

TEACHER TRAINING

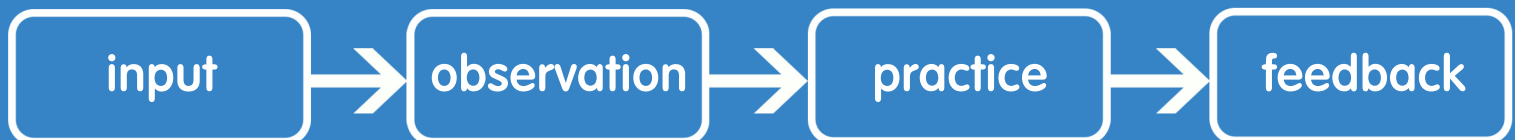


AS A NON-NATIVE TEACHER,
HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY
STUDENTS' SPEAKING?

Teacher Development Course

The teaching at Avalon is different. Our years of experience working with AQE means that our staff are confident, dynamic and among the best at helping students to speak English. Over the years visitors to the school have often commented, “I wish we had something like this in my town” or, “I’d love to get my students speaking more.” With this in mind, our DELTA-qualified teacher trainers have designed a practical development course for non-native teachers of English.

Course Structure



Course Aims

To raise awareness of participant’s knowledge of key debates and approaches within English Language Teaching (ELT).

To improve participants’ own phonological awareness and to enable them to develop new teaching techniques and activities to improve their students’ pronunciation, fluency, and listening comprehension.

To give participants the opportunity to meet professionals in their field and to work collaboratively with them in sharing best practice.

Learning Teaching

We often say that learning is a life-long process...but how about *teaching*?



It takes a committed and passionate person to want to teach. This is especially the case for those that want to teach a language. However, anybody with experience in the classroom knows that, in spite of this commitment and passion, teaching comes with a variety of challenges which can get between the student and the subject.

Consequently, a commitment to *Continuous Professional Development* is necessary for those of us wishing to overcome these challenges and meet new challenges with a fresh outlook.

At Avalon School London, we recognise the importance of such an approach and as a result have applied our skills and knowledge in designing the course in:

Modern Communicative Teaching Practices

“In 2 weeks we could learn more techniques than in 4 years of college”

Ana, Brazil

From translation to audio-lingual, through the communicative method, Task-Based-Learning and up to Dogme. Teaching languages has certainly come a long way from the “chalk and blackboard” approach many may be familiar with. As such, the contemporary language teacher is required to **know** and be able to **apply** a whole range of techniques when they teach.



This is the guiding principle behind Avalon’s course in Modern Communicative Teaching Practices: a course designed for experienced non-native teachers of English which introduces many ideas current in English Language Teaching and, most importantly, how these ideas can be used within the classroom.



Course aims

“Course content was very interesting and information concerning methods of teaching was very useful. I’ll use them for sure”

Anetta, Poland

The Avalon course in Modern Communicative Teaching Practices is a 40 hour course split into 4 hours per day (9am – 1pm) over 2 weeks including.

Over the course of 2 weeks trainees will:

- learn about key debates and methodologies within English Language Teaching (ELT)
- be introduced to contemporary approaches to teaching grammar and vocabulary
- learn about the value of phonology as an under-rated aspect of students’ language success
- raise their own awareness of phonology (e.g. the phonemic chart, connected speech, sentence stress etc.)
- meet professionals in their field and work collaboratively with them in sharing best practice



Telford Wallace, a teacher at Avalon school since 2009.

Course requirements

The course has been designed for people who already have some experience teaching English and wish to strengthen their knowledge and skills in the classroom. As such, some classroom experience is preferred. However, those with no previous experience but who sincerely wish to pursue a career in ELT are welcome.

In addition, there is a minimum CEFR B2 (Upper Intermediate) Level English requirement.



Course structure

“Being inside a classroom with students from many different countries and watching a native English teacher using just English was an amazing experience”

Marcelo, Brazil

In line with the aim of the course to increase teachers’ effectiveness inside the classroom, actual observation of teaching in Avalon School is a crucial part of the course.

Each day is structured as follows:

- 9am – 10:15am** Input session
- 10:30am – 12:20am** Classroom observation
Group tasks related to the day’s input session
- 12:30am – 13:00am** Feedback and discussion on observed teaching

Input sessions

Week 1

Day 1: Introduction to core skills.

Day 2: Pronunciation: the phonemic chart.

Day 3: Teaching lexis & Boardwork.

Day 4: Techniques of error correction.

Day 5: Second Language Acquisition



Students enjoying their class at Avalon School London



Week 2

Day 6: Teaching Grammar.

Day 7: Aspects of phonology.

Day 8: Lesson Planning.

Day 9: Teaching “chunks”.

Day 10: History of TEFL.

