

# Fetch me a pen

## FETCH ME A PEN ACADEMIC LITERACY TASTER SESSIONS 2015-16

As well as the professional learning opportunities outlined in the Fetch Me a Pen programme leaflet, we will be offering the following four additional taster sessions:

- 1 Structuring an essay: thinking about the big picture
- 2 Paragraph structure: moving beyond 'Point, Evidence, Explanation'
- 3 Formality: developing an academic register in students' writing
- 4 Certainty: using modality to develop subtlety and sophistication.



These sessions are stand-alone so can be attended individually or as a package. All workshops will take place at Mulberry School for Girls. Please find more details below.

### Session structure

All sessions will be structured in two parts: the first hour will provide participants with strategies to tackle a particular element of academic literacy; the second hour will give teachers an opportunity to develop their own ready-to-use resources to take back to their classrooms. In order to create resources, we ask that teachers bring

examples of students' writing. It would be useful to have a range of examples from students of different abilities.

### Who should participate?

These sessions are designed for enthusiastic teachers who would like to begin teaching academic literacy in their lessons straightaway. Each taster session is designed to provide strategies so that teachers from all subject areas can work on adapting the materials to their context. Sessions are suitable for teachers working with KS3, KS4 and KS5.

## 1

### Structuring an essay: thinking about the big picture

This session aims to help teachers to approach essay structure with their classes. The first hour will provide participants with strategies to help students develop a clear line of argument in their work without using rigid structures and worksheets. Teachers will be asked to bring samples of students' work so that in the second hour, we can work together to create ready-to-use resources to take back to classrooms.

**Date: Wednesday 23rd September 2015. 4.00-6.00pm**

## 2

### Paragraph structure: moving beyond 'Point, Evidence, Explanation'

For many years, the 'Point, Evidence, Explanation' acronym has been used in schools to enable students to write paragraphs in various subjects, particularly in English. While having some merit in enabling students to structure written responses, P.E.E. actually inhibits written expression at the higher end of achievement. This workshop will explore ways for teachers to broaden discussions of paragraph structure, enabling students to move beyond simplistic formulas in their written work. Teachers will be asked to bring samples of students' work so that in the second hour, we can work together to create ready-to-use resources to take back to classrooms.

**Date: Wednesday 25th November 2015. 4.00-6.00pm**

### 3 Formality: developing an academic register in students' writing

This session aims to help participants to identify informal language in students' work and to develop strategies to create a more formal register. The first hour of the session will be an overview of approaches to formality. Some activities might include work on nominalisation, using key words and developing a formality continuum. Teachers will be asked to bring samples of students' work so that in the second hour, we can work together to create ready-to-use resources to take back to classrooms.

**Date: Wednesday 6th January 2016. 4.00-6.00pm**

### 4 Certainty: using modality to develop subtlety and sophistication

This session aims to help teachers to devise strategies so that students can develop a sophisticated tone in their writing, and deftly employ the appropriate level of certainty when making points. The first hour of the session will be an overview of activities that can be used to introduce students to modality. Teachers will be asked to bring samples of students' work so that in the second hour, we can work together to create ready-to-use resources to take back to classrooms.

**Date: Wednesday 27th January 2016. 4.00-6.00pm**



### Session leader:

**Sarah Chadfield** has been teaching for 8 years and has worked in a range of schools in Tower Hamlets to help teachers to develop their teaching of KS5 academic writing skills. Sarah is currently working on the Fetch Me a Pen project as Digital Learning Coordinator, and is about to complete a PhD at Royal Holloway, University of London.

### Programme fee:

£30 per workshop or £100 for all four workshops.

### Registration:

To register your interest or to discuss the programme further, please contact:

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