

## ***Northgate Primary School*** ***English as an Additional Language Policy***

The purpose of the English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy is:

1. To ensure that all pupils with needs related to having English as an additional language (EAL) are identified and supported in the school.
2. To ensure that there is support for teachers to meet the learning needs of such pupils.
3. To ensure that appropriate assessment and monitoring techniques are available to track progress and inform future target setting for these pupils.

### ***Definition***

EAL learners are understood to be bi- or multi-lingual pupils who have a first language (i.e. the first language spoken at home) other than English. These pupils are in the process of learning to use English as an additional language for social and academic purposes.

### ***Statement of Commitment***

Northgate Primary School is committed to making appropriate provision of teaching and resources for pupils for whom English is an Additional Language, ensuring that all ethnic minority pupils have the opportunity to realise their full educational potential. Northgate Primary School will identify the individual needs of these pupils, recognise the skills they bring to our school community and ensure equality of access to the curriculum.

### ***Context of the School***

Currently a total of 21 pupils have a first language other than English, equating to approximately 5% of the school population. Pupils identified as having EAL remain on the EAL register throughout their time at Northgate Primary School.

### ***Assessment and Target-Setting***

Northgate Primary School will ensure that all EAL pupils have access to statutory assessments. In addition pupils entering the school identified with a first language other than English will have their level of English in speaking and listening, reading and writing assessed, and their additional language needs identified. All members of staff will ensure that appropriate targets and outcome measures are set for identified EAL pupils, and that these targets are regularly reviewed in line with whole school assessment and target-setting policies. The School recognises that most EAL pupils needing additional English do not have SEN needs. However, should SEN needs be identified during assessment, EAL pupils will have equal access to school SEN provision.

### ***Additional Support***

Where pupils are not making expected progress, the Learning Support Department will provide the opportunity for additional language learning through the implementation of withdrawal sessions, focussing on the individual needs of pupils in terms of their written and spoken English. These lessons will be taught individually, in pairs or in small groups of depending on need.

### *Teaching and Learning*

All members of staff at Northgate Primary School are expected to provide differentiated learning opportunities matched to the needs of all EAL pupils and recognise that EAL pupils are entitled to fully access the National Curriculum. Staff training will promote inclusion and will include specific focus on the particular challenges for EAL pupils. The school will also enable staff to undertake appropriate professional development to meet the needs of minority ethnic/EAL pupils.

### *Monitoring and Review*

School data management will allow the monitoring and review of the progress of EAL pupils. In addition the Learning Support Department is responsible for the monitoring of all relevant information regarding the needs of EAL pupils attending the school, including their support and achievement. The School Development Plan (SDP) will incorporate Action Plans and Reviews relating to raising the achievement of minority ethnic/EAL pupils, underpinning the school equal opportunities policy.

### *Recognising learning difficulties*

Having a first language other than English is not considered a learning difficulty, but Northgate Primary School recognises that a child who has EAL may also have SEN. As such, where the assessment of a pupil's English suggests that he/she may have an underlying difficulty with language or learning the school's existing procedures will be used to gather information and discuss possible action with parents.

### *Pastoral*

Northgate Primary School strives to provide a welcoming admission process to all parents and pupils, and will incorporate language support when necessary and where possible. Links with parents is highly valued by the school, and access to the full range of parental involvement opportunities will be supported by means of accessible communication strategies, including translations, where possible.

If appropriate, on arrival, EAL pupils may receive an induction period, where appropriate strategies are put into place to accommodate their language needs. This may include assigning them a language 'buddy', giving tours of the school in addition to pictorial maps to support navigation, picture and word chains to aid in-class communication and labeling items within classrooms to encourage development of key word knowledge. The school nurtures an environment of acceptance and inclusion amongst all their pupils. Incidences of racism are recorded carefully, and appropriately dealt with.

All pupils are welcomed into the school community, and there are opportunities throughout the year to celebrate cultural differences and develop awareness of key religious festivals, for instance during assemblies, activities weeks and also through our diverse lunch menu.

### *Related Policies:*

- SEN Policy

- Accessibility Policy
- Local Offer
- Antibullying Policy