

# Introduction to Learn English Together

10<sup>th</sup> September 2019

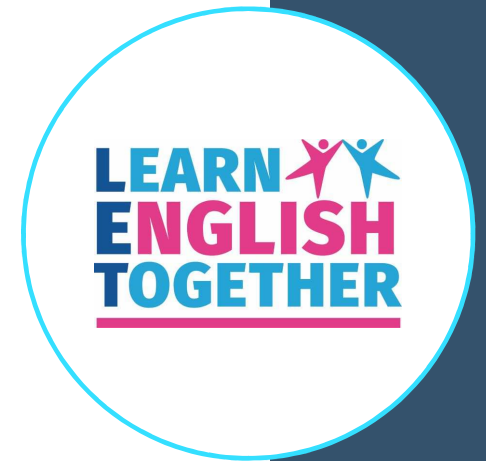
# Learn English Together..

- A new centralised ESOL advice, assessment and referral service for Merton
- Partnership between Merton Council and Merton Home Tutoring Service funded by MHCLG
- Run in collaboration with the community to support all levels of learners
- Providing insight and support for learners and providers



# Merton ESOL provision

- Conducted a review of ESOL adult provision in Merton from April to June 2019
- Meetings with all ESOL providers plus referrers and voluntary support organisations
- Who, what, why, when, where?
- Plus key issues and challenges
- Outcomes informed LET service development



# Merton ESOL Audit Findings

- 13 ESOL providers identified
- Formal and informal classes
- All range of levels available from beginner to Level 3
- Many classes are free, subject to eligibility
- Variety of locations and times, although most are during the day
- Some specifically target hard-to-reach women
- Audit does not include private ESOL provision

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# ESOL Formal provision

Provider	Courses	Location	No of places per year
South Thames College Group	Award in ESOL Skills for Life Entry levels 1 to 3 Levels 1 and 2 Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening ESOL Functional Skills ICT Individual Learning Plans	Merton College	300
Need2Learn	BKSB online course Entry levels 1 to 3	Vestry Hall	50
MICompute	Edexcel Entry levels 1 to 3 Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening	Merton Library	60

# ESOL Informal Provision

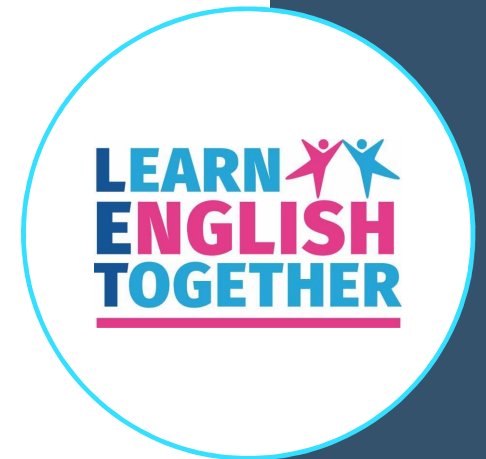
Provider	Courses	Location(s)	No. of places
Afghanistan and Central Asian Association	2 ESOL classes for integration courses (women only)	New Horizon Centre, Mitcham	30
Colliers Wood Library	2 English conversation classes - beginners and advanced	Colliers Wood Library	20
Morden Library	English conversation class	Morden Library	20
Wimbledon Library	English for beginners/advanced	Wimbledon Library	30
Faith in Action	Community class for low levels of English	Salvation Army	15
Polish Family Association	English community classes levels 1 to 3	New Horizons Centre, Benedict Primary School, Colliers Wood CC	50

# ESOL Informal Provision

Provider	Courses	Location(s)	No. of places
Merton Home Tutoring Service	8 community classes Entry level 1 to 3 Level 1 (Creche available)	St Mark's Community Centre Baptist Church, Morden	80
Merton Home Tutoring Service	1:1 home tutoring for low levels of English	Various locations across Merton	40
Merton Children's Centres	Stepping Stones community classes for mothers and babies	Acacia Children's Centre Church Road Children's Centre plus 2 more (locations tbc)	40
Merton Primary Schools	ESOL class for parents with low levels of English	Priory School Stanford Primary School	40
St Marks Academy	Community class for local parents	St Marks Academy	20

# Key Findings

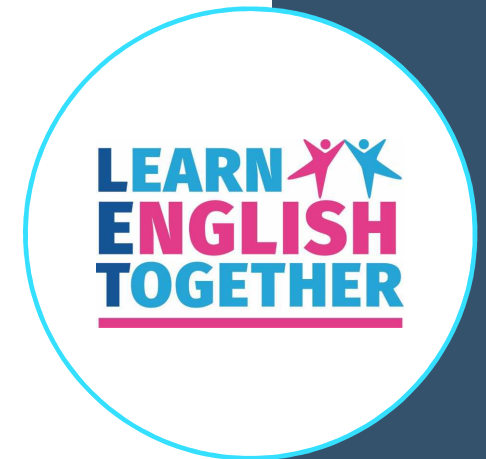
- Approximately 795 places available:
  - 410 formal places
  - 385 informal places
- Some providers have full classes and waiting lists
- All but Merton College classes take place in community centres, churches, schools and libraries
- Informal providers also offer one to one support, conversation classes, women only, creche facilities as well as cultural/enrichment activities





# Key Findings

- Referrals made by word of mouth, GPs, health visitors, children's centres, schools, community partners and the Job Centre
- Common theme is the difficulty in accessing ESOL course information, particularly for Merton College
- Lack of ESOL partnership working across Merton with little signposting
- All reflected that there is insufficient information about ESOL provision available in the area



# Key Findings – Next Steps

- Audit highlighted the need for a coordinated approach
- An easily accessible service based in the community
- Service that meets the needs of all different levels of English learners
- Service that works in partnership with all EOSL providers

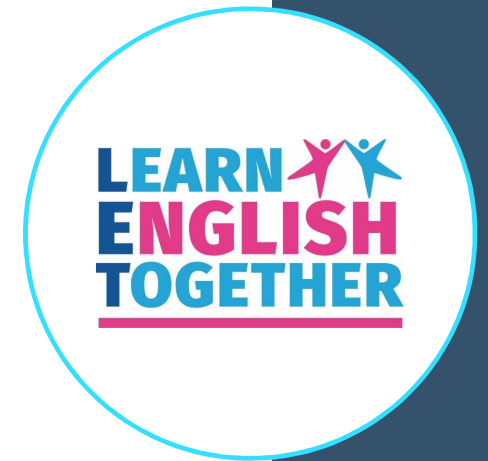


# Learn English Together

- Learn English Together service launched on 12th August
- Dedicated outreach ESOL assessor based in the community

Free advice and assessment sessions every week :

- St Marks Community Centre, 28 St Marks Road
- Wimbledon Library
- Colliers Wood Library
- [www.let.org.uk](http://www.let.org.uk).
- Free advice line
- Email contact: [advice@let.org.uk](mailto:advice@let.org.uk)



# Learn English Together

- Learners registered and assessed in community locations
- Weekly referrals to ESOL providers matching learners appropriate English classes
- Regular updates from providers re: class availability
- Service identifies current English requirements across Merton and provides insight for additional provision if necessary



# Communication overview

- Learn English Together will be promoted across Merton via leaflets and posters
- Community noticeboards, libraries, GP surgeries, health centres, children's centres, churches, schools, Job Centre
- Web links with Merton Council, Merton Information Directories and ESOL providers
- Presentations to local communities, e.g. EWF, Interfaith group, ELA schools meetings



# Current status..

- After three weeks...
  - 19 community assessments
  - 15 calls/texts to phone advice line
  - 13 learners already placed with the remainder in progress
- Any questions?

