



P O Box 1182
Nairobi,
Kenya 00502

scilla@eftienterprise.com
www.eftienterprise.com

+254 720 857 072

Greetings and welcome to the new academic year of 2019/2020. It is starting out as a busy year at Efti Enterprise with some interesting new initiatives and programmes. But first I would like to refer back to the end of last year and the great new initiative of the Kenya association of International Schools (KAIS). While this may not be relevant to those of you in other parts of the East African region, I am sure you appreciate the value of such an opportunity to work together for all our benefit. I had the pleasure of presenting at the conference and enjoyed meeting many of you in person.

Assessment Practicing Certificate (APC). The DfE (Department for Education, UK) have changed their requirements for applications for the Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) from March 2019. As this is for higher education students, you may feel that it does not affect some of you, but it is possible that this will extend down to elementary in due course. The Form 8 Access Arrangement Reports will no longer be acceptable on their own for the DSA and a full assessment carried out by an assessor holding an APC is required. If you have a student who will soon be transitioning, therefore it is important that they have current acceptable documentation to support their needs.

Qualifying for an APC is rigorous and maintaining one's APC requires a certain number of hours of CPD each year approved by the SASC (SPLD Assessment Standards Committee). This means you can rest assured that an assessor with an APC is competent and current in their knowledge and best practice.

My APC application has been approved and the certificate is apparently in the post – I have requested a soft copy while I wait to see if it eventually finds its way to me! Meanwhile, I wanted to reassure you all that my assessments and hence my reports meet these new requirements and the students will be eligible for access arrangements for which they qualify. Of course, I am still working on my doctorate and still love getting lost in the research that also helps keep me up to speed with current thinking and evidence-based practice.

PAGS Profile is an exciting new programme I would like to introduce to you. As you are aware, monitoring progress is a crucial part of providing appropriate learning for all students, but especially for those with learning challenges. The importance of meeting the needs of the whole child cannot be underestimated, therefore monitoring progress in self-regulation, communication and social interactions is as important as academic progress. This is an adaptable tool that allows you to involve the parents and teachers in gathering meaningful data and go beyond numbers to information that is accessible and relevant. It also provides tangible evidence that will support RtI (response to intervention) as well as evidence of progress at the level of the SEN student. Finding a meaningful way to measure and reflect progress, especially for the student who may not show progress with the mainstream tools even when progress has been made is important. I have been looking for such a tool for SEN and mainstream teachers as they strive to support these neurodiverse learners, as well as engage and involve the parents in the process of meeting their child's needs. I have become an affiliate partner so that we can



P O Box 1182
Nairobi,
Kenya 00502

scilla@eftienterprise.com
www.eftienterprise.com

+254 720 857 072

access this programme in East Africa, but I do believe it will be worth it to be able to offer you this opportunity. Please let me know if you would like further information or visit my website www.eftienterprise.com.

Hisani Therapy continues to be an important part of the services I offer, as I increasingly recognise the impact of mental health challenges in the learning environment. The next taster day is 28th September, and we are open to group bookings to support your students at the centre. Do please get in touch with me or Hisani if you would like to enquire further. www.hisanitherapy.com

A gentle reminder that **exam access deadlines** are likely to sneak up on you and I am often fully booked up to two months in advance, so please don't leave it too late to ask for a booking. The importance of **diagnostic assessments** cannot be underestimated as knowledge is always power but remember that it can take up to a month to complete the report, so encourage your teachers to speak to your support department sooner rather than later should they have concerns about a student. I am available in Nairobi at the beginning of every month, but September and October are fully booked and November is filling up! Up country or intra-regional visits can be arranged if given enough warning so please don't hesitate to contact me. I have just enjoyed a busy two weeks in Uganda to start the year off!

Finally I am excited to announce that I have been invited to speak at the **ICOT2020** conference (international conference on thinking) in Johannesburg in June 2020. This will be the first time it has taken place in Africa and I am proud to be involved with such an initiative. As you will see there are some dynamic speakers involved and I can't wait for such an exciting learning opportunity. Take a moment to visit the website www.icot2020.com and come along! I hope to see many of you or your colleagues there.

As always I am available for advice, workshops or assessments. Feel free to contact me either via the website www.eftienterprise.com or directly by email scilla@eftienterprise.com or admin@eftienterprise.com My phone number remains the same +254720857072 but do be aware that signal is intermittent when I am on the farm, so you may have to persist or send a message and I will get back to you! Please make sure we have your current contact details and contact person. If not, feel free to send this information to admin@eftienterprise.com so you can keep in touch!

I look forward to a busy and productive academic year supporting you in your endeavours to help learners meet their potential.

Scilla Allen M Ed. PGC, APC
BPS RQTU#303530