

English as an Additional Language Policy

School Tier: College

Related Policies: Admissions Policy

Policy Aims

Through the operation of this policy we aim to: enable pupils from overseas to be given support in the transition to a new school and culture, and to develop their use of English as a priority in enabling them to flourish academically and as part of our community.

The EAL department

All pupils who enter the school from overseas, irrespective of whether they have been educated in the UK previously, will be assessed immediately by the EAL teacher and Head of English to ascertain what their specific requirements are. If it is deemed appropriate, able Years 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11 pupils follow a mainstream English course, which may lead to an IGCSE qualification. Other pupils follow a course of EAL with a view to improving their access to their wider education. The aim of all these lessons will be to enable pupils to improve their understanding of the structure of English and to widen their vocabulary.

Up to Year 11 the pupils will be prepared for the First Certificate examination which may be attempted before the end of Year 11 if the pupil is deemed to be ready. This Certificate does not qualify for entry to a UK university. In the Sixth form the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) course is followed so that overseas pupils have the necessary qualification in English to study at a higher level in the UK. The minimum expectation of the College is for pupils to achieve 6.0, although to study Law or equivalent courses at a UK university, at least 7.0 in this qualification would be the norm.

Subject Teachers

It is the responsibility of each class teacher to support pupils with English as an Additional Language. This is to include both a focus on subject specific vocabulary and general assistance with learning English. Also, encouraging vocal contributions in class are essential. Any issues or problems that impact on a pupil's ability to communicate effectively in an academic subject must be reported by the class teacher to the Head of Department and the EAL teacher. Pupils are expected to show initiative in developing their own use of English. Support from house staff is also essential to ensure the pupils feel welcome and integrated into the College community and are confident in using and learning the English language.

Integration

EAL students are to be encouraged to integrate fully. Clustering in groups of foreign pupils and using one's first language in public places during the school day are to be discouraged. However the College recognises the value of diversity and seeks to celebrate differences in language, race and culture. The College's EDI Committee, annual International Week, informal celebration of national days and extra-curricular pursuits such as theatre productions are examples of this being put into practice.

References:

Legal Framework:

- Equality Act 2010
- SEND Code of Practice (2015)

General Guidance:

Technological:

Boarding Schools:

Appendix: