Report from the Migrant English Program for 2022

Feb 2023

For those who have not heard of this Program, it is a community outreach program sponsored by U3A Manningham, to offer free help to migrants (called "learners") to improve their English, focussing on conversation. Tutoring sessions could cover vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, listening, speaking, reading and writing.

2022 saw many of our tutors returning to face-to-face tutoring after the disruptive years of 2020 - 2021. As of Dec 2022, the Program has 49 Migrant English Tutors, 38 of whom are tutoring 52 migrant learners.

We continue to use Google Forms to collect information, such as RSVP to meetings, instead of emails, which freed us from having to manually copy information from email responses into a database.

Highlights in 2022

1. **Tutor Meetings:** After a forced hiatus of 2 years, we managed to resume our two meetings per year, in February and August, for tutors to catch up and exchange ideas. Tutors were reminded of their responsibilities and internet resources were introduced.

2. **Certificate of Appreciation:** To recognise our long-serving tutors and to thank them for their service to the community, Certificates were awarded for the 1st time in February 2022 - 6 tutors for 10+ years of service and 19 tutors for 5+ years of service.

3. **"Thank You" Lunch:** For the 1st time in a long while, Migrant English Tutors were invited by U3AM to a lunch in recognition of their service. We had a combined lunch together with the Office Volunteers.

4. **Workshop for Migrant English Tutor Training:** 4 new tutors were trained and a current tutor attended the training course as a refresher. Recognising that we have to keep up with the times, more attention was given to the use of internet resources which are more easily accessible compared to the books and CDs that are available for borrowing to be used as teaching resources.

Teaching Resources available for Migrant English tutors

1. **Whatsapp group:** This serves as a collaboration facility for our tutors where they can request for/provide assistance to each other, share resources such as documents and links to useful websites on the internet, and share their insights.

2. **Migrant Education Resources:** Teaching resources have been catalogued and are available for the use of our tutors, in the form of books and CDs. A stocktake of these items is undertaken each year.

3. **Training/Resource Manual:** This manual contains an extensive collection of teaching resources and is given to all who attend the training course as well as to new tutors joining the Program who have been trained elsewhere.

Statistics

For those who like statistics, 2022 saw the following:

- 7 tutors have provided 10+ years of service and 19 tutors have provided 5+ years
- Our tutors provided a total of 904 tutoring hours in 2022, compared to 543 hours in 2020 when the pandemic started
- 4 new tutors were trained and 19 tutors retired, resulting in a total of 49 tutors
- 19 learners started and 18 learners discontinued, resulting in a total of 52 learners
- 27 tutors have 1 learner, 9 tutors have 2 learners, 1 tutor has 3 learners and another 1 tutor has 4 learners