

Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP®)

Mission: To provide and promote quality resources and professional development which impacts stakeholders' capacities to increase academic success for ALL students using the SIOP® instructional framework.

Vision: To see SIOP® so deeply embedded in core curriculum, planning, and delivery that it is second nature to all stakeholders (teachers, staff and administrators).

The Sheltered Instruction* Observation Protocol Model® was developed to facilitate high quality instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students in content area teaching. The SIOP® Model promotes high-quality instruction for all students by incorporating instructional characteristics such as differentiation, cooperative learning, reading comprehension strategies, and higher-order thinking skills. SIOP trained teachers build upon their existing knowledge in these areas to provide the most effective core level instruction and to impact the performance of various student groups. By combining the knowledge bases of English, content topics, and how the tasks are to be accomplished, the teacher effectively addresses the major components of academic literacy. (Echevarria, Vogt, & Short, 2004). Successful implementation of SIOP is increased by collaboration and planning of content area teachers and specialists (e.g. coaches, ESL teachers, etc).

Although the SIOP® Model, a research-validated approach to sheltered lesson planning and implementation, has been proven effective with LEP students throughout the U.S., its effectiveness impacts other learner groups as well. In addition, the model adds key features that support the academic success of LEPs: inclusion of language objectives in every content lesson, development of background knowledge, acquisition of content-related vocabulary, and emphasis on academic literacy practice (Echevarria, Vogt, & Short, 2004).

Wake County presents SIOP® as a framework of instructional best practices that teachers use to develop language as they deliver content. Although SIOP is essential for LEP students, it is effective for all students.

* Sheltered instruction involves the teaching of grade-level content while also promoting academic English language development.