



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BIRMINGHAM

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31st January 2012

Dear Colleague,

Please find enclosed information on the University of Birmingham/NASSEA Bilingualism in Education programme. This well-established and successful programme, devised by the University of Birmingham and adapted by NASSEA, has been running successfully for ten academic years and is open to teachers, and to other education staff with a first degree, for the next academic year, 2012–2013. The programme is aimed at specialist teachers of English as an Additional Language and will also be relevant to other staff working with children and young people learning EAL.

NASSEA and the University of Birmingham form one of the consortia to which the DfES awarded funding for 2004-5 and 2005-6 for a national pilot programme of professional development for specialist teachers of English as an additional language. The DfES pilot aimed to *'enhance the role of the specialist so that they can use their expertise to develop more effective partnerships with classroom teachers, to provide expert advice and lead whole school training.'*

NASSEA also made successful applications to the Teacher Development Agency (TDA) for funding for 2005-2008 and 2008-11 to help support this accredited post-graduate EAL programme. For 2011-12 and 2012-13 the programme is being supported by NASSEA to enable students to access the programme at a more affordable price.

Key information:

- The programme includes:
 - Postgraduate certificate in Bilingualism in Education (1 year)
 - Postgraduate diploma in Bilingualism in Education (2 years)
 - M.Ed in Bilingualism in Education (3 years)
 - Ph.D (information on request)
- The credits awarded at certificate and diploma level can then be taken forward to work towards a Postgraduate Diploma or Master's degree.
- The next available course will start in September 2012.
- The PgCert, PgDip and Masters will be delivered through established distance learning modules and these will be supported by 6 Saturday tutorials (PgCert and PgDip) or individual tutorials (year 3) and by a course launch and course conference.

- Participants may be supported by observation and discussion.
- There is a reduced fee for NASSEA route students of **£1200 for one year's study** for the PgCert, PgDip or MEd for the academic year 2012-13 (the usual cost is £2325!)
- Fees for Ph.D available on request.

Enclosed with this letter is further information on the Bilingualism in Education programme.

If you would like to apply for the course outlined in this letter, please contact Melanie Griffin at the above address and an application pack will then be sent out.

On receipt of your application pack, I would be grateful if you would return the completed application, which needs to be accompanied by a passport size photo and two references, **to the above address** as soon as possible.

A national accredited qualification in EAL is an important development in our field. NASSEA and the University of Birmingham aim to support and further develop this programme which gives teachers in our field the opportunity to increase their expertise and gain a fully accredited specialist post-graduate qualification.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

MELANIE GRIFFIN
NASSEA Programme Coordinator