

# Bilingual books in BSL and English: E-books



**Dani Sive (Acting Head) &  
Katherine O'Grady (Acting Deputy)  
Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children  
London**

## Profile of Deaf readers at FBS

### Deaf pupils have:

- Access to language (English and BSL) in school
- Individual guided reading sessions with the teacher or TA
- Opportunity to learn how to translate English to BSL and vice versa
- Opportunity to develop reading skills

### Deaf pupils lacking:

- Background knowledge
- Parental support (due to lack of communication skills)
- Exposure to reading
- Opportunity for joint reading sessions

# Rationale:

## **For Deaf pupils:**

- ✓ To enjoy and develop enthusiasm for reading
- ✓ To bridge their understanding of how both languages (English and BSL) are connected and used in reading

## **Through guided reading using ebook, Parents/Carers will:**

- ✓ Develop effective communication skills and knowledge/skills in BSL
- ✓ Understand the importance of effective communication with their deaf child through reading.

# The Development of E-books

## Team members:

Teacher of the Deaf

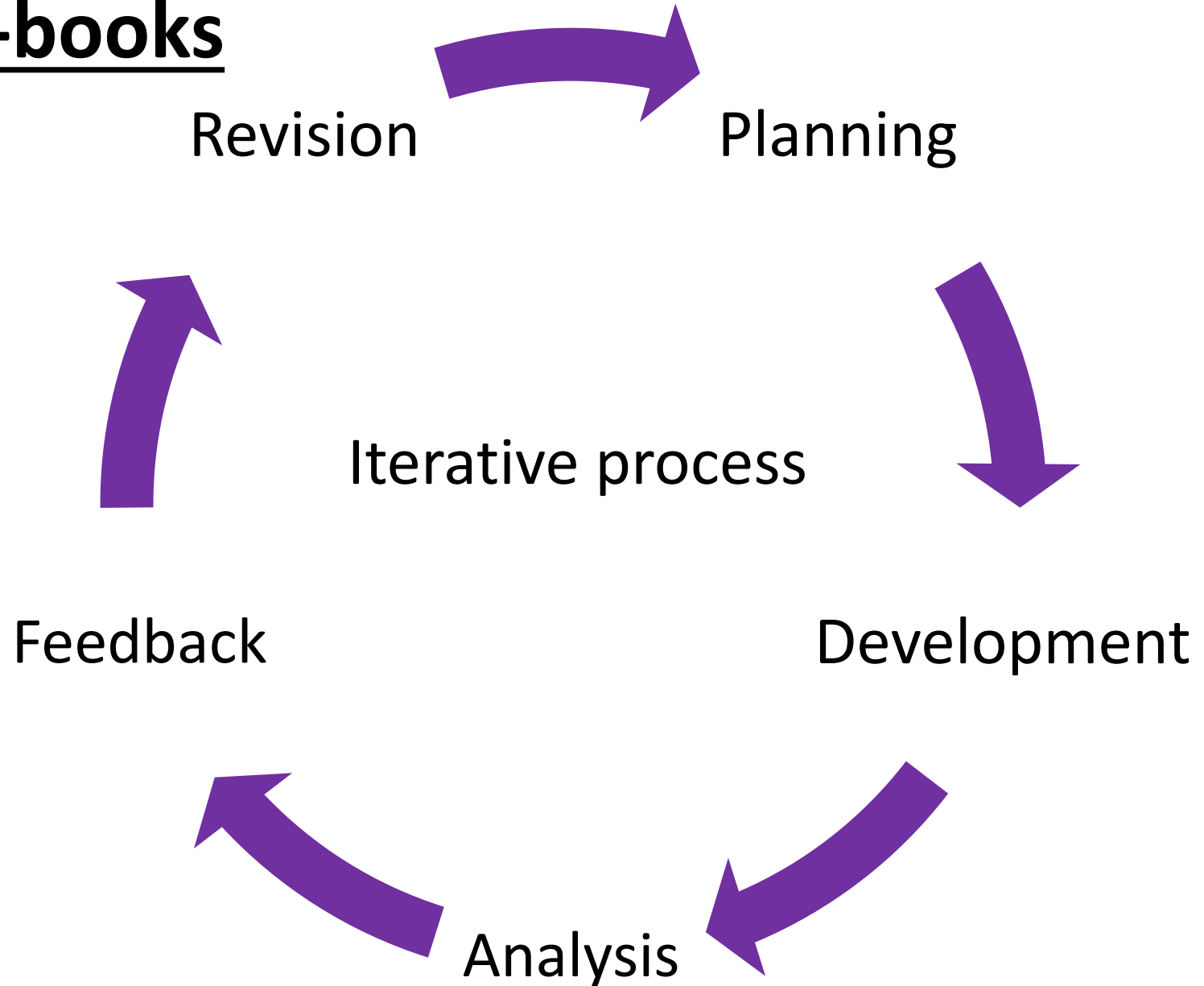
BSL Coach

ICT Teacher

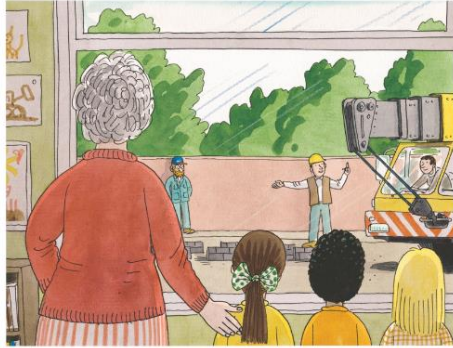
Parents

Pupils

Bilingual Leader

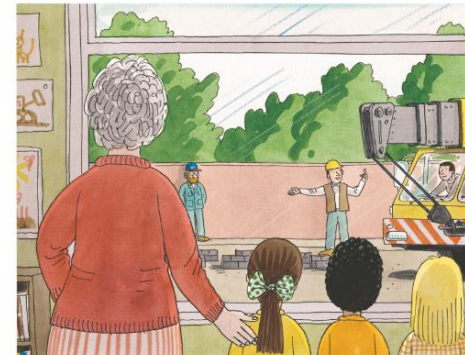


# Screen shots of the e-Book “A New Classroom” (ORT)



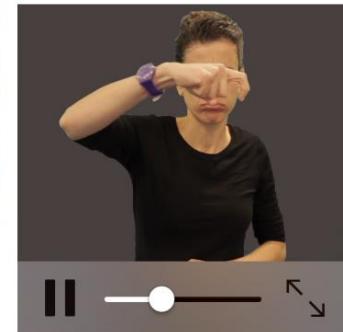
Then a crane came to the school.  
The children were excited.  
They looked at the driver.

13



Then a crane came to the school.  
The children were excited.  
They looked at the driver.

13





Some people came to the school.  
They put a fence across the playground.

The signer translates the English text. In contrast to the linear structure that of English, BSL has its own construction and syntax.

Good pace, clear  
and expressive

Clear voice-  
over matched  
to BSL

Easy to  
follow



Dual screen display  
easy to manipulate

BSL well matched  
the text

**Increases  
confidence with  
English in Print**



**Promotes  
independent  
reading**

**Develops fluency  
in translating  
between two  
languages**

**Makes  
relationships  
between English  
and BSL visual**

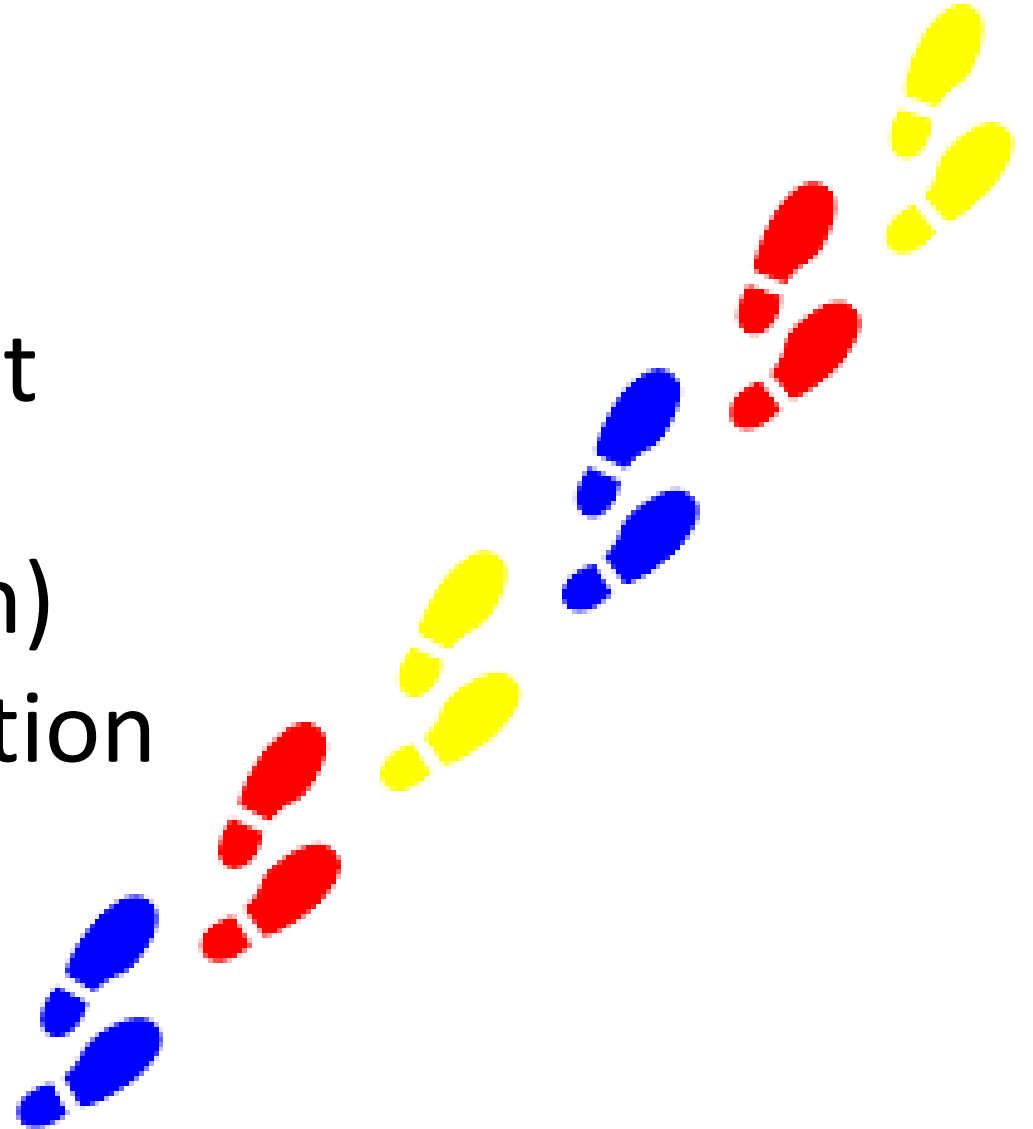
**Increases  
motivation in  
reading**

**Opportunity for  
parent and child  
engagement**



# Next Steps

1. Create more e-books
2. Age appropriate content from EYFS to Year 6
3. Funding (pupil premium)
4. Assessment and evaluation
5. Publication and dissemination



<p>Would you be interested in buying these e-book resources for your school if they become available? How much would you be prepared to pay?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> £3-£5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> £5 - £10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	£3-£5		✓✓✓✓✓							
	£5 - £10		✓✓✓✓							
	Other _____		<p>✓</p> <p>I would be more interested in investing in a complete pack for which I would be prepared to pay for a set of resources, on a par with other literacy resource packs.</p>							
<p>On the scale from 1 to 10, would you recommend the e-book to your work/professional colleagues?</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
							✓✓	✓✓ ✓	✓✓	✓✓✓✓ ✓✓
Other comments	More e-books please.									

Many thanks to the people  
involved in this project.