

Being Ambitions Professional Learning by Rob Taylor, Y6 teacher

FOBISIA EAL JAWS Garden International School, Kuala Lumpur



The EAL JAWS workshop was a fantastic opportunity to network with EAL specialists from all over Asia. The conference enabled me to not only hear a variety of interesting presentations on all aspects of EAL teaching but, additionally, to discuss and share ideas of best practice with a variety of specialists in the field.

Following our presentation, we received considerable praise and interest with regards to our current practice at Regents. As a result, I feel very confident that the work I do in class represents an effective approach to catering for EAL learners in a mainstream classroom. Furthermore, the variety of fruitful discussions with EAL specialists sparked ideas for a number of new initiatives that I am eager to try out in class.

In particular, I am keen to experiment with new ways of utilizing the expertise of the EAL department during class teaching. After listening to an inspiring talk on collaborative teaching, I intend to investigate new ways of incorporating specialist support staff into lessons. We have already begun to discuss an approach to teaching maths through challenge based learning with an explicit EAL focus that we hope to roll out next term.

Over all, the conference was an incredibly thought provoking and valuable experience. I learnt a variety of new and exciting strategies and have been inspired to develop new approaches to my own teaching practice as a result.