

LAURA CARBONELL CATALAN

Musselburgh, East Lothian

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PERSONAL SUMMARY

A bilingual Spanish-English, CIOL Qualified Level 6 speaker currently working as a freelance interpreter and translator in the UK and doing subtitles on climate change for TED talk. Spanish-born and having spent the last 17 years in the UK, the last 15 in the Fire Service as a firefighter, I possess strong interpersonal skills, advanced language and cultural knowledge, excellent writing skills and the ability to make decisions under pressure, work effectively as part of a team and collaborate with others to ensure clear and articulate communication.

CORE SKILLS AND STRENGTHS

- Bilingual: Fluent in both Spanish and English.
- Typing speed of 70-80 words per minute.
- Communication: Exceptional verbal and non-verbal communication skills, delivering clear and accurate information.
- Interpersonal skills: Ability to build rapport through strong emotional intelligence and compassion.
- Problem-solving: Critical problem-solving skills, including the ability to think quickly and adapt under pressure.
- Leadership: Ability to take charge of a situation and lead a team or as an individual to address the challenges.
- Technical skills: Able to interpret and analyse complex information and data quickly.
- Adaptability: Flexibility to meet constantly changing and unpredictable needs in challenging environments.
- Attention to detail: Eye for detail to accurately convey nuances and meaning of language and communication.
- Discreet: Through working with all emergency services, Social Services and the public, understanding and sensitive to the needs and circumstances of others.

WORK HISTORY

Interpreter at Elite Linguist 2023-current

Interpreter at DA Languages 2023-current

TED subtitler and transcriber 2023-current

Firefighter at Scottish Fire and Rescue Service 2008-current

Musselburgh Fire Station, East Lothian 2021-current

- Rescue 3 Swiftwater and Flood First Responder – August 2023
- Scottish Ambulance Driving Course - January 2022

McDonald Road Fire Station, Edinburgh 2015-2021

- Emergency Response Driving Qualification - September 2020
Placement in the CAT team (Community Action team) in 2020.
- Engaging with the community, doing Enhanced Home Fire Safety Visits alongside Social Services and giving talks to schools and care homes on Fire Safety.
- PVG scheme record disclosure of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups - January 2020. Membership number 2001 1696 2283 2417

Newcraighall Fire Station, Edinburgh 2008-2014

- Placement at Headquarters - working with different programs to support Watch Commanders to access relevant information such as location of hydrants, risers, lifts in buildings which were considered high-risk - 2012
- Completion of the SVQ in Emergency Fire Services Operations in the Community – April 2011
- Rope Rescue Anchorage Course - March 2011
- USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) Tunnelling and Shoring - December 2010
- First Person On Scene Basic Award, accredited by IHCD by The Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh - September 2008

Lifeguard and swimming instructor, Spain and United Kingdom

1998-2008

- Lifeguard at UTE Gesport Castejón, Spain - 2008
- Swimming Coach for East Anglian Swallow Tails swimming club, Norwich - 2007
- National Pool Lifeguard Qualification, London – December 2006
- Forest fire-fighter, Pyrenees, Spain - 2006
- Lifeguard on the coast of La Coruña, Spain - 2005
- Lifeguard and swimming instructor at Gaia, La Coruña, Spain - 2004
- Lifeguard on the coast of La Coruña, Spain - 2000-2003
- Lifeguard on the council's swimming pool, La Puebla de Labarca, La Rioja, Spain - 1998

EDUCATION

March 2023 - through self-study, achieved CIOL Qualifications Level 6 Diploma in Public Service Interpreting (DPSI Law). Candidate number 139981.

October 2007 – after initiating studies as a Primary teacher in 1998 in Logroño (La Rioja), Spain and Secondary teacher in July 2002 La Coruña (Galicia), Spain, attained Qualified Teacher Status in England. Teacher reference number 0732676.

HOBBIES

Running, cycling and walking.

Competed at European and World level triathlons in 2018 and 2019 respectively.