

**Waltham Forest Adult Learning Service**  
Course Information Sheet

**Course Title:** ESOL LEVEL 1

**Who is the course for?**

This course is for people who do not have English as a first language and have been assessed as suitable to study at ESOL Level 1 .

**How is this course delivered?**

Unless you are enrolled to an On-line course, these courses are face to face in one of our Centres. Some online learning may be incorporated if circumstances make this necessary. If you don't have a laptop computer, please talk to your lecturer about borrowing one from the service. **We are committed to ensuring all learners can participate.**

**Do you gain any qualifications?**

Yes, this course can lead to nationally recognised Ascentis Skills for Life ESOL qualifications. In Semester 1 (September to February) you will take an Ascentis Skills for Life Level 1 Speaking and Listening exam and you will also complete a Gateway Living and Working in the UK Portfolio to develop your study and employability skills. In Semester 2 (February to July) you will take Ascentis Skills for Life Level 1 Reading and/or Writing exams. Registration for all exams is based on your diagnostic assessment at the beginning of the course and your progress during the course. There may be circumstances where it might be agreed that you will not take an exam if that is the best decision for your situation. In this case you will continue studying on an individual learning basis until you are ready to take the next exam. Your teacher will discuss these decisions with you.

**Do you need to be interviewed or assessed before enrolling on the course?**

Yes, you will need to complete an Initial Assessment and interview so we can make sure we find the right course for you.

**What will you learn?**

**Speaking and Listening**

- Report information and events, saying what happened and what people said
- Give a talk or presentation
- Talk about advantages and disadvantages
- Speak to persuade somebody of your opinion or give a warning
- Give instructions
- Ask for and give advice and information
- Plan action with other people
- In a discussion with others, learn how to interrupt politely, take turns speaking, involve other people in the discussion
- Know how to clarify and confirm in a discussion
- Listen with understanding to other people doing everything on this list

**Reading**

- Read for information, both quickly for main points and thoroughly for detail
- Recognise style and structure of text - subheadings, paragraphs, footnotes, index, web links – in order to approach longer documents and websites
- Use reference materials, dictionaries, encyclopaedias, grammar books
- Use your knowledge of grammar and punctuation to understand writing
- Look up unfamiliar words in dictionaries, know how phonemic symbols are used to show pronunciation
- Recognise specific vocabulary in context and understand how choice of vocabulary changes the effect of a statement
- Increase your range of words and expressions

## **Writing**

- Give factual accounts
- Discuss changes
- Describe advantages and disadvantages
- Express views and opinions
- Report information and events
- Give instructions
- Describe a process
- Describe skills and experience

Some **digital skills**, such as:

- Configuring and using secure ways to access devices
- Keeping applications up to date
- Navigating and evaluating online content
- Using appropriate language and behaviour online
- Using appropriate modes of online communication
- Using appropriate online learning resources
- Accessing, organising and storing information
- Creating and editing documents
- Applying simple methods to minimise physical and psychological risks while using devices

**Grammar**, for example:

- Perfect Tenses
- Word Order & Subordinate Clauses
- Linkers for contrast, reason, purpose, result, condition
- Reported Speech
- Embedded Questions
- Ought to, Need, Have to, Be able to

## **Living and Working in the UK Portfolio**

- Rights and responsibilities

All ESOL courses include embedded employability, citizenship and numeracy skills, as well as enrichment activities such as trips, talks and class activities appropriate to the level.

Your teacher/tutor will give you a Diagnostic Assessment so he/she can talk with you more about what English you need to work on. You will be expected to study at home and complete homework regularly.

## **What do you need to bring?**

Essential equipment and resources - A4 ringbinder, pen, pencil and notebook

Optional equipment – a dictionary

## **What next?**

This course could lead to employment, self employment or skills for future employment.

When you have achieved all three ESOL exams, you can progress to ESOL Level 2. You can also progress to vocational courses and volunteering opportunities.

## **Holidays:**

Most courses run term-time only. Your lecturer will give you full details at the start of your course.