

Founded 1642



New Hall School

Whole School English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

Reviewed by	Senior Leadership & Management Team
Date	August 2017

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE POLICY

1. Introduction

The term English as an Additional Language (EAL) is used when referring to students whose main language at home is a language other than English.

A child must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the "*language or (form of language) in which he or she is or will be taught is different from a language (or form of language) which is or has been spoken at home*" (section 20(4) of the Children and Families Act 2014). However, students for whom English is an Additional Language will be provided with appropriate support provided they meet the School's academic criteria.

This policy sets out the School's aims, objectives and strategies with regard to the needs and skills of EAL students.

The guiding principles and objectives of the school's EAL Policy are to ensure that the aims of the Mission Statement are secured for all students. We recognise that all overseas students will have differing degrees of difficulty with language at some time in their school career and that provision for this need is on a continuum. We regard the students' self-esteem to be of vital importance to their learning. Teachers aim to ensure that all students for whom English is an Additional Language have the chance to realise their potential. Any bullying of which the School becomes aware will be dealt with in accordance with the School's anti-bullying policy.

2. EAL Identification, Assessment and Review

- 2.1 We aim to assess a student's language level as soon as possible. When a new student arrives, tests are carried out to ascertain the student's level of proficiency in the four skill areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking. The student is then placed in an EAL class according to their linguistic ability. The results of the initial diagnostic test are recorded in the EAL Register and are made known to all subject teachers so that they are aware of any difficulties the student may encounter within their classroom.
- 2.2 If, at any stage, it becomes apparent that a student requires additional EAL input, every effort will be taken to ensure that this need is met by offering one-to-one support. In-class support will be provided as appropriate.
- 2.3 Progress is monitored both informally and formally by EAL teachers, class/subject teachers, tutors, HoYs and HMs.
- 2.4 Appropriate access arrangements in Key Stages 2 & 3 and GCSE/AS/A2 examinations will be sought for students for whom English is an Additional Language.

3. EAL: Most Able & Talented students

- 3.1 We recognise that students for whom English is an Additional Language may well be Most Able & Talented. If it is found that a student's lack of English is prohibiting a student from progressing to the best of their ability, additional EAL lessons can be provided to address the problem.

4. EAL: Students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities/ special educational needs

- 4.1 The EAL Department liaises closely with the Director of Learning Development on any concerns regarding overseas students. Where necessary additional support can be provided by either the Learning Development Department or the EAL Department, whichever is most appropriate to the needs of the student.

5. EAL: Curriculum

- 5.1 The school has a responsibility to ensure that each student has access to a broad and balanced curriculum and teachers have a responsibility to provide effective learning opportunities for all students by providing relevant and appropriately challenging work. Teachers are expected to:
- set suitable learning challenges
 - respond to students' language needs
 - overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of students that do not have English as their first language
- 5.2 Those students who need to be withdrawn for EAL tuition are currently withdrawn from Latin and Modern Language lessons in Years 5-9 and from Core Modern Language in Year 11. For Year 10, students are either taught EAL instead of GCSE English or have the option of EAL classes as one of their option subjects. For all other subjects, overseas students are taught within integrated groups, wherever possible. Students in the Sixth Form who need EAL tuition attend EAL lessons in one of the A Level option blocks.
- 5.3 Group lessons including Saturday classes are included in the school fee. One-to-one tuition normally carries an additional charge after full discussion with a student's parents.

6. EAL: Integration

- 6.1 The school endeavours to ensure that all students are integrated into the life of the school. The Head of EAL liaises closely with each of the HMs to ensure opportunities for integration and support. (See Boarding Policy)