ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE POLICY

Legal Status:
Complies with Part 6, paragraph 24(3) (b) of The Education (Independent School Standards Compliance Record) (England) (Amendment) Regulations.

Applies to:
- the whole school inclusive of activities outside of the normal school hours;
- all staff (teaching and support staff), the proprietor and volunteers working in the school.

Related documents:
- SEN Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policies

Availability
This policy is made available to guardians, carers, staff and pupils from the school office.

Monitoring and Review:
- This policy will be subject to continuous monitoring, refinement and audit by the Headteacher.

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

Introduction

In common with the rest of the curriculum, where a child is learning English as an additional language, this is individually planned for, taking into account the particular needs of the child and working with the family to plan how best to facilitate the child's integration into an English speaking setting. If for example, a child at our school was most comfortable with say another language our strategy in understanding how best to enable the child to use English would include observing the child communicating in their mother tongue. As a result of this, key English words would be sent to the guardians, and we would request from them a list of the key words in their mother tongue. This would enable the teachers to be familiar with what the child might be trying to say. It would also assist in preventing the child becoming disheartened having managed to form a word, this being a significant achievement, in the mother tongue and then enable the teachers to encourage the child to transfer the word into English. Our experience is that this individually tailored approach has shown to be highly successful. We

offer guardians the option to receive any policies, procedures, newsletters etc. That they would receive in English, translated into other languages.

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

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. This is in line with the requirements of current legislation

We aim to raise the attainment of minority ethnic pupils by:

- assessing pupils' English ability and giving pupils with EAL access to the curriculum as quickly as possible;
- providing pupils with EAL opportunities to hear and read good models of English and extend their knowledge and use of English;
- providing additional in-class and withdrawal support to these pupils;
- developing an understanding of and valuing pupils' home languages;
- using visual and auditory resources;
- assessing pupils with EAL to establish their needs and progress;
- liaising with Special Educational Needs (SEN) colleagues in identifying pupils who may additionally have SEN.

The aims of our (EAL) provision are that all students whose first language is not English:

- become autonomous in all aspects of the English Language;
- are supported so that they gain full access to the full school curriculum that is offered;
- become aware of and can appropriately respond to differences and similarities between their cultures and others;
- progress in their abilities within each aspect of the English Language including speaking, listening writing and reading;
- are supported in their preparations for their next step in their academic careers.

Assessment for learning

- Our school uses the QCA English scales to measure English language competence for EAL children linked to the National Curriculum. These have only recently been published. We carry out ongoing recording of attainment and progress in line with agreed school procedures. http://socialsolihull.org.uk/schools/sab/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/EAL-Learner-Overview-Docx-with-DFE-Descriptors.pdf
- The statutory assessment arrangements of the National Curriculum allow us to make special arrangements for children who are learning English as an additional language.
- Students who have been resident in Britain for less than two years at the time of sitting formal public examinations (e.g. GCSE, A-level) may qualify for extra time. The SENCo will submit the necessary documentation to the relevant examining bodies in this instance.

Identification and Assessment

Guardians are asked to inform school of any language needs their child may have on entry to school. In addition to this, their class teachers liaising with colleagues and working alongside pupils should be able to identify and assess pupils with EAL in order to target them for support. This can be done using a variety of data, including:

- English and Maths tests
- CATs
- Teacher assessment
- Reading tests/sweeps
- Spelling tests
- Individual pupil targets
- ICT based tracking systems
- Consultation with parents/carers/guardians
- Attendance and behaviour monitoring
- Accurate ethnic data

Once the pupils have been identified and assessed, the class teacher needs to work with colleagues to develop Individual Language Plans with SMART targets (ILP's). All should be aware that EAL pupils will frequently understand what is being said, well before they have confidence enough to speak themselves.

Teaching and learning style

- In our school, teachers take action to help children who are learning English as an additional language by various means:

➢ 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;
    - providing in class support for individuals and small groups;
    - developing appropriate resources;
    - 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;
    - encouraging children to transfer their knowledge, skills and understanding of one language to another;
    - providing support within small-group intervention strategy programmes also involving non–EAL pupils;
    - providing advice and training for staff members;
    - 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.

Home-school links

These are in place to:

- Welcome guardians into school

- Communicate with and involve guardians in their children's learning
- Promote a multi-cultural understanding in school

The school is aware of obstacles to communication that may arise for some pupils and families with EAL and knows where to seek advice and support to overcome these.

Professional development
All staff are provided with opportunities for training on EAL, through the SENCo, whose responsibility it is to provide this training on a regular basis, for all staff to extend their knowledge and understanding and enhance their skills. This contributes to the development of good practice and the raising of achievement within the school.

Use of ICT
ICT is a central resource for learning in all areas at Smallbrook School and is used when relevant for meeting the needs of EAL pupils.

Resources
Staff working with EAL pupils can receive training in how to use existing resources to support language development, as part of their professional development. The school seeks to purchase resources which reflect different ethnicities in their language, visual images and content. Money is allocated each year to purchase further resources to support Learning Development including EAL. If teachers do not share the student's language they can use resources to demonstrate the value of the student's language through:
- dual language texts;
- multi lingual labels around the classroom / school and
- stories from their own and other cultures.

Effective EAL support
This will be evidenced by:
- ASC specific strategies including visual support, concise language, structured learning, visible learning rubrics
- High standards of EAL training and curriculum content for EAL pupils
- Good leadership and management of EAL
- Pupils with EAL are sufficiently challenged and supported so they can reach their potential
- Support takes account of pupils at the early stage of language learning
- Use of our 'guardian angel' system. New EAL learners can be paired with both a helper who speaks their mother tongue, wherever possible (to help them feel comfortable) and a classmate (to help them integrate into the school)
- Support takes account of pupils at later stages of language learning by supporting them in their development of literacy across the curriculum and higher order language skills, e.g. pre-teach specific vocabulary, for example for science, to prepare them in advance of the lesson
- The offered curriculum is relevant and sensitive
- The SLT is involved in the monitoring, deployment and quality of provision for the support of minority ethnic pupils

The additional support beyond the classroom will take following form:

Key Stage 4
Students with an appropriate level of English will continue in mainstream English lessons leading to GCSE English and English literature. Those who would find the GCSE curriculum too difficult or

inappropriate will receive timetabled EAL lessons in preparation for the First Certificate in English or the Cambridge Preliminary English Test.

Key Stage 5
Sixth formers are recommended two lessons of EAL a week during their study periods. Students are working towards the IELTS examination which is required by many universities in the UK and abroad. Arrangements will be made for them to take their IELTS at a local school centre.

Identification of EAL needs:
EAL needs are identified through a range of methods, including:

- On entry, when EAL is identified and recorded as part of the entrance process, and interviews/meetings with the child and guardians take place.
- By teaching staff recognition of the particular needs of a child, which should be fed back to the SENCo.
- Through individual meetings with the SENCo
- Through discussion with external professionals e.g. tutors, previous teachers, social workers etc.
- Through parent/carer information.

Guardians/parent/carer are asked to inform school of any language needs their child may have on entry to school. In addition to this, their class teachers liaising with colleagues and working alongside their students should be able to identify and assess students with EAL in order to target them for support. Once the students have been identified and assessed, the SENCo will provide key details of the students' requirements, and advice as to appropriate strategies, through the EAL register. All should be aware that EAL students will frequently understand what is being said, well before they have confidence enough to speak themselves.

Provision for Learning Needs
Students with EAL will be differentiated for in accordance with our Differentiation and SEND policies. This may involve the use of all main forms of differentiation (resource, outcome, choice, support, task). As with all students this differentiation will be personalised by subject teachers to take into account the stage of learning attained by the student, and the methods in which they work best. Teachers will be advised and supported by the SENCo as to suitable methods for each child.

Provision for Learning Needs within Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) lessons
We may have students who have English as their native language and who use another language. We may also have students whose native tongue is not English but they use it as their language of instruction. We will refer to both categories of students as Bilingual Learners as they live in two or more languages. Bilingual students are those who have 'access to more than one language in normal and natural ways in their daily lives.'

Within language lessons we will aim for Additive Bilingualism rather than Transitional Bilingualism which can restrict student leaning. We will aim that through their lessons in French and Spanish, knowledge of other languages extends their constantly expanding language repertoire promoting their use of English and mother tongue. Languages are not separate and isolated units and bilingual learners show a greater level of metalinguistic awareness as well as greater cognitive capacity for language as a system. Bilingual students often demonstrate higher levels of self-confidence as they function in different cultures and social groups.

If a student is bilingual in French or Spanish, they will be given access to an EPP booklet for regular extension within the classroom. Additional EAL resources tailored to their precise abilities and needs will also be made regularly available. The opportunity to sit qualification examinations (e.g. GCSE, A-

level) in their native tongue will be arranged wherever possible, and the SENCo / Head teacher can provide advice and guidance on obtaining tuition in languages outside school. Furthermore, the SENCo/ Head teacher will endeavour to allocate time, where possible, to one on one or small group sessions with bilingual students with Native Language Assistants alongside the option of an after school club delivered by the assistants aimed specifically for bilingual speakers of the appropriate language.

Language learning for our bilingual learners is encouraged through:

- contextual support through practical experiences;
- appropriate modelling of language;
- opportunities to communicate confidently in the new language;
- motivation through meaningful activities;
- self-confidence through praise and
- stimulating and enjoyable learning situations and
- Time spent with Native Language Assistants in one on one or small group sessions.

Curriculum Access

- At Smallbrook School teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children are important. Some of our children may 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 about language similar to monolingual English-speaking children. Their ability to participate in the full curriculum may be in advance of their communicative skills in English.
- All children in our school follow the curricular requirements of the National Curriculum. Children with English as an additional language do not produce separate work.
- We do not withdraw children from lessons to receive EAL support. Teaching Assistants work in partnership with class teachers within classrooms. This involves supporting individual children or small groups of children and, at times, teaching the whole class. Sometimes they work with groups of children, of whom only one or two may be EAL children.

Policy Reviewed By:	**Craig Seretny**	**Signature**	**Date**
Next Review Date:	**Sept 20**	**CS**	**Sept 19**
Interim Review Comments: No updates			
Policy Reviewed By:	**Craig Seretny**	**CS**	**Sept 20**
Next Review Date:	**Sept 20**		
Interim Review Comments: No update required			
Policy Reviewed By:	**A.Huxley**	**AH**	**Sept 23**
Next Review Date:	**Sept 25**		
Interim Review Comments:			
Policy Reviewed By:	**L .Guy-Grove**	**LGG**	**Sept 25**
Next Review Date:	**Sept 27**		
Interim Review Comments:			
