

Assessment, Profiling and Action Planning

The **Common Assessment and Orientation Programme** provides a range of opportunities for EAL specialist staff to conduct initial assessments of students' EAL and curricular knowledge, understanding and skills. The course provides staff with opportunities to gather information on how well students are able to use English for learning purposes in ways that are appropriate to the setting and activity. It also enables teachers to begin to engage students in identifying and assessing their own EAL and curriculum needs. Together with students, staff will be able to identify students' longer term support needs and plan EAL and curriculum learning targets as they move into mainstream lessons. Assessment of students' first language will support this process where this is carried out by qualified bi/multilingual staff with appropriate matching language expertise. Some suggestions for recording, interpreting and disseminating assessment information collected about students can be found in Appendix (ii) to (v).