SECTION 6: CREATING A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Classroom Organisation

There are many different ways of organising the classroom when teaching English. Over time, a mix of all the approaches outlined below will prove suitable depending on the nature of the work being undertaken, available resources (including time), the abilities of the learners, and the teacher’s personal preference.

Strategies for the Effective Management of Learning

A good starting point for this section is the diagram of Maslow’s hierarchy of needs:

- **Self-actualisation**: morality, creativity, spontaneity, acceptance, experience, purpose, meaning and inner potential
- **Self-esteem**: confidence, achievement, respect of others, the need to be a unique individual
- **Love and belonging**: friendship, family, intimacy, sense of connection
- **Safety and security**: health, employment, property, family and social stability
- **Physiological needs**: breathing, food, water, shelter, clothing, sleep

Maslow’s hierarchy of needs offers a useful model for thinking about how to create a positive learning environment in the classroom. A well organised classroom is one where learners feel safe, respected and valued, one that will generate the type of learner who feels they can take risks, rise to challenges, and be creative.