

Heathfield House School

English as an Additional Language Policy (EAL Policy)

Introduction

At Heathfield House School we believe that children have the right to achieve the highest possible standard regardless of the language they speak. Children who are learning English as an additional language have skills and knowledge about the subject they are learning and may simply have problems relating this in the English language. This policy encompasses the entire school including the EYFS.

Aims and objectives

The purpose of this policy is:

- To ensure every child in the school has the opportunity to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes that are necessary for them to develop to their full potential and to become responsible citizens.
- Throughout the school we promote equal opportunities to all regardless of the language they speak.
- To help ensure the school meets the full range of needs of those children who are learning English as an additional language. This is in line with the requirements of the Race relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

Procedures

Parents are asked if their child has English as an Additional language when they start Heathfield House School. From this an EAL register is put in place and the children on this are monitored to ensure they are making good progress. Bilingual and trilingual children are not considered to be EAL, but staff are aware of children who are able to speak different languages.

If a child appears to be struggling within the classroom environment due to learning English as an additional language the following steps will be followed to amend this. First it should be reported to Caroline Goodsmann with supporting evidence and then the following actions will be taken to address the issue.

- individual sessions to develop their vocabulary both orally and in writing
- children will be encouraged to read a variety of materials to broaden their knowledge of the English language
- children will be paired within a class so that their peer group will help to communicate to them
- children will be encouraged to participate in extra-curricular clubs to aid language development
- if problems persist external support will be implemented to aid the child
- support will be provided within lessons to ensure these children have equal access to the curriculum

Assessment

If a child requires additional support to complete an assessment due to English as an additional language this will be provided to ensure that the result obtained is a true reflection of the ability of the child.

Reviewed August 2020 by Pauline Williamson