

**Queen's Park
C.E./U.R.C.
Primary School**



**Queen's Park C.E./U.R.C.
Primary School**

**English as an
Additional Language
(EAL) Policy**

**Written: October 2022
Reviewed: October 2025**

Statement of intent

In this policy, the term 'English as an Additional Language' (EAL) refers to pupils whose main language at home is a language other than English.

Pupils with EAL will face various difficulties throughout their academic life. Pupils' aptitude for English will vary, but many will face barriers to learning, accessing the curriculum and reaching their full potential. Pupils with EAL must learn in and through another language. In addition, they may come from different cultural backgrounds to their peers and face different expectations of language, education and learning.

This policy has been established to ensure all pupils with EAL at the school are given the best chance possible to reach their full potential.

Queen's Park C.E./U.R.C Primary School aims to:

- Welcome the cultural, linguistic and educational experiences pupils with EAL contribute to the school.
- Ensure strategies are in place to support pupils with EAL.
- Enable pupils with EAL to become confident, and to acquire the language skills needed to reach their full academic potential.

Our strategic objectives are to:

- Provide a welcoming atmosphere for newly arrived pupils with EAL.
- Assess the skills and needs of pupils with EAL.
- Gather accurate information regarding children's backgrounds, cultures and abilities.
- Equip teachers and support staff with the necessary skills, resources and knowledge to support pupils with EAL.
- Use all available resources to raise the attainment of pupils with EAL.
- Systematically monitor pupils' progress, and adapt policies and procedures accordingly.
- Ensure all children's languages, cultures and identities are represented in classrooms and throughout the school.
- Maximise opportunities to model the fluent use of English.
- Ensure pupils with EAL are acknowledged for their skills in their own languages.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Childcare Act 2006
- Education Act 2002
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2014) 'The Equality Act and schools'
- DfE (2018) 'Promoting the education of looked after children and previously looked after children'
- DfE (2018) 'Equality Act 2010: advice for schools'
- DfE (2018) 'Mental health and wellbeing provision in schools'

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Roles and responsibilities

The governing board will have overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy.

The headteacher will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that those who are teaching or working with pupils with EAL are aware of their needs and have arrangements in place to meet them.
- Ensuring that teachers monitor and review pupils' progress during the academic year.
- Appointing a member of staff to lead on the school's approach to supporting pupils with EAL.
- Providing the EAL lead with sufficient administrative support and time away from teaching to enable them to fulfil their responsibilities.
- Ensuring that procedures and policies for the day-to-day running of the school do not directly or indirectly discriminate against pupils with EAL.
- Ensuring that the approach to the curriculum includes how it is made accessible for pupils with EAL.

Teachers (with the support of senior leaders) will be responsible for:

- The induction of newly arrived pupils.
- Conducting initial assessments of pupils with EAL, including requesting language assessment through SENCo.
- Teaching groups of pupils with EAL within the classroom and providing classroom support.
- Liaising with teaching support staff on support for pupils with EAL.
- Encouraging and supporting pupils to maintain and develop their first language.
- Developing relationships between the school and parents of pupils with EAL.

All staff members, including teachers and support staff will be responsible for:

Together we believe, achieve and enjoy.

Having faith in God, ourselves and each other as we strive to reach our potential

- Ensuring all written work includes the technical requirements of language as well as the meaning.
- Providing a good model of spoken English.
- Where possible, using a variety of types of text to explore their subject and through the varied use of English.
- Ensuring the inclusion of pupils with EAL in their classrooms.
- Identifying pupils with EAL who are experiencing difficulties and ensuring intervening measures are taken to aid the pupil.
- Planning activities that aim to ease pupils' anxieties and make them feel prepared for their next stage of learning.

Support

Where a pupil with EAL is assessed as having little to no English, support will be provided from the EAL team from the local authority. These classes focus on practical, everyday English and where possible cover language which can directly relate to learning in class.

In-class support and small group work is utilised as soon as the pupil can be successfully integrated into the classroom environment. The pupil will still spend time with their EAL teacher from the local authority usually weekly.

Inclusion

The school utilises a strategy of inclusion, and the positive and effective use of language. The strategy includes the following principles:

- There is an understanding throughout the school, for both staff and pupils, that a limited knowledge of English does not reflect a lack of ability or knowledge. Appreciating a pupil's ability to speak their own first language is essential for building their confidence and self-esteem.
- The language development of pupils is the responsibility of the entire school community.
- Staff will work together to ensure optimal outcomes are achieved.
- Diversity will be valued, and classrooms will be socially inclusive.
- Teachers will be knowledgeable about pupils' abilities in English and use their knowledge to inform lesson planning and schemes of work may be rewritten to accommodate low levels of English, whilst maintaining the subject content and level of challenge.

Initial assessments

When pupils first join the school, they will undertake a timely initial assessment to gauge pupils' English abilities in an informal manner that does not make the pupil feel isolated or inferior. This assessment is completed by the EAL team from the local authority.

Teachers of the pupil will be allowed access to the assessment to inform their teaching and lesson planning through the initial assessment report provided by local authority. The pupil and their parents may view the assessment at any time.

Classroom practice

Together we believe, achieve and enjoy.

Teachers have high expectations of all pupils.

Classroom activities will be matched to pupils' needs and abilities with visual supports being utilised where possible.

Teachers will consider common misconceptions and language barriers, such as reading '3 x 3', where 'x' is read as the letter and not a function, and clarify meanings accordingly.

Where possible, the following practices will be utilised to improve pupils' literacy:

- Utilisation of the pupil's first language expertise if appropriate.
- The provision of writing frames.
- The use of props and visuals.

Language skills will be developed through:

- Collaborative activities involving spoken communication.
- Feedback opportunities and conversations.
- Good models provided by peers.

Active participation will be encouraged by:

- Grouping pupils in mixed ability groups during group learning to develop language skills where appropriate.
- 'Expert' readers and writers present in each group to provide assistance and model language where appropriate.
- Scaffolding of the curriculum where appropriate and required

Classroom displays may reflect cultural and linguistic diversity where appropriate.

Bilingual dictionaries are available via technology resources to aid pupils with EAL and dual language worksheets are used where appropriate.

Access to the curriculum

The needs of pupils with EAL are considered by teachers when planning lessons. When planning lessons, teachers will ensure that:

- The language and learning demands of the curriculum are analysed and support and scaffold is provided.
- Visual support is utilised to provide greater understanding of key concepts.
- There are opportunities for pupils to use their first language in the classroom where appropriate.
- The support requirements of pupils with EAL are identified and the support is made available.

Working with parents

Liaison with parents is vital to the creation of a strong home and school partnership, which can ensure the development of pupils with EAL. To aid this partnership, the school will:

Having faith in God, ourselves and each other as we strive to reach our potential

- Actively seek to put parents at ease by providing a welcoming environment conducive to productive discussions.
- Provide interpreters for meetings when needed and available.
- Ensure the language used in letters to parents is clear and straightforward and translated where required.
- Where appropriate, have teachers read through the letter with pupils before sending the letter home, to ensure the message is clear.
- Where necessary, ensure translations of school documents are carried out and provided to parents of pupils with EAL.
- Encourage parents to attend parents' evenings and participate in school functions.
- Invite parents to school to help with class activities, such as cooking, reading and class outings, where appropriate.
- Encourage parents to become involved with homework through shared reading books.

Pupils with SEND

A child is not regarded to have SEND solely because their home language is different from the language in which they are taught at school.

A proportion of pupils with EAL may have one or more types of SEND and it is imperative that this is identified at an early stage. Assessments of SEN of pupils with EAL will involve EAL specialists along with SEND specialists.

Where appropriate, the school will arrange an assessment in the child's first language and SEND support will be decided on an individual basis in the manner outlined within the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy.

The school will ensure that the parents or carers of a pupil with SEND are not prevented from presenting their views throughout the process and are clearly informed at every stage.

Monitoring and review

The headteacher will review this policy on a two-year basis, considering feedback from practitioners on the effectiveness of the identified support for transition and in light of changes to the law or statutory guidance, and will make any changes necessary.

The next scheduled review date is October 2025

Together we believe, achieve and enjoy.