



English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

EAL Manager: Mr P Fowler

Introduction

In our school, the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children are valued. We encourage all of our children to achieve the highest possible standards. We do this by taking account of each child's life experiences and needs.

A number of our children have particular learning and assessment requirements, which are linked to their progress in learning English as an additional language.

Children who are learning English as an additional language have skills and knowledge similar to those of monolingual English speaking children. Their ability to participate in the full curriculum may well be in advance of their communicative skills in English.

Aims and Objectives

The National Curriculum secures entitlement for all children to a number of areas of learning and gives them the opportunity to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes that are necessary for their self-fulfilment and development as responsible citizens. We promote the principles of fairness and justice for all through the education that we provide in our school.

The aim is to help ensure that we meet the full range of needs of those children who are learning English as an additional language (EAL). This is in line with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and several UN Conventions

Teaching and Learning Style

In our school teachers employ various methods to help those children who are learning English as an additional language achieve their full potential.

Developing their spoken and written English by:

- Ensuring that vocabulary work covers the technical as well as the everyday meaning of key words, metaphors and idioms;
- Explaining how speaking and writing in English are structured for different purposes across a range of subjects
- Providing a range of reading materials that highlight the different ways in which English is used
- Ensuring that there are effective opportunities for talking, and that talking is used to support writing
- Encouraging children to transfer their knowledge, skills and understanding of one language to another
- Building on children's experiences of language at home and in the wider community, so that their developing uses of English and other languages support one another

Ensuring access to the curriculum and to assessment by:

- using accessible texts and materials that suit children's ages and levels of learning
- providing support through ICT, video or audio materials, dictionaries and translators, readers and amanuenses
- using the home or first language where appropriate and possible

Curriculum access

The curriculum is regularly reviewed and examined to ensure that diversity is embedded into the entire programme of learning.

All children in our school follow the curricular requirements of the Foundation Stage and/or the National Curriculum. Children with English as an additional language do not produce separate work.

We sometimes withdraw children from lessons to receive EAL support. This involves supporting individual children or small groups of children.

However, when deemed necessary (a new arrival who speaks/understands no English) there may be provision made for a period of one to one focused support.

Throughout the school we plan opportunities for children to develop their English language, and we provide support to help them take part in all activities.

The Foundation Stage helps children learning English as an additional language by:

- building on children's experiences of language at home and in the wider community, so that their developing uses of English and of other languages support one another
- providing a range of opportunities for children to engage in speaking and listening activities in English with peers and adults
- providing support to extend vocabulary where possible
- where possible, providing a variety of resources in the children's home language as well as in English

Key Stages One and Two help children learning English as an additional language by:

- continuing those strategies, used in FS, whilst moving the emphasis towards written and spoken English in preparation for SATs at the end of KS2.

Assessment

The EAL and learning support staff carry out ongoing recording of attainment and progress in line with agreed school procedures.

- Data analysis is carried out to monitor the progress of EAL pupils and appropriate support is then allocated.
- The school monitors EAL pupils' progress and attainment in line with the school's assessment policy.
- The statutory assessment arrangements of the National Curriculum allows us to make "access arrangements" for children who are learning English as an additional language
- When appropriate/necessary contact will be made with the LA or other agencies for specific guidance .
- Tracking of targets is monitored and reviewed regularly.

Parent Partnership

Our school recognises the paramount importance of, and values the partnership with, parents and carers.

We aim to:

- Provide a welcoming environment where parents/carers can discuss any concerns
- Ensure shared knowledge and support via review meeting and parents evenings
- Take into account parents' knowledge, views and attitudes
- Consult with and involve parents at all stages of their child's time on the EAL register
- Provide parents with information on school policy, support and services provided by the school
- Provide and use information techniques that ensure communication is clear and hence effective
- Enlist the help of parents with home activities designed to reinforce work in school

We are committed to equal opportunities for all, irrespective of race, gender, sexuality, disability or religion. We will monitor the impact of this policy to ensure that no group is adversely affected.