

BUDDY SUPPORT SYSTEM

English for the Teaching of Mathematics and Science (ETeMS)

The English for the Teaching of Mathematics and Science (ETeMS) programme is an innovative in-service training strategy started in 2003. It makes use of multiple modes of delivery to support the language learning teacher. This switch in medium of instruction from Bahasa Melayu to English poses many challenges to teachers in the initial years. Whilst these teachers are pedagogically competent, some of them would face difficulties in switching over to using English as the medium of instruction.

The Buddy Support System (BSS) puts in place a resource person who can act as a guide and consultant to the Mathematics and Science teachers. Although these teachers have attended language courses and have been given a range of materials to support their efforts, having a resource person who is there on the “spot” would help teachers navigate the materials that have been given to them.

The “Buddy System” was introduced into schools in 2003 and aims to set up a collaborative support structure comprising a teacher who acts as a “critical friend” to “buddies” that is teachers who are learning how to teach Mathematics and Science in English

Objectives

- Introduce the concept of Critical Friend (CF)
- Reflect on qualities needed to be a successful CF and roles of CFs in the BSS
- Equip participants with the skills and the knowledge required of a CF e.g effective listening skills, giving feedback etc
- Enable participants to plan for the implementation of the BSS in schools

- Develop monitoring procedures for the successful implementation of the BSS

Content

The course content includes:

- Knowledge and understanding of the Buddy Support System
- Skills needed for implementation of system
- Activities to develop the BSS in schools
- Developing a plan to implement and monitor the BSS in schools

Duration

4 days (30 hours)

Mode of Delivery

Lectures/workshops/oral presentations/discussions/question & answer /use of critical incidents/directed reading/multimedia

Participants

This course is for Primary/Secondary teachers of English/Mathematics/Science who are competent in the language

