Aligning language education with the CEFR: a Colloquium
hosted by University of Bedfordshire, Luton, Friday 29 September 2023, 10.00–17.00

This 1-day Colloquium is a follow-up to *The CEFR: a Road Map for Future Research and Development*, the 2020 conference hosted by the British Council in London and sponsored by EALTA and UKALTA. It builds upon the publication in 2022 of *Aligning Language Education with the CEFR: a Handbook*, published jointly by ALTE, British Council, EALTA and UKALTA and freely available from their websites. The Colloquium is part of the preparation for a two-day European conference being planned for the autumn of 2024 to profile CEFR alignment studies in language education.

A provisional programme for the Colloquium is shown below. The day will begin by focusing on a key point of reference in the *Handbook*, the comprehensive learning system (CLS; O'Sullivan 2020), and on the importance of constructively aligning the three dimensions of the system: curriculum, delivery and assessment. The next three sessions, each with an invited presenter and discussant, will focus on each CLS dimension in turn, and the day will conclude with a plenary panel discussion and round-up.

Thanks to generous sponsorship from ALTE, British Council, EALTA and UKALTA, the Colloquium is free and arrangements are already in place for limited **in-person** attendance. We are currently exploring online options for the event (e.g. streaming or recording) to enable remote access. However, this will depend upon the level of funding available to cover costs and we will confirm any online arrangements in due course.

A follow-up report will record the events of the day and will include practical support and guidance on conducting alignment case studies and projects for anyone interested in presenting at the 2024 conference.

Provisional Programme Outline

Time	Speaker(s)	Presentation
10:00 – 10:45	Neus Figueras and Barry O'Sullivan	***Welcome and introduction*** Including a short address from Sarah Breslin, Executive Director of the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) and Head of Language Policy, Council of Europe
10:45 – 11:45	Thom Kiddle Norwich Institute for Language Education (NILE) *Discussant:* Barry O'Sullivan	***From handbook to hands-on: CEFR curriculum alignment in Ireland and Turkiye*** In this session we will present and discuss the ways that training was delivered to two distinct groups of education professionals in Ireland and Turkiye, focusing on planning and developing alignment principles and practices for their contexts.
11:45 – 12:00	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
12:00– 13:00	Glyn Jones Freelance *Discussant:* Lynda Taylor	***Does what it says on the cover?*** This session describes the process of aligning learning materials with the CEFR, including some of the issues considered and challenges encountered.
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH BREAK	
14:30 – 15:30	(i)Chihiro Inoue CRELLA, University of Bedfordshire (ii)Anna Soltyska Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany *Discussant:* Nick Saville	***Revision and CEFR-linking of the National English Adaptive Test in Uruguay*** This presentation reports on a 4-phase test revision project that has brought English teaching and testing closer in schools in Uruguay. ***CEFR for classroom assessment in tertiary education*** This presentation gives insight into using CEFR to guide teachers' decisions when developing assessment tasks and criteria for classroom use within LAP (language for academic purposes) and LSP (language for specific purposes) courses at a German university.
15:30 – 16:30	*Chair:* Neus Figueras	***Panel discussion***
16:30 – 17:00	David Little and Neus Figueras	***Summary round-up of the day and closing words***