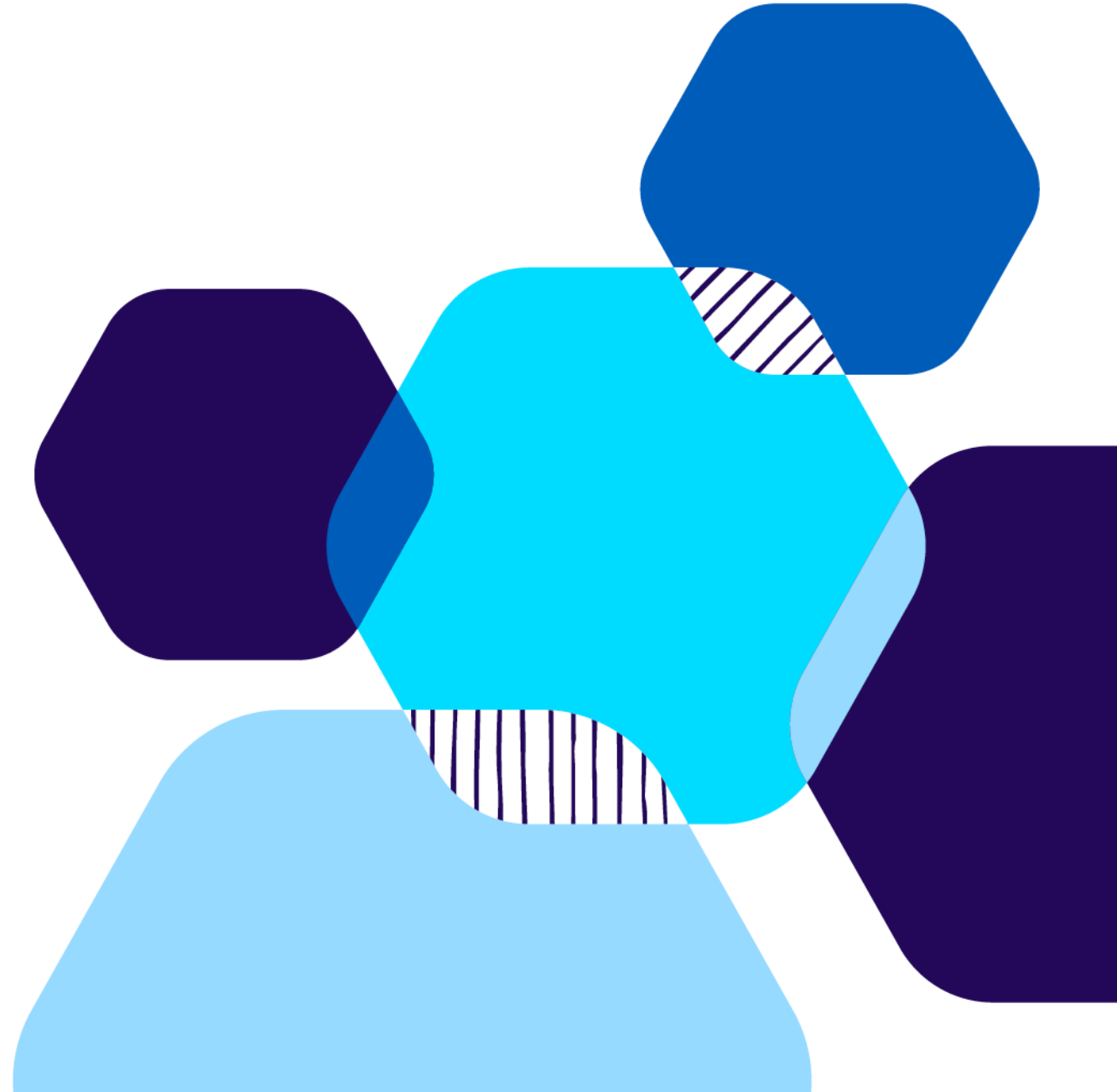


TeachingEnglish

Using Accessible Digital Tools to Promote Inclusion in Education.

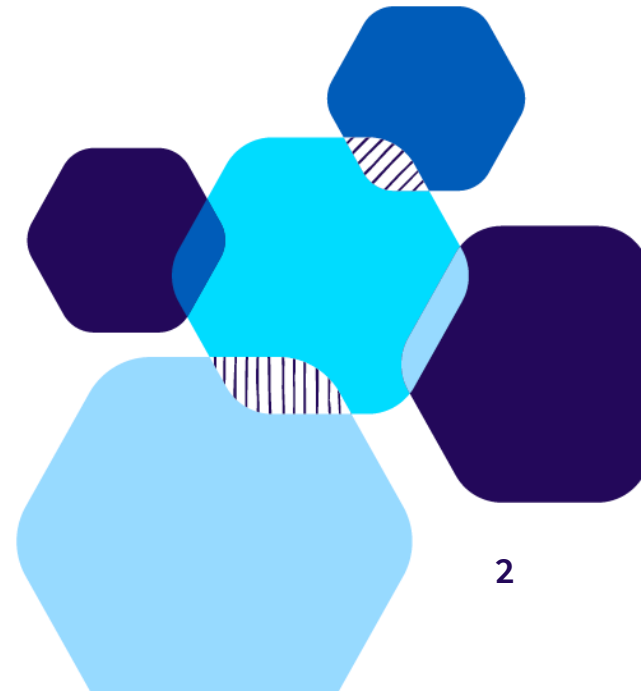
Presenter: Mame Couna Diaw

Saturday 20 June 2026



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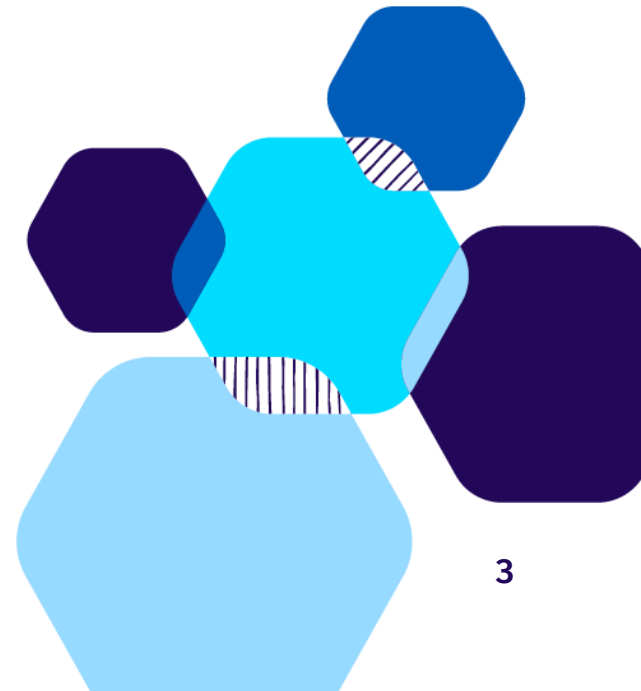
Housekeeping

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About the speaker

Mame Couna Diaw is an educational inspector trainee from Senegal with many years of experience as an ELT Teacher. Her academic and professional interests include ICT in education, inclusive pedagogy, teacher training, the integration of artificial intelligence and digital technologies into teaching and learning. She is particularly interested in promoting equitable access to education through innovative and inclusive educational practices.



**Which statement best describes your classroom?
Put the number in the chat.**

- 1. Different language levels**
- 2. Different learning needs**
- 3. Limited access to technology**
- 4. Large diverse classes**



Which statement best describes your classroom?

What came out of our pre-webinar poll on the Telegram CoP

1. Different language levels **22%**
2. Different learning needs **45%**
3. Limited access to technology **22%**
4. Large diverse classes **11%**



Which emoji are you today? (Pick 1–9 and tell us why!) Drop the number in the chat



Sleepy



Overwhelmed



Happy



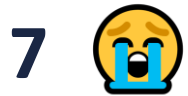
Thinking



Cool



Frustrated



Sad



Wild



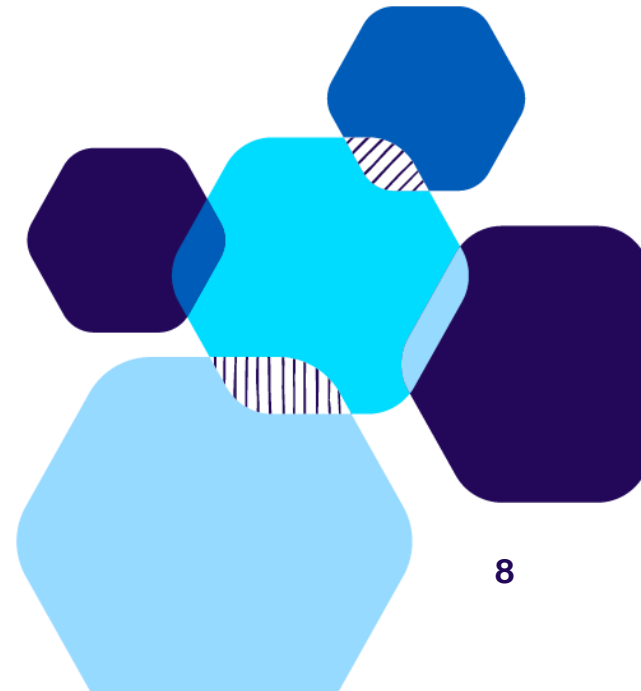
Strong

Webinar objectives

This session demonstrates how accessible digital tools can help teachers reduce barriers to participation and create equitable learning opportunities for diverse English language learners.

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Identify barriers to inclusion in your own teaching contexts.**
- Select appropriate digital tools to support diverse learners.**
- Adapt digital resources to different classroom realities.**



Scenario

Imagine you are teaching a class of 60 students.

Some learners are highly proficient in English.

Others struggle with reading and writing.

A few learners rarely participate because they lack confidence.

Some have limited access to learning materials outside school.

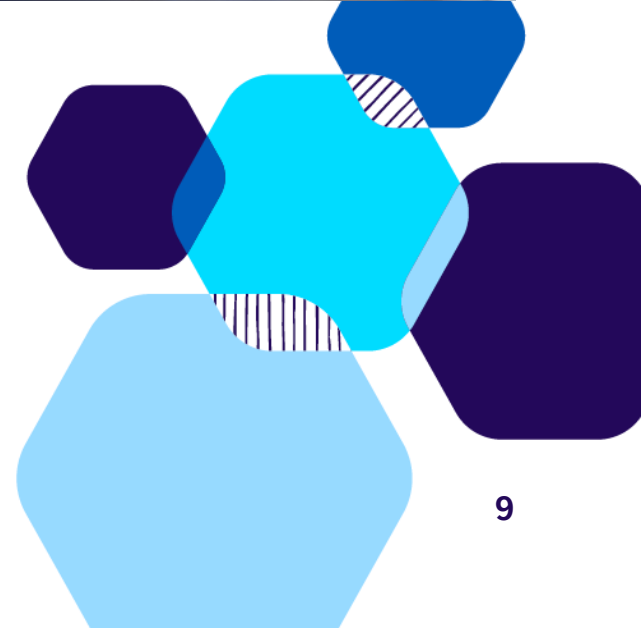
You want every learner to succeed, but traditional teaching methods often make it difficult to meet such diverse needs.

Reflection Question

Would the same resources work equally well in this classroom?



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Understanding learner diversity in modern classrooms

Today's classrooms are becoming increasingly diverse. Learners differ in:

Language
proficiency

Learning
styles

Abilities
and
disabilities

Access to
technology
and
resources

Socio-
economic
backgrounds

In this context, digital tools can help teachers create more inclusive and equitable learning opportunities by providing multiple ways for learners to access content, participate, and demonstrate learning.

Real classroom examples from Sub-Saharan Africa

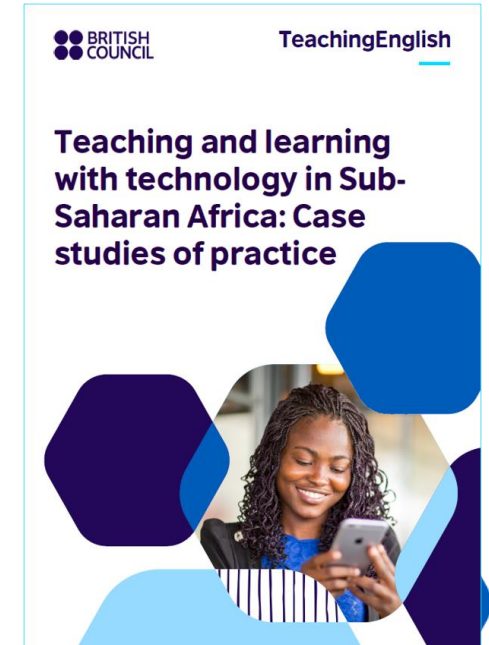
Across Sub-Saharan Africa, teachers are already using technology to support inclusion, often in low-resource contexts.

This TeachingEnglish publication highlights practical examples, including:

- **Mohammed Saif (Sudan):** Using screen readers, AI narration and audio tools to support visually impaired learners and train other teachers.
- **Mame Couna Diaw (Senegal):** Using audio recordings, WhatsApp and text-to-speech tools to make lessons accessible for visually impaired learners.
- **Chaavus Nicoline J. (Cameroon):** Promoting inclusion even without digital tools through peer support and adapted classroom strategies.

Key message: Inclusion is not about high-tech solutions, but about choosing the right tools and strategies for your context.

<https://africa.teachingenglish.org.uk/education/publications-research/teaching-and-learning-with-technology-sub-saharan-africa>



Why Inclusion and Equity Matter.

In one word, what does inclusion mean to you?

Write your answer in the chat.




Copyright: Mat Wright

Understanding Inclusion and Equity

Inclusion is about how we structure our schools, our classrooms and our lessons so that all our students learn and participate together. An inclusive classroom is one that creates a supportive environment for all learners, including those with learning differences, and can also challenge and engage gifted and talented learners by building a more responsive learning environment.

Equity: Learners receive the support they need to succeed.



Reflection:
Are equality
and equity
the same
thing?

Common Barriers to Inclusion.

Language
barriers

Learning
difficulties

Disabilities

Limited
resources

Low
confidence

Gender
disparities

Geographic
Isolation



Digital Tools for Inclusive ELT

1. **Padlet** – collaboration
2. **Microsoft Immersive Reader** – accessibility
3. **Quizizz** – differentiated learning
4. **Canva** – visual learning
5. **Google Classroom** – organisation
6. **AI tools** – personalised support



Practical Example 1: Padlet

Padlet is an interactive digital board where students can post ideas, images, videos, links, and voice recordings.

It supports participation from all learners, including shy students and those who need more time to express themselves.

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Learn more about Padlet:
<https://youtu.be/dC69Sr-OQik?si=ThRBYAfffScHmO38Q>

Practical Example 2: Quizziz

It helps differentiate assessments

- Self-paced learning
- Immediate feedback
- Multiple difficulty levels
- Increased motivation

Use Quizziz when:

- You want students to work independently.
- You need detailed assessment data.
- You are assigning homework.
- You want a lower-stress environment.

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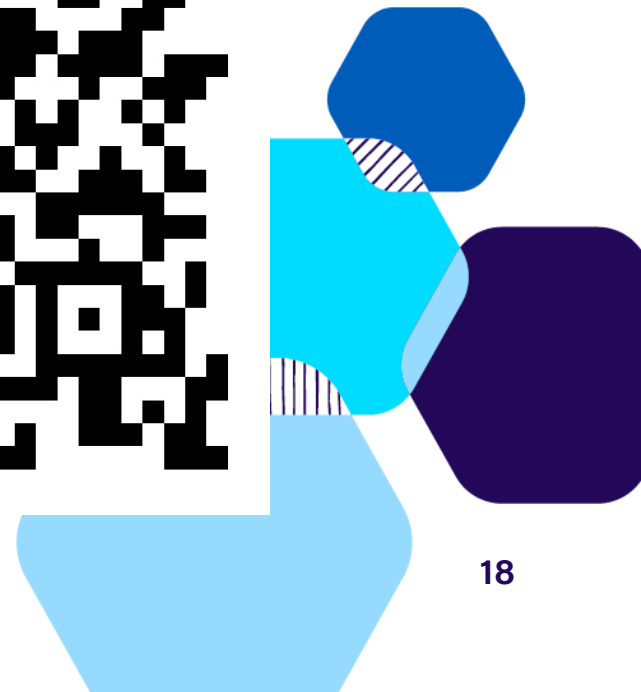


Learn more about Quizziz:

https://youtu.be/aQfS4Dw1IXM?si=Eub5ceLJbaJB_3uF

Let's check our understanding with a quick Quizizz challenge. Please scan the QR Code with your phone and do the quizz.

<https://wayground.com/join/pre-game/running/U2FsdGVkX19jACvxrEM6hivNt2dCeBdotg2JbSm3FwrhgOW2Nh7D7zA1q%252Bf%252Bv4eD6ld%252B%252Fw3McvpDgQZSZ7bsPQ%253D%253D/start>



Practical Example 3: Microsoft Immersive Reader

It is an **inclusive accessibility tool** designed to **improve reading comprehension** and focus.

It assists language learners and **people with dyslexia** by removing distractions, **offering text-to-speech** with word highlighting, adjusting text spacing, breaking syllables, and **translating text**.

**Immersive
Reader**



Learn more about Immersive Reader:
https://youtu.be/aQfS4Dw1IXM?si=Eub5ceLJbaJB_3uF

Practical Example 4: Canva

- Use images, icons or layouts (visual learners)
- Combine visuals with simplified texts (multilingual learners)
- Offer creative and non-traditional ways of participation (shy students)
- Enable collaborative digital projects (large classes)
- Allow larger fonts and clearer formatting (accessibility)

EXAMPLES

- Vocabulary posters
- Digital stories
- Cultural presentations
- Grammar infographics
- Community awareness campaigns



AI for Inclusion: Prompt Smart, Teach Responsibly

Scenario

I have a mixed-ability class of 50 students. Some struggle with reading comprehension while others are advanced.

Prompt: I need an activity on climate change.

- ✓ **Weak Prompt**
- ✓ **Too broad**
- ✓ **No information about learners**
- ✓ **Results may not be useful**

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Strong prompt:

Act as an experienced English teacher.

Create a 30-minute reading activity on climate change for intermediate secondary school students. Include:

- simplified vocabulary for struggling learners
- extension tasks for advanced learners
- pair work activities
- formative assessment
- inclusive strategies for mixed-ability learners

TAIL Prompt Formula for Teachers



T = Task

What do you want AI to do?

A = Audience

Who are your learners?

I = Inclusion

What learner needs should be considered?

L = Limits

Length, level, time, format

Example

Create a vocabulary lesson (**Task**) for Grade 10 students (**Audience**), including adaptations for learners with reading difficulties and advanced students (**Inclusion**), in 20 minutes with communicative activities (**Limits**).

AI can support inclusion, but only if we use it responsibly.

✔ Use AI to:

- Differentiate instruction
- Simplify texts
- Generate multiple versions of activities
- Create visual supports
- Save preparation time

✘ Do not

- Copy AI output without reviewing it
- Replace teacher judgment
- Enter students' personal information
- Assume AI is always accurate
- Use AI-generated content without checking for bias

Interactive Activity

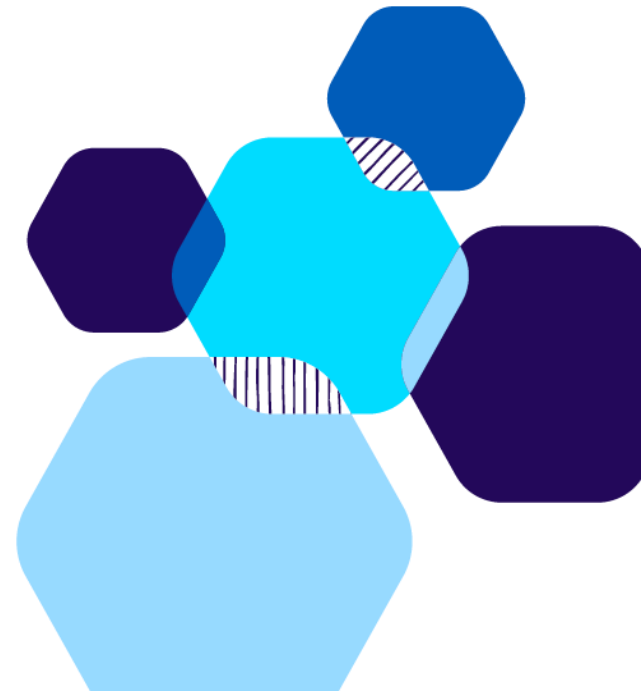
Scenario:

A class of 60 students, mixed proficiency levels, limited textbooks, and two visually-impaired learners.

Which digital tool would you choose and why?

1. Immersive reader
2. Padlet
3. Canva
4. AI
5. Quizziz

Type in the chat



Webinar Quiz

1. Which Padlet activity best promotes inclusion?.

A. Students submit anonymous ideas and responses.

B. Students work individually without interaction.

C. Students only read the teacher's notes.

2. A student with reading difficulties would most benefit from:

A. Read Aloud and Line Focus

B. Presentation Templates

C. AI Image Generation

3. Which statement best summarizes the webinar's main message?

A. Digital tools are useful only for advanced learners.

B. Digital tools can promote inclusion, engagement, and equitable learning opportunities.

C. Technology should be used only for assessment.

Takeaway tips

In our upcoming Q&A session on Friday 3 July, tell us:

1. What's one aspect you'll change in your next lesson.
2. What is one inclusive teaching task you would like AI to help you with next week?
3. What kind of visual task could your students create with Canva in your context?

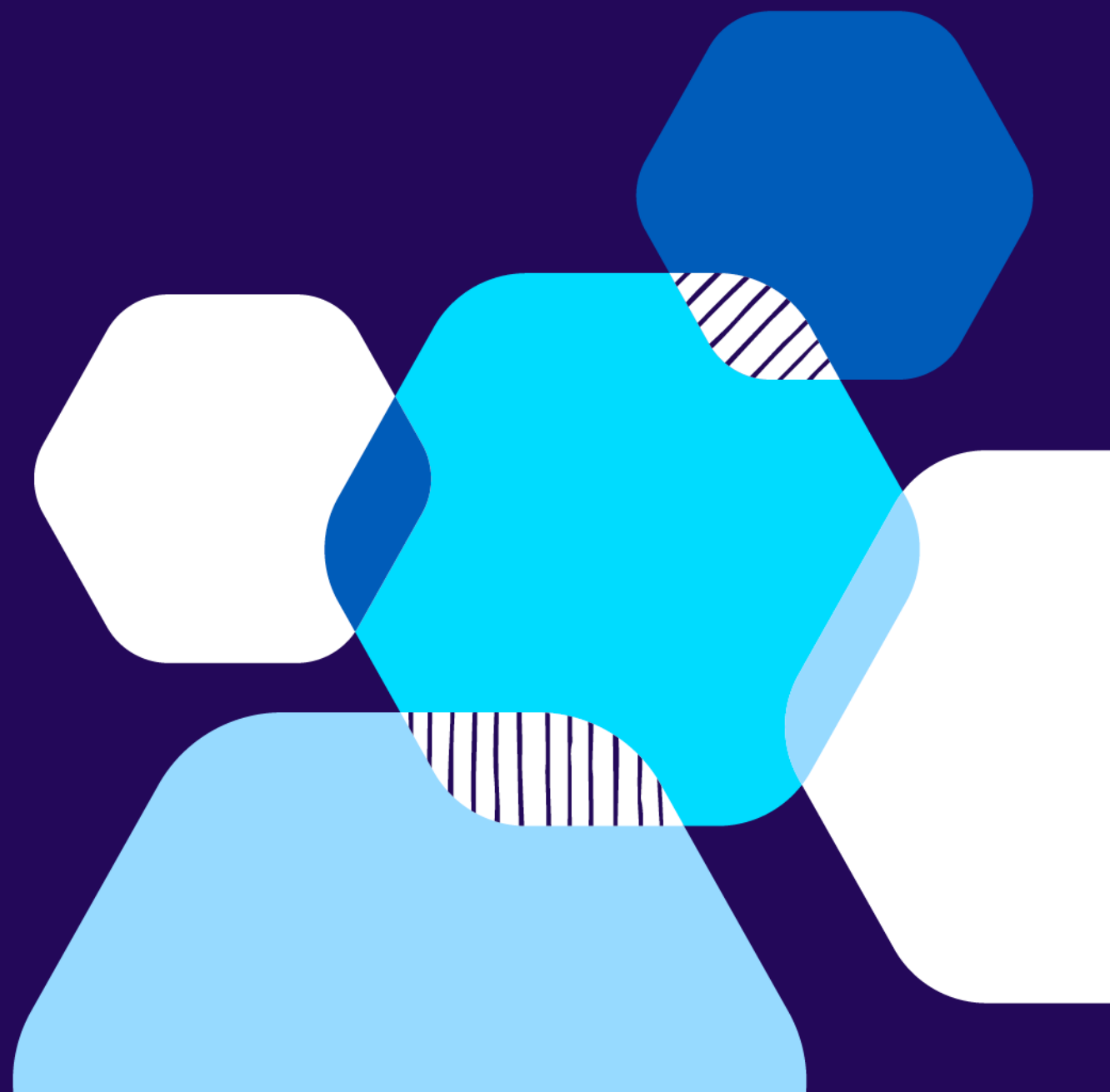


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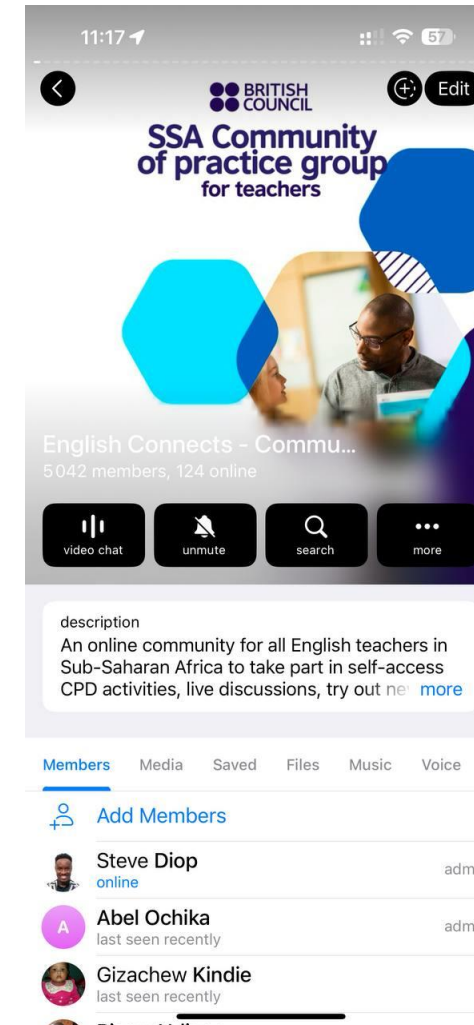


Q&A and Open Sharing



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TeachingEnglish supports a vibrant Community of Practice connecting teachers and teacher educators across the region through the **Telegram** app. This group serves as a dynamic hub for sharing innovative teaching practices, exploring educational trends, and collaborating on impactful projects. Join us today: <https://bit.ly/4lgZMm8>



Next webinar: Saturday 18 July 2026

Join **Sikhumbuzo Sibanda** to explore practical ideas for building ICT and digital literacy.

Registration link available soon.

