

MINCHINHAMPTON C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

English as an Additional Language

Policy



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 best they can. 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 of this policy 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 Race Relations Act 1976.

Role and responsibilities of the EAL Co-ordinator

- Liaise with class teachers to identify and support EAL pupils.
- Contribute to school improvement plan in the area of responsibility to identify areas for development and arrange for improved provision.
- Consult with external agencies.
- Deploy TA support and monitor its effectiveness.

- Manage resource materials and equipment to ensure sufficiency and adequacy.

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 spoken and written English by:

Using The Bell Foundation to support children learning English linked to their home language.

pre-tutoring of new vocabulary.

displaying key vocabulary.

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.

- deployment of additional adults for support.

Curriculum access

The curriculum is regularly reviewed and examined to ensure that multicultural aspects are fully integrated.

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

We do not generally withdraw children from lessons to receive EAL support. 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 bilingual support to extend vocabulary where possible;
- where possible, providing a variety of writing 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

Staff carry out ongoing recording of attainment and progress in line with agreed school procedures.

We use the Bell Foundations EAL Assessment Framework to measure English language competence for New to English children. We use this as a tool to assess the child regularly and decide next steps.

The statutory assessment arrangements of the National Curriculum allow us to make special arrangements for children who are learning English as an additional language.

- When appropriate/necessary contact will be made with the LA or curriculum helpline for specific guidance – in addition to that given in the “Assessment and Reporting Arrangements” documentation.

Individual Language Profile (ILP)

For those children learning English as an Additional Language, there may be an Individual Language Profile to support their progress in this area and ensure continuity as they transfer between classes. Pupils are fully involved in this. Parents/carers are invited to participate in the review process at parents’ evening.

Parent Partnership

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

We aim to:

- provide a comfortable and welcoming environment where parents/carers can discuss any concerns;
- ensure shared knowledge and support via review meetings and parent 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 and the LA ;
- 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.

However we recognise that difficulties may arise in a minority of cases and respect the right of carers to seek independent advice and support.

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.

The policy reviewed June 2023