

English Language Teaching in Brunei



Education Development Trust has been working with the Ministry of Education in Brunei under the name of CfBT Education Services (B) Sdn Bhd since 1984. We lead one of the world's largest, longest running and most successful native English-speaking teacher programmes. We recruit high quality native-English-speaking teachers to teach in Brunei's schools and build capacity within the educational system.

Overview

Our core focus is to raise the proficiency and attainment levels of Bruneian students through high impact teaching and learning in classrooms, through specialised national support and intervention programmes, and through the continuous building of our own and local capacity in English classrooms across most primary and all secondary schools and sixth form colleges, in Brunei.

Brunei introduced a bilingual education system soon after independence in 1984; students learn core and most other subjects in the medium of English, while their remaining subjects are taught in Bahasa Melayu (Malay language). Our English Language Teaching (ELT) contract with the Ministry of Education was awarded at that time with 15 teachers and has expanded since. We currently recruit, orient and manage 200 qualified, experienced, expatriate specialist teachers of English and provide ongoing quality support and assurance. Our teachers work with more than 20,000 students across Brunei, and are stationed in more than 80 per cent of Brunei government schools, working directly with one-third of Brunei's school-age learners.

Brunei has remained strongly committed to its bilingual education policy and our relationship with the government has strengthened and widened in

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scope from a key recruiter and manager of high quality teachers to a trusted partner in the development of English-language related programmes for students, professional development and training for teachers, curriculum and assessment advice, and materials production.

Our approach

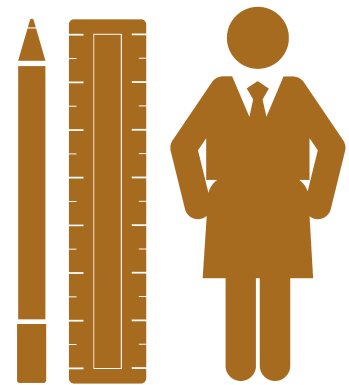
Our focus is to support and extend the quality of education by placing qualified, expert teachers in government schools to deliver innovative 21st-century teaching, engaging students to become proficient English language speakers and dynamic learners. We operate a comprehensive and total performance management system with ongoing and rigorous quality assurance measures through a team of dedicated, qualified and experienced Education Project Managers who work in alignment with MoE clusters to support teachers in all schools throughout the academic year.

As part of our contract, we also partner with the Ministry of Education annually on a range of national educational initiatives and programmes. We use data to design and deliver tailored intervention and support programmes for students and we support the development of local and our capacity by leading both formal and informal continuing professional development; from cluster and national workshops to school-based structured professional learning communities. Our teachers, without exception, contribute to these proactively as qualified and experienced specialists in participant, support or lead roles.

Our achievements

Education Development Trust, as CfBT Education Services (B) Sdn Bhd, has helped the Bruneian nation achieve exceptional English language performance.

Our achievement with student performance in the internationally benchmarked English language O Level assessment remains a flagship success widely spoken of by the Ministry as an example of what can be achieved through dedicated, collaborative public-private partnership and will. Our specialised solution resulted in a transformation of performance with more than half of the government school student cohort obtaining grades equivalent to native-speaker level (A*-C); an increase of more than 30 per cent in a 10-year period compared to a 5 per cent increase in the previous 10 years.



We deploy 200 English language teachers in more than 80 per cent of Brunei's schools

"I acknowledge and value the contribution made by CfBT [Education Development Trust] in working together with the Ministry of Education to provide quality education particularly in uplifting Bruneian students' achievements in English language."

Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Baker bin Haji Apong, Minister of Education, Brunei Darissalam