

English Hubs Learners First English Hub



Foundations for Phonics with Kirstie Page

A short programme of events to support pupils in the earliest stages of their education

Kirstie Page qualified as a Speech and Language Therapist before retraining as a teacher. Kirstie taught within KS1 and the EYFS, before shifting her focus to the training and support of other practitioners, whilst continuing to work 'hands-on' within schools and settings.

She founded and developed 'Launchpad for Literacy', which is child focused and sits alongside the curriculum and current good practice, giving you a more specific and targeted approach to identifying and closing skill gaps, embedding speech and language interventions and creating a firm, broad-base of skill readiness for all aspects of literacy, including Phonics.



Facilitating Language Skills - Tuesday 15th March – 1.30-3.00pm

This session will explore how having a greater understanding of children's gaps can be used to inform our interactions and approach to language enrichment and help practitioners to create targeted opportunities and focused activities within the learning environment. In doing so, we can ensure that specific skills are developed, gaps are closed and accurate interventions are embedded through targeted practice.

Click Here to Book

Phonic Preparation - Tuesday 22nd March – 1.30-3.00pm

Throughout this session Kirstie will examine which skills feed directly into phonic readiness and look closely at improving how targeted and incremental existing practice can become. The session will also provide the opportunity to explore other skill strands that feed directly into readiness such as sequential auditory memory, conceptual understanding and visual skills. Participants will hear how we can develop a broader base for phonic readiness in our youngest pupils, taking into consideration their starting points and language needs.

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Identifying Barriers to Phonic Learning and Progression - Wednesday 4th May – 1.30-3.00pm

Within this session we will revisit some of the skill strands explored throughout earlier sessions but with greater emphasis placed upon older pupils who have gaps within them which have become barriers to their learning and progression. We will look in more detail at the likely skill barriers for blending and grapheme-phoneme correspondence and consider more broadly issues such as reading comprehension and reading fluency. Kirstie will provide some ideas for diagnostic assessments and their use in order to deliver targeted interventions.

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- Audience: EYFS Leads and class teachers. KS1 practitioners working with pupils who have a high level of speech, language and communication difficulty may also find the sessions useful.
- **Cost:** Fully funded for schools engaging with the Learners First English Hub.

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