Expression of Interest
Coaching and Mentoring: Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language

The Victorian Deaf Education Institute is seeking teachers of the deaf to join our exciting professional learning opportunity in 2016. We are offering five teachers mentoring for Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language.

The 12-month professional learning program is organised by VDEI in collaboration with the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children (RIDBC) and the University of Newcastle. An expert in the field will mentor the advanced pedagogy in Auslan with evidence-based teaching skills and strategies.

Who would benefit from this opportunity?
This professional learning opportunity will benefit teachers who instruct with proficient Auslan. The mentoring will help to advance their pedagogy to improve the literacy and general education of students whose preferred language is Auslan.

What will I learn?
On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate advanced skill using Auslan and, as appropriate, other types of sign communication in bilingual education settings;
- describe the principal linguistic features of Auslan as a language of instruction;
- use the range of currently available procedures for assessing Auslan development in children;
- demonstrate the ability to assess the English language and literacy abilities of students who use Auslan; and
- demonstrate the process of translation between English and Auslan for educational purposes.

Course content
Part 1: Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language
Participants will complete the University of Newcastle’s non-award Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language (EDUC6858) course during Terms 1 and 2. This includes online participation in the University of Newcastle’s course and attending a three-day professional learning workshop at VDEI. Students can expect to invest an average of 9.5 hours a week for the course’s 13 weeks. This includes a three-day workshop at VDEI. More information on the university’s course is located at: http://gradschool.edu.au/courses/details/EDUC6858

Part 2: Coaching and Mentoring: Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language

Terms 3 and 4 involve online mentoring. This will include video analysis and feedback analysis for recorded teaching of the teacher of the deaf. All online components are to be completed out of school hours. An average of 3.5 hours weekly study is expected during this semester.

What are the eligibility requirements?

- An Auslan Proficiency Rating Scale of Level 3 is mandatory
- The participant must be a qualified teacher of the deaf. MSpecEd or equivalent
- Professional experience in a bilingual educational program
- A letter from the applicant’s Principal endorsing the teacher’s participation in the course
- The applicant must have attended at least two of the VDEI workshops conducted by Michelle Baker and Michelle Stark since 2013.

How do I apply?

Please complete the Expression of Interest form if you are interested and meet the eligibility criteria below. Participation also requires approval from your principal.

The EOI period ends at the 5:00 pm on Friday 4 December 2015. VDEI will inform you of the outcome of your application by Friday 18 December 2015.

Privacy

The VDEI respects the privacy of every individual and is subject to the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). VDEI will be collecting the personal information of the applicants and the applicants’ principals for the purposes of administering and
facilitating the Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language mentoring program. A request may be made to interview prospective participants prior to commencing the course. You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that it be corrected. Please contact VDEI directly or the Freedom of Information Unit on 03 9637 2670.

**Enquiries**

If you would like more information, please contact Dr Paul Jacobs at vdei@deadfeducation.vic.edu.au.
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Application Form

Please write your answers in the spaces provided using Microsoft Word.

1. Why are you interested in this program?

2. Do you have an Auslan Proficiency Rating Scale of Level 3 or equivalent?

3. How long have you been proficient with Auslan?

4. How might you apply the Advanced Pedagogy in Signed Language (EDUC6858) to your classroom?

5. Which of the workshops by Michelle Baker and Michelle Stark have you attended?
   - Language experience approach to reading
   - Reading and assessment
   - Sign language narrative, Written language narrative
   - Sign language development in children
   - The contact sign continuum and its application to the classroom
   - It’s all in their hands – supporting signing deaf children to read
Completing this form acknowledges that the prospective participant has read and understood the AG Bell Academy’s LSLS certification handbook. It also acknowledges that the prospective participant’s Principal/Manager/Coordinator fully endorses this application to participate in VDEI’s Coaching and Mentoring: Auditory-Verbal Therapy course.

**Applicant’s name**

____________________________________________________

**Applicant’s signature**

____________________________________________________

**Date**

____________________________________________________

**Principal’s name**

____________________________________________________

**Principal’s signature**

____________________________________________________

**School**

____________________________________________________

**Date**

____________________________________________________

Please scan and email this completed form to jacobs.paul.g@edumail.vic.gov.au. The EOI is open until the close of business on 4 December 2015. The VDEI will inform you of your application’s outcome by 18 December 2015.