



Wolverham Primary and Nursery School

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

Introduction

At Wolverham Primary School the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children are important. We encourage all our children to achieve the highest possible standards. We do this through taking account of each child's life experiences and needs.

A number of our children have particular learning and assessment requirements, which are linked to their progress in learning English as an additional language.

Children who are learning English as an additional language have skills and knowledge about language similar to monolingual English-speaking children. Their ability to participate in the full curriculum may be in advance of their communicative skills in English.

Mrs Judy Bond – HLTA is the EAL specialist at Wolverham.

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-fulfilment and development as responsible citizens. We promote the principles of fairness and justice 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 Race Relations Act 1976.

Teaching and learning style

At Wolverham Primary School, teachers have high expectations and apply a variety of different strategies to support children who are learning English as an additional language:

We aim to developing their spoken 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;
- encouraging children to transfer their knowledge, skills and understanding of one language to
- another;
- building 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, video or audio materials, dictionaries and translators, readers and amanuenses;
- using the home or first language where appropriate.

Curriculum access

All children at Wolverham Primary School follow the curricular requirements of the Foundation Stage and the National Curriculum. Children with English as an additional language do not, usually, produce separate work.

In their first year at our school children receive EAL support. The language support teacher from the LA's support team works in partnership with class teachers within classrooms if required. This involves assessing and supporting individual children.

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

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.
- Using Makaton signing, pictures and visual clues to help them understand.

Assessment

The School will ensure that all EAL pupils have access to statutory assessments, making full use of special arrangements including first language assessment/support where appropriate.

The language support teacher is able to offer support to children during the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 assessment period should the need ever arise.

All EAL pupils will be tracked throughout their school years and support will be given to ensure that they make good progress which is in line with or above non EAL pupils.

Each term all EAL children will be assessed and given a level of proficiency in English. This data is collected on the school census and will be used to monitor their progress throughout their school years.

Professional Development

Wolverham belongs to the CWAC EAL Resource Centre and commit financially to the provision. Resources are loaned from the centre and staff from the centre support staff with professional advice.

Policy reviewed May 2017

Due for review Summer 2020

