

Speech at the Brandon Learning Centre

General

The Brandon Learning Centre is the first school in Hong Kong to offer courses based on the world famous “English Speaking Board” (ESB) programme. Founded in 1953, the ESB has given generations of students confidence in spoken English. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in the internationally recognised ESB examinations.

ESB’s objectives include:

- Developing confidence and spontaneity in the student
- Promoting the appreciation of spoken language
- Developing skills of research and organisation
- Encouraging the design and use of visual aids
- Improving group interaction
- Encouraging the sharing of ideas and emotions

Format

Our programme focuses on four assessment tasks which explore a range of skills; prose reading, poetry reading, group interaction and presentation techniques. Each programme is designed to encourage progression and builds on the skills acquired at the previous level.

- *Beginners* – This class will introduce students to the basic principles of good communication; how to speak confidently, how to interact in group situations and how to share ideas with others.
- *Intermediate* – An extension of the skills learnt in the beginners class or in previous experience of public speaking. Students will be expected to have basic knowledge of poetry reading or public speaking.
- *Advanced* – Teachers will encourage students to bring texts from their schools if they want to work on specific poems, plays or novels. Classes will include a focus on the technical aspects of successful speech and more advanced literary techniques.

ESB Assessment

ESB examinations are progressive and can be used to measure a student’s development. Assessment is external and is carried out by ESB examiners who will visit the Brandon Learning Centre from the UK. Assessment takes place within a participating peer group, as candidate interaction is an integral part of the learning process. Successful candidates will receive a graded ESB certificate.

Continuous Assessment

Students are continuously assessed by our teachers who are trained to provide detailed reports on individual development. Regular parent/teacher meetings will also be arranged to allow for discussions on student’s progress. Upon the completion of a course, each student will be rewarded with a ‘Certificate of Completion’.