Using Clarity Programs
Cardiff Libraries and Road to IELTS

Background

Cardiff Libraries currently deliver services and programs from one Central Library, 17 Branch Libraries and three Library Services within shared community hubs. It is the busiest library service in Wales in terms of visits. Last year, we received over 2 million visits to our network of libraries.

Subscription

Unlimited Licences of Road to IELTS Academic
Unlimited Licences of Road to IELTS General Training

Period

January 2013 to the present

Interview with David Taylor, Reader Development

ROAD TO IELTS
IELTS preparation and practice

What is the objective in making Road to IELTS available for your library members?

Cardiff Libraries are well used by members of the public that are learning English as a second language and there has always been a high demand for IELTS study guides.

Recognising this need, Cardiff Libraries felt that Road to IELTS would be a valuable addition to the e-resources on offer through the Cardiff Libraries website.

Does Road to IELTS meet your library members' needs?

We have an extensive selection of books to help students study for the IELTS test. However, due to the high demand of IELTS study guides they are frequently on loan and are not always readily available on the shelves.

The great thing about having Road to IELTS as one of our e-resources is that it means that we are always able to supply library members with the tools that they require to study for the IELTS test.

How do you promote Road to IELTS to your library members?

Cardiff Libraries has undertaken extensive promotion of Road to IELTS.

We've sent leaflets and promotional cards along with login instructions and the Road to IELTS General and Academic syllabuses to language schools, colleges, universities and to some third sector organisations.

I've found that language schools have been especially enthusiastic about Road to IELTS encouraging students to join the library so that they can access the service.

We promote Road to IELTS extensively at Cardiff Central Library and throughout our network of 20 branch libraries and Community Hubs. Road to IELTS is advertised on plasma screens at Cardiff Central Library and we have displays to promote Road to IELTS placed near our ESL books as well.

Login instructions have been drafted to give out to the public that explain how they can access Road to IELTS through the Cardiff Libraries website. These instructions are given out to borrowers along with the syllabuses to ensure that they have all the information that they need to access Road to IELTS.

Using Clarity Program:
Cardiff Libraries and Road to IELTS

1 → Go to www.cardiff.gov.uk/research

2 Click on **"Online Library"**

3 Click on **Road to IELTS (General)** or **Road to IELTS (Academic)**

4 Enter your **library card number** and off you go!

Cardiff Libraries have run a number of events that have proved to be excellent opportunities to promote Road to IELTS to English learners. We have a weekly Conversation Club to give ESL learners the opportunity to practise speaking English with other students. Working with local language schools, colleges and universities we have delivered free English classes at Cardiff Central Library. These have proved to be excellent opportunities to promote Road to IELTS to library members.

What is the reaction of your library members?

Reaction from library members has been very positive. We regularly have students joining the library specifically to borrow our IELTS books. They are always pleased to hear that they can access all the information that they'll need for studying for the IELTS test online through the Cardiff Libraries website.

Are you happy with the usage?

We are very happy with Road to IELTS usage. Getting information out to language schools has really helped to ensure that Road to IELTS continues to be used extensively by Cardiff Library members. Road to IELTS has proved to be a valuable resource for teachers as well as students.

What about technical and promotional materials that Clarity English supplies, how do you find them?

ClarityEnglish have supplied us with posters and cards which have been really useful.

Posters have been sent out to branch libraries

and used at Cardiff Central Library for displays to promote Road to IELTS along with our own posters and leaflets. The promotional cards have been very useful; they've been distributed to language schools, colleges and universities and are available to pick up on several service desks at Central Library.

In addition to this ClarityEnglish has sent a user guide and syllabuses for General and Academic Road to IELTS. These have proved to be useful when members of the public want a bit more information about what aspects of the IELTS tests are covered by Road to IELTS.

The bottom line: would you recommend Road to IELTS to other libraries?

I would definitely recommend Road to IELTS to other libraries. By having Road to IELTS available online as one of our e-resources we can ensure that we are providing the public with the best possible service, allowing them to access the IELTS test study resources that they want when they want.

For more information on Road to IELTS, email info@clarityenglish.com