high need.

To address this issue, The Bell Foundation is developing a national network of Centres of Expertise to build capacity and sustainable support for schools, and to increase the reach and impact of its [EAL Programme](#) so that more teachers are able to support this group of learners effectively.

The Bell Foundation has had positive feedback from partner schools and practitioners who have been involved to date, with evidence of impact on classroom practice. There continues to be high demand from schools enquiring about receiving training.

“The training sessions have been of high quality and we have noticed increased engagement with EAL amongst school staff. The SLT now receive far fewer panicked requests from teachers about EAL!”

Assistant principal

About Centres of Expertise

Centres of Expertise are usually based within Teaching School Alliances or Multi Academy Trusts (where a significant proportion of schools are good or outstanding) that can demonstrate commitment and capacity for improving outcomes of schools and that work with clusters or groups of schools.

Centres are licensed, accredited and quality assured by The Bell Foundation to offer the [Language for Results](#) training intervention to schools in their regions. Each Centre is responsible for recruiting a team of Bell Foundation Licensed Practitioners who will be trained by the Foundation (via a 40-hour blended training programme) to deliver Language for Results. Some Centres of Expertise choose to recruit practitioners from within their immediate network of schools, whilst others recruit from wider regional networks.

Benefits of becoming a Centre of Expertise

Accredited Centres of Expertise will have access to the full suite of Language for Results training materials and resources to deliver to others on a not for profit basis. This includes the Foundation's training on the [EAL Assessment Framework for Schools](#), which received the British Council's [ELTons Award](#) for Local Innovation 2018.

By becoming a Centre of Expertise, your organisation will:

- Acquire the knowledge and key skills to better support EAL pupils
- Develop sustainable EAL provision across your region
- Access the full suite of Language for Results training materials to deliver in schools
- Enhance your wider CPD offer and deliver Language for Results to schools
- Increase opportunities for improvement in both EAL and CPD provision through regular reviews and the sharing of best practice
- Increase your regional and national profile
- Become part of a collaborative network of Centres of Expertise around the UK
- Benefit from an independent evaluation of the Language for Results intervention in your setting

About Language for Results

[Language for Results](#) is a whole school EAL training intervention that works with schools over three years to develop the knowledge and skills of all school staff to improve support for EAL learners. A comprehensive needs analysis is carried out at the beginning of each school partnership, around which a bespoke training intervention is designed to meet the needs of the individual school.

Language for Results is a long term, independently evaluated intervention with opportunities for follow-up, consolidation and support activities. To see long-lasting impact, schools need to commit senior leadership time and ample staff resource to the training, which will ensure that the learning is embedded at a whole school level.

Language for Results is aligned with the Department for Education's standard for teachers' professional development, which enables schools to clearly map training outcomes against statutory requirements.

"The Bell Foundation programme had a real impact on staff and improved the overall quality of our training provision, which really has been taken to the next level. In the latest observation, conducted jointly with our partner university, the EAL training session was judged to be outstanding." ITT training manager

Centre of Expertise commitment and investment

The Foundation is committed to keeping costs low for Centres of Expertise and Language for Results is a not for profit intervention. There is an upfront fee of £1,000 to train and license five practitioners and an accreditation fee of £1,000 per year. Centres are also required to commit senior leadership time to the development and evaluation of the model and administrative support to co-ordinate activity.

Where are Centres based?

Centres are based in areas of high need, usually where there are significant numbers of EAL learners with low attainment and limited access to EAL training and support. We are particularly interested in hearing from potential partners in the following regions:

- West Midlands
- North Yorkshire
- London
- South West
- South East

If you are based outside of these regions but have identified that there is a need for EAL provision in your local area, please first make an enquiry by writing to info@bell-foundation.org.uk.

Get a taste of The Bell Foundation's training

To get a taste of The Bell Foundation's training and to find out about future training opportunities, webinars, online and face-to-face courses please complete the [Contact Us](#) form on our website.

"Thank you for the amazing opportunity to be taught by Bell Foundation experts. I thoroughly enjoyed the workshops and found each part very useful. The trainers are professional, experienced and inspiring." EAL co-ordinator

How to apply

If you are interested in becoming a Centre of Expertise please follow these steps:

1. Is your organisation based in an area of high need, as outlined above?
2. If yes, please arrange a call with a member of the EAL Programme Team by emailing info@bell-foundation.org.uk with subject: New Centre of Expertise
3. Following the call, please complete the partnership criteria form, demonstrating how your organisation meets the Foundation's partner profile along with a cover letter outlining:
 - Why your organisation is interested in becoming a Centre of Expertise
 - How this partnership aligns with your current activity and strategic aims
 - What impact you hope to achieve
4. Send the partnership criteria form and cover letter to info@bell-foundation.org.uk with the subject: New Centre of Expertise.

Organisations that meet the [partnership criteria](#) and who demonstrate the commitment, capacity and drive to collaborate with the Foundation as a Centre of Expertise will be considered as potential partners.