

Bilingual Matters

This session will address common questions that parents have about bringing up a bilingual or multilingual child, along with practical strategies, drawing on recent research and practice.

Session Outline

- What are the advantages of bringing up a child to become bilingual?
 - Is it an advantage to speak more than one language?
 - Do some children find it easier than others to become bilingual?
 - Should parents speak their mother tongue at home?
 - Should parents speak only English at home?
 - Will learning a second language interfere with the development of mother tongue?
 - Is it easier to become bilingual as a young child?
 - Mixing languages – confusion or normal development?
 - How do I know my child's language development in each language is 'normal'?
 - Should my child use two languages with the same person?
 - What happens when bilingual children start school?
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Session Includes

Personal attention and feedback in an informal atmosphere

An invaluable booklet complete with information covered on the session

Open forum to ask questions



Speaker: Dr Rose Drury

Dr Rose Drury has extensive experience as a teacher, academic and consultant in the field of Early Years Education. She is currently an Early Years Education Consultant, an Honorary Associate at The Open University and has over 20 years working with undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral students in three Universities. She is frequently asked to speak at conferences on supporting multilingualism in the Early Years because of her engaging presentation skills and recognised expertise. She is the author of a highly respected book – 'Young bilingual learners at home and school' (Trentham) and contributed to several books in the field.

Bringing up a child in a bilingual or multilingual home has its challenges but also many rewards. Dr Drury is passionate about supporting parents and giving them the resources they need to bring up their child as a bilingual or multilingual speaker.