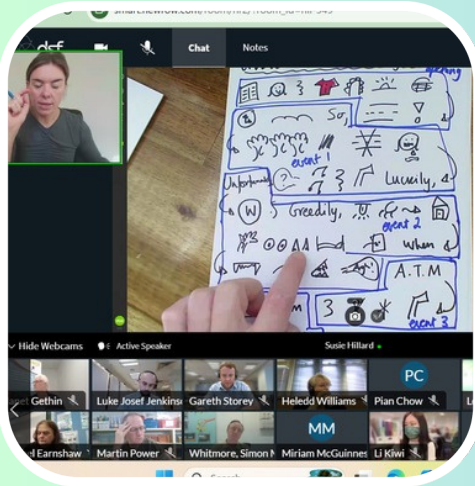


Speaking to Writing

EVENT 2: TALK FOR WRITING INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

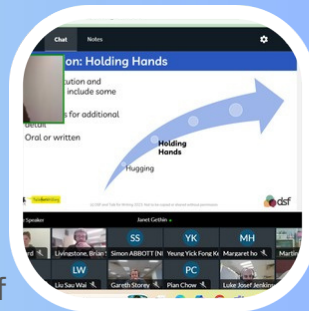


During mid-November 2025, the Speaking to Writing (S2W) Learning Hub team conducted its second online event.

Following on from the introductory session conducted in October 2025, this comprehensive "Talk for Writing" online training course was facilitated by two presenters; Susie Hillard and Janet Gethin from DSF Australia (Dyslexia SPELD Foundation). Both Susie and Janet are experienced primary school teachers who have worked in both metropolitan and regional Australian schools. They have led the planning and implementation of "Talk for Writing" across the primary years.

A large number of S2W Learning Hub teachers in Hong Kong participated in this introductory online workshop, which offered teachers an overview and provided opportunities for a hands-on participation in the steps of this proven and effective instructional approach that uses spoken activities to develop writing skills.

The workshop canvassed the following five main areas: The Process, Imitation, Innovation, Independent Application and Invention. The three-stage pedagogy – Imitation, Innovation and Independent Application/Invention (which are the basis of the Talk for Writing approach) allows students to move from dependence to independence in a systematic and scaffolded way.



Susie and Janet were able to focus on the functional application of grammar in context when developing sentences, demonstrating explicit scaffolds selected to meet the specific instructional needs of students.

Throughout the workshop, participants were guided through a "Talk for Writing" unit, effective classroom strategies when introducing new vocabulary, how to teach language features ("the writers' tools"); unpacking the three toolkits featuring Character, Setting and Suspense tools as well as unpacking a progression guide to assist with the teaching of grammar.

The workshop rounded out with how to provide effective feedback to students. Examples included formative assessment of writing, which enables the tracking of student progress as well as guiding teachers to effectively evaluate their lessons.

The S2W Learning Hub team looks forward to hosting the third event, to be held during March 2026, the "S2W Planning Lab."