What kind of dolphin are you doing? Moving from EGAP to ESAP in a multinational further education setting
Overview: EAP for AS level?

ESL classes at sixth form college

Perspective of A-level subject teachers
  • Reading/Writing skills for AS level science
  • English across the curriculum initiative
  • From EGAP to ESAP
  • Results and implications for ESL
Background and context

- The growing demand for A-level & pre-university foundation courses for prospective overseas HE students
- ESL moving towards education & critical thinking
- EGAP or ESAP?
Existing subject support

- English across the curriculum project
- EGAP for business, Economics, Art and Design.
- Student response
- Tutor response
Adding science support

• Need
• Rationale
• Selection of students
• The reaction: student perceptions of relevance
• Outcome one term in
• A change of direction?
FROM EGAP to ESAP

- Biology Writing
- Physics Writing
- Content
- Skills
- language
FROM EGAP to ESAP

- Biology Writing
- Physics Writing
- Content
- Skills
- Language
Rationale for ESAP

- Way to increase engagement
- Giving direct and integrated support:
  - Language based on content
  - Skills based on course work needs
Institutional factors in enabling ESAP

- Accommodation and persuasion
- First of 2 EAP experienced tutors to arrive
- The only tutor wanting to take the subjects on!
- Project initiator’s need for ESAP knowledge
More rationale

• Research insights which might apply
• Anecdotal evidence of effects of subject content on writing skills
Personal: moving to ESAP for AS

- Starting out as a non-specialist in supported subjects
- Applying EGAP and ESP pedagogy to a new situation: how useful?
- Initiatives with Physics and Biology depts
- Sheffield PIM: the chemists
Devising syllabus & lesson content

- More sources please
- Involvement of departments
- Involvement of students
- Balancing content, language and interaction
Results

- Completion rates of Unit 3 coursework
- Grades achieved
- Weaker students
- Resulting move to include all students in subject specific writing and academic skills classes
### Sheet 1 Physics AS results

#### 2011-12

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Perceptions of ESAP/GAP

- ESL department: servicing other depts or a discipline in its own right?
- ESAP & EGAP: division within ESL dept
- Ally or critic of other subjects’ pedagogic practice?
- Doing the subject tutors’ job for them?
Thanks

- Thanks to you for being here and to the tutors and students of the Physics and Biology departments at CATS College Cambridge.
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