



Teaching Learners with Special Educational Needs

Online professional development

Who is it for?

Teaching Learners with Special Educational Needs is a course suitable for teachers with an initial teaching qualification and some teaching experience. Non-native speakers are recommended to have a minimum B2 level on the CEFR.

The course aims to develop understanding of special educational needs, and enhance the knowledge and skills necessary to create an inclusive learning environment. It takes approximately 30 hours to complete and includes input on key concepts and approaches, video animation and audio clips, discussions, practical tasks, opportunities for reflection, suggestions for further study, and ideas to try out in the classroom.



Session topics and aims

Session 1: Understanding special educational needs

- To explore the meaning of special educational needs (SEN).
- To examine the impact of SEN on learning.
- To become aware of the barriers to learning for students with SEN.
- To reflect on the role of the teacher working with students with SEN.

Session 2: Creating an inclusive learning environment

- To understand and evaluate the inclusive learning environment.
- To explore some key approaches to accommodating the needs of learners with SEN.
- To review the way assistive technology can help learners with SEN.

Session 3: Planning and collaboration

- To reflect on the importance of planning, provision, and collaboration.
- To explore approaches to planning and provision for students with SEN.
- To review ways of collaborating with parents/carers.
- To consider the use of peer mentoring, peer education, and teaching assistants.

Session 4: Types of SEN

- To understand the characteristics of different types of special educational needs (SEN).
- To explore the impact of each type of SEN on learning.
- To investigate practical ways of supporting and motivating learners with different types of SEN.

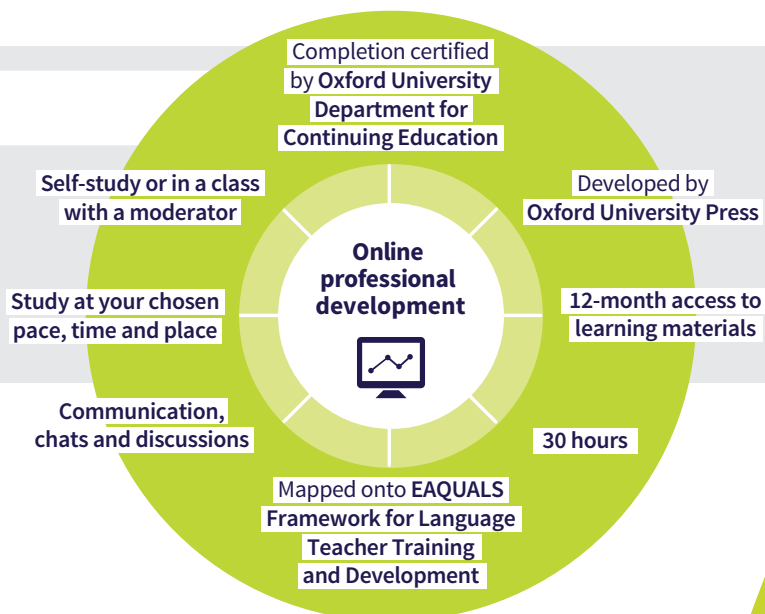
Session 5: Inclusive assessment

- To find out about the challenges of formative assessment for students with SEN.
- To consider how the needs of students with SEN can be accommodated in summative assessment.
- To explore practical approaches to formative assessment for students with SEN, including assistive technology.
- To investigate ways of setting targets and giving effective feedback.
- To learn how to evaluate and adapt coursebook tests to make them more suitable for students with SEN.

Session 6: Adapting materials for students with SEN

- To learn how to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching materials for students with SEN.
- To explore different ways of adapting teaching materials to make them more suitable for students with SEN.
- To develop skills in adapting teaching strategies for students with SEN.

Key facts



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