



Policy for Students with English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Rationale

At Driffield School the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children are important. We believe that children learning English as an Additional Language are entitled to the full National Curriculum programmes of study and all teachers have a responsibility to develop the use of the English Language within their subject context.

Aims

At Driffield School we aim:

- To create a welcoming and supportive environment which will encourage EAL students pupils to participate fully in all areas of school life
- To value and respect the cultural and linguistic identities of EAL students, and use these to enrich the learning of all students.
- To develop the oral and literacy skills of EAL students so that they can understand and use English confidently and competently across the curriculum and maximise their potential in all areas of school life.

We recognise the importance of the role of parents and the need to communicate with parents in their first language where appropriate and practical.

Our aims will be achieved by:

- Collecting relevant background information and cultural information when a child arrives at school and ensure the appropriate information is disseminated to staff.
- Providing a welcoming ethos in school and classrooms by:
 - Providing a welcome pack
 - Valuing their first language by providing a range of notices, posters, labels and dual language texts in first languages where possible.
 - Providing cultural resources where appropriate
 - Providing a suitable 'buddy'/role model
- Ensuring referrals to the LEA to access support are made as soon as students arrive at the school and providing an induction programme for students with no English.
- Provide staff with strategies to support teaching and learning in the classroom. (See intranet: Inclusion Data)
- Differentiated work provided within the classroom
- Students placed in the correct group according to their ability.

- Staff aware that although students become conversationally fluent in 2 years it will take a further 3-5 years at least for them gain enough academic language to achieve their full potential within the classroom. Entries to external exams should be made with care.
- Staff aware EAL students learn most efficiently working in collaborative groups with able and fluent English speakers.
- EAL information list to be maintained by Student Services department.
- Bilingual dictionaries provided where possible.
- Use of ICT encouraged, eg text gold, inspiration, freetranslation.com