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Statement of principles – Inside the classroom and out

We believe:

- London is an unequal city with unacceptable levels of poverty and we believe we should try and change it.
- Migrants, particularly those with English as an additional language, suffer disproportionately from the impact of poverty and inequality.
- Language gives us power to change our lives.
- ESOL should be accessible to all those who need it, irrespective of income or immigration status.
- We are better able to effect change as part of a group and ESOL presents an excellent opportunity to work on collective responses to issues that affect our lives.

Our teaching approach:

- Everyone in the group participates in decision-making, including decisions related to teaching and learning.
- Language learning develops from students sharing their stories and experiences.
- Students are encouraged to communicate meaningfully and share their opinions before focusing on accuracy and building a new language.
- Students are encouraged to engage with issues in a critical way, asking questions and examining causes and consequences.
- Students are supported to plan, take, and evaluate action to change their lives and communities for the better.
- The classroom should be a place where friendships and supportive relationships can develop.