

XXI ANGLIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

CCG Chichester
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FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFESSIONALS

PLENARY SPEAKER:

María Natalia Delbono Lacoste is a qualified English teacher from Uruguay with over 15 years of experience in public and private primary and secondary schools. She holds a Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language and an English Teaching Degree from CERP del Sur.

Her academic interests include communicative methodologies, the ECRIF framework, and action research. She currently teaches in several public high schools and serves as a local agent for Anglia Examinations and Headteacher of Windward English Hub.



NATALIA DELBONO

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I'M PRESENTING

**Empowering Secondary EFL Students
through the ECRIF Framework:
A Case Study from Uruguay**

This session presents a case study on the implementation of the ECRIF framework (Encounter, Clarify, Remember, Internalize, Fluently Use) in public secondary schools in Uruguay, aiming to significantly improve students' fluency in English as a Foreign Language. Developed through an action research project, this study involved fourth-grade secondary students over one semester and was designed in alignment with national curricular goals and CEFR standards. The presentation will detail how scaffolded, learner-centred lessons based on the ECRIF model led to measurable improvements in students' confidence and motivation. Drawing on data from classroom observations, pre- and post-speaking tests, student surveys, and interviews, the study highlights the positive impact of integrating structured communicative activities and affective support into regular classroom practice.

Participants will explore examples of ECRIF-based lessons and best practices that proved most effective in addressing common challenges in EFL speaking development. Special attention will be given to strategies that helped lower students' affective filters and increased their engagement, such as interactive tasks, repetition with variation, peer feedback, and clear learning goals shared through SWBAT (Students will be able to...) statements.

By the end of the session, attendees will be equipped with practical ideas to apply the ECRIF methodology in their own contexts. This presentation is especially relevant for teachers, coordinators, and curriculum designers seeking innovative, research-informed approaches to enhance oral language skills in adolescent learners.