

2025 NEAS CONFERENCE

Aerial UTS Function Centre - Sydney



Building Resilient Communities Through English Language Programs

Vlasta Gunning & Grace Nabhan, Navitas Skilled Futures

Pathways to Belonging

Our Role in Building Communities

22-23 MAY
2025



Who are we?

My name is Vlasta and I am the Quality assurance Lead at Navitas Skilled Futures. I have worked in Navitas for the last 19 years.

My name is Grace and I am the Academic Team Leader at Navitas Skilled Futures. I have worked in Navitas for the last 11 years.



Who is Navitas Skilled Futures?

Navitas Skilled Futures is a registered training organisation that is contracted by the Australian government to deliver programs that help students from diverse backgrounds to improve their English language, digital and employability skills.





Learn English (AMEP)



Skills for Education and Employment (SEE)



Pathways to Work (PtW)



Workplace Based Training



IELTS Preparatory Short Course



Specialist Courses

Programs we deliver

Why is learning English so important to our students?

"A language is not just words. It's a culture, a tradition, a unification of a community, a whole history that creates what a community is. It's all embodied in a language."

Noam Chomsky



Building Resilient Communities Through English

Why?



Increased confidence



Increased engagement in the community



Improved job prospects



Improved business opportunities

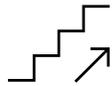


Increased life skills





How?



Classes for all English and Skill levels: absolute beginners, beginners and higher level learners across English and specific skills sets



Community based, delivered with support from a range of community groups and NGOs



50% focus on English language, literacy, numeracy and digital literacy, 50% focus on skill development in a specific skill area and employability skills.



Newly arrived migrants and humanitarian entrants to Australia supported by their community.

Learning English with the Community

English for Sewing



Grow, move and make course

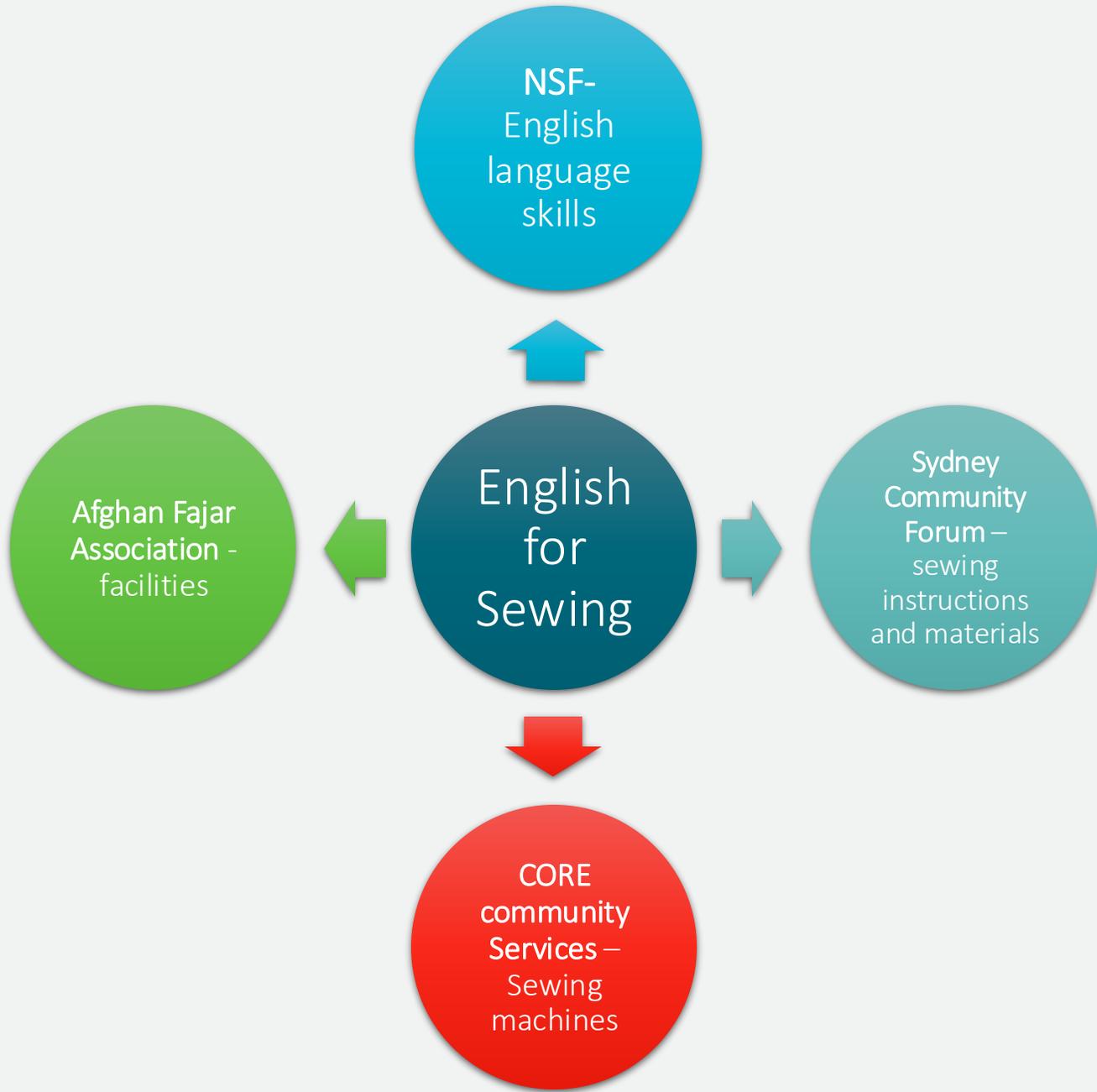


English for Driving



English for Retail

English for Sewing



English for Driving

Navitas Skilled Futures
and Gymea
Community Aid and
Information service

Pre-learner course –
resettlement
communities get
driver's licence

Free DKT and HPT

Subsidised supervised
driving lessons



Grow, Move, Make Course



Course provided work, study and related social experiences



Activities: Classroom, site visits, workshops with community, workplaces and government organisations



Collaborations: Gandagara Local Aboriginal council, Sydney Botanic Gardens, Fairfield Council, Padstow TAFE, South West Community Transport, Community First Steps, Bunnings, Academy Green Learning, DLI Training, Western Sydney International Airport Experience Centre, STATTTS.



English for Retail – a Collaboration with the Social Outfit

Empowering refugee and migrant women.

Course Included:

Mentoring



Paid work



Financial Literacy



Job Readiness training



12 self paced modules over 12 weeks. With a quiz at the end of every lesson.

LEARNER TESTIMONIALS

“This course has helped me gain confidence, especially using public transport and meeting new people.”

“I am shy and I’m not very good at English, so I did find it difficult at first, but over time I got better and now I am more confident.”

“The course helped me ... and I am happy now because I have a job I love.”

“It made me realise how important it is to learn English because you have to be able to communicate with people.”





Thank you

Q and A