

English as a second language: views of local preschool teachers

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Second language development has recently become a major topic in preschool education in Asia. In the globalizing world, helping their children to be proficient in a second language that has a wider currency in the region is the goal of most parents. In Hong Kong, most parents strongly believe that an early exposure to second language in preschools is important. How do schools cope with the strong demand from parents? How do local teachers help children to learn English in preschool settings? Using data collected from questionnaires and focus group interviews, we explore the roles of local teachers in teaching English and discuss the issues and challenges encountered by them.