

Mount Primary School



ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL) POLICY

Written September 2020

Signed - _____
Kate Yates (Headteacher)

Signed - _____
(Chair of Governors)

INTRODUCTION

At our school, a pupil is recorded as having English as an additional language if he/she is exposed to a language at home that is known or believed to be other than English.

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

Children who are learning English as an additional language have skills and knowledge about language similar to monolingual English-speaking children. As a school, we recognise and understand the difference between communication skills and language proficiency for all children. For example, a child's ability to participate in the full curriculum may be in advance of their ability to communicate in English.

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-fulfillment and development as responsible citizens. We promote the principles of respect 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 the Equality Act 2010.

Staff at Mount Primary School strive to ensure that all children with EAL have been assessed using the EAL Proficiency Codes.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STYLE

In our school teachers take action to help children who are learning English as an additional language in the following ways:

Developing their spoken, understanding and written English by:

- ensuring that vocabulary work covers the technical as well as the everyday meaning of key words, metaphors and idioms;
- 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;
- ensuring that there are effective opportunities for talking, and that talking is used to support writing;
- endeavour to build 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, audio visual materials and dictionaries

CURRICULUM ACCESS

All children in our school follow the curricular requirements of the Foundation Stage and the National Curriculum. Children with English as an additional language do not produce separate work. Children with EAL may be given additional support outside of the classroom to help them develop their English speaking and writing skills. The EAL lead, Mrs Laura Stones, works closely with MEAS to ensure the correct support is given.

In the Foundation Stage we plan opportunities for children to develop their English, and we provide support to help them take part in activities as needed.

The Foundation Stage helps children learning English as an additional language by:

- building on children's experiences of language at home and in the wider community, so that their developing uses of English and of other languages support one another;
- providing a range of opportunities for children to engage in speaking and listening activities in English with peers and adults;

ASSESSMENT

We closely monitor and track the progress of these children and if necessary seek advice from MEAS.