



Application
KEY LANGUAGE LEADERSHIP COURSE 2024

Dear Principals,

Re: Professional Learning Program for the Development of Language Leaders

The West Coast Language Development Centre – Outreach Service supports schools in the North Metro and Midwest Districts. The focus of the service is to build capacity of staff to improve the language/literacy outcomes of students in their schools with a focus on students at language risk. The service integrates current language development theory and research with the principles of best practice teaching. This is the result of extensive and prolonged collaboration between speech pathologists and education professionals. As part of the service we offer the Key Language Leadership Course for quality, lead teachers.

By having teachers attend the Language Leadership training, schools will be directly addressing the **Education Department's Strategic Plan 2020-2024** with its core message being 'Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day', which is aimed at school leaders and teachers being the critical drivers for improvement. The main priorities of the plan include – success for all students, strengthening support for teachers to ensure excellence in every classroom, building teacher capacity and using evidence to drive decision making. The Course will include these aspects and more.

The **Key Language Leadership Course** is outlined below.

The course consists of **six** days of professional learning with a focus on developing participants' knowledge of oral language and literacy skills (linked to disorder and impairment) along with building their capacity to take on a leadership role within the school. Participants learn to assess and analyse language and are provided with practical strategies for addressing identified needs through differentiation. The series has a strong action-learning component, there is an expectation that participants will undertake additional reading and trial activities between sessions. The training also encourages participants to reflect on their teaching practice, develop their leadership and mentoring skills and establish networks. Opportunities to identify plan and report on a school-based initiative will be provided throughout the series, which is aimed at developing the leadership skills of participants.

The six days of training include the following modules:

- Intro to oral Language, comprehension & LBU
- Narrative Macrostructure
- Narrative Microstructure & Grammar
- Semantics, Vocabulary and LBU Tie Up
- Phonological Awareness and the Early Code
- Complex Code, Polysyllabic Words, Morphology & Wrap Up

Each of the modules includes theory, strategies, and resources. There will be opportunities to reflect on current practice and commence planning for teaching and learning programs to suit diverse learning environments, including ideas for classroom organisation. Schools that decide to access the Course will nominate a *language leader/s* to attend the sessions. Many schools have chosen to train more than one teacher, where teachers often exchange their DOTT time to attend these sessions.

For continued mentoring and learning for Key Language Leaders, it is recommended that schools have a signed service agreement with the Outreach Service to access ongoing support.



The Leaders can also access any Professional Learning presentations and resources developed by the Outreach Service that would benefit their school.

Before agreeing to participate in the training course it is important that the Principal is clear about his / her responsibilities. Positive results will only be achieved with an investment of time and money, along with strong support and understanding from the administration team.

Responsibilities of the Principal:

- Selection of a **quality experienced teacher** who has credibility with the staff.
- Support the Language Leader by providing them with opportunities to conduct **action research** and develop a professional learning community within the school.
- Recognition that participation in the training course should lead to **enhanced classroom practice** and improved language and literacy outcomes for students.
- Ensure the leader **attends all sessions**.
- **Principal to attend the final professional learning session** along with the participant.
- Commit to the payment of the **6 days teacher relief** for your leader to attend the PL (unless the participant has a non-teaching role or is able to exchange DOTT time)
- Commit to the payment of **\$495** (inc.GST) to cover the costs of morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, the file with stationaries, notes, assessments, professional readings and a resource USB (which can be shared with all staff). The payment will be via credit card directly to the PLIS system.
- It can be useful if schools give the leader additional time in the week to enable them to fulfil a leadership role across the school.

Responsibilities of the Participant:

- Attend **all** 6 professional learning sessions.
- Complete the pre-reading and **action learning tasks** as required to support understanding of work covered in each module.
- Complete the Language Leadership booklet that addresses the **AITSL standards**.
- Prepare and present on a school focus in the final session of the series – the planning of this five minute **informal presentation** will be supported by your school's speech and language support officer.
- Plan, with the principal, ways of working on a project at the school level, and to continue to build capacity of all educators at a whole school level.



Session Dates 2024

Term 1

Session #1
14th March- week 7

Term 2

Session #2
2nd May- week 3

Session #3
6th June – week 8

Term 3

Session #5
1st August- week 3

Session #4
5th September – week 8

Term 4

Session #6
24th October – week 3

Registration/ Payment Procedure

1. Schools are asked to complete the EOI on PLIS first using the link provided.
2. Participants are to enrol via the Professional Learning Information System (PLIS) on the Education Department's website when the link is sent out.

EOI is open early November- <https://plis.education.wa.edu.au/?EventID=58043>

Formal registration and payment via PLIS will open early December and the last date for enrolment is the **1st March 2024 (close of week 5, term 1).**

If you have specific questions regarding PLIS registrations or require additional information before committing, please contact Stacey Keyser or Deborah Silverlock on 9462 9580.

Yours faithfully,

Catherine Regan
Principal
West Coast Language Development Centre

Deborah Silverlock
Deputy Principal