

Mawsley Community Primary School

Issue 3
7th February 2020

European Project: Malaga January 2020

Enhancing Teaching and Learning Through Effective Use of Teaching Assistance

Mobility to Malaga with LEAP Language Education & Partnership Ltd.

Penny Farrow and Cherelle Frost

Course Overview

There has been an increased focus on improving education at European level, moving towards a curriculum that believes that all learners have the right to have their individual needs met. A well performing education system supports change through the use of methodologies that allows educators to break own barriers to learning. In response to the increased importance being placed on an understanding of how effective classroom support impacts on pupils' achievements, this intensive course is designed to equip teaching and non-teaching staff with the relevant skills in promoting effective support in the class, which leads to high quality teaching and develops pupils' independent learning skills.



The course methodology encourages active participation, sharing of good practice and reflection of approaches used to improve the provision and the quality of education. The course is delivered by experienced facilitators, offering a culturally rich learning experiences.

'We were really excited to be going on a course that enabled us to deploy adults within the class more effectively as they are such a valuable resource in any school. We learnt a lot of valuable skills that will be easily implemented within our own school to improve our practice and ensure that the children have the quality first teaching they deserve.'

'Going to Malaga was an amazing opportunity. Firstly, everything is better in the sun and this was certainly the case for this course. We were learning for 6-8 hours a day in the hotel complex, alongside 6 other schools on our course and other teachers from London/Sweden on a visual literacy course. We were able to share lots of good practice between us which was an unexpected, but invaluable part.'

Miss Frost and Mrs Farrow

Impact at Mawsley - Two class teachers attended the course. Penny Farrow and Cherelle Frost to create an action plan to support the development of teaching assistants within the school. Cherelle Frost will feedback to Governors.

Course Location and Malaga Culture



Málaga is a historic city, offering an authentic representation of the Spanish way of life, particularly the Andalucía region. It boasts a rich architectural heritage, such as the Alcazaba, the Roman Theatre, Jardines de Pedro Luis Alonso, and many others. It is also the birth place of Pablo Picasso. In central Málaga there is a museum dedicated to his private collection of artwork. Málaga is also well known for the production of its sweet wine and some delicious culinary products.

This culturally enriched country is said to be one of the oldest cities in the world, and has a great panorama of museums, art galleries and festivals. The city has been ruled by a wide array of dynasties such as Roman, Arabic, Phoenician and Christian and has been enhanced by each of them.

Neither Mrs Farrow nor Miss Frost had been to Malaga before. Mrs Farrow said “I travel to the South of Spain yearly but have never considered going to Malaga. I really didn’t have any idea of how beautiful it was! It is absolutely full of rich history, something I’m really interested in. My favourite part of Malaga was the ‘unfinished’ cathedral in the centre of Malaga town. There was also a castle and a beautiful port where lots of tourists docked. I was also fascinated learning about Picasso. I had no idea he was 92 when he died, with a career spanning over 80 years! His cubism style wasn’t due to him ‘going crazy’ as many people assume, he did, in fact, flit between multiple styles according to external and internal influences.”

Impact at Mawsley – Share specific learning with PE, Art and Geography leads about specific subject knowledge learnt and share experiences to implement in classrooms across the school.

Action Plan and Next Steps

Mawsley Community Primary School		Academic Year: 2019-2020
School Vision: <i>“Our desire is to create a safe, happy and motivating environment where children are able to develop their knowledge and skills, make good progress and achieve high standards through shared expectations.”</i> <i>Michelle Harris – Head Teacher</i>		
Action: Enhancing Teaching and Learning through effective use of Teaching Assistance		
Planned impact	Actions to achieve	Monitoring Impact
To identify teaching assistant confidence levels	Send out confidence surveys for TAs to complete to identify areas for further development.	Use data to identify strengths and areas of development. Analyse data from pre and post surveys to review impact.
To share good practice of what good learning support looks like	Deliver a 15minute forum to support staff on <i>What does good learning support look like?</i>	Improvement on staff confidence surveys. Teaching assistants’ voices. Children’s voices.
	Deliver a 15minute forum to support staff on <i>Shared Writing and Silent Modelling.</i>	Improvement on staff confidence surveys. Teaching assistants’ Children’s voices.
	Deliver a 15minute forum to support staff on <i>Creating Resources.</i>	Improvement on staff confidence surveys. Teaching assistants’ Children’s voices.
To identify members of staff who would benefit from additional support	Arrange for teaching assistance to shadow, observe and team-teach other teaching assistance to develop strategies and confidence.	Improvement on staff confidence surveys. Teaching assistants’ Children’s voices.

Personal reflection

What an amazing course. We were nervous initially as we were leaving home and travelling to a different country with people we had never spent more than a few hours with at most, however, we were amazed at how great the course was and how at ease we felt. We learnt a lot from the course content and from the other teachers/assistants that joined us. The learning was intense but it was structured so that it was digestible and easily implemented. We came back really excited to use some of the strategies we learnt as well as using the app Triptico. It was certainly an experience we will remember forever and we are so grateful to have been given this opportunity!

Miss Frost and Mrs Farrow

