

Aims and objectives

At Nelson Academy we are committed to ensuring that every child succeeds and reaches their full potential. We are dedicated to raising the achievement and attainment of pupils with EAL enabling them to do the best they can within a positive, supportive, secure and safe learning environment. As a school, we will work to ensure all children are given the opportunity to become successful learners and to achieve through learning. For EAL children this will include the support necessary to learn English so that they can access every part of the curriculum.

Teaching and learning style

In our school teachers use various methods to help children who are learning English as an additional language.

Developing their spoken and written English by:

- Delivering discrete daily phonics lessons.
- Using a variety of visual and practical aids.
- Giving one-to-one vocabulary acquisition sessions.
- Using a buddy system to provide good role-models for spoken English.
- Placing the children in appropriate group settings, many of the children will have the ability to participate in the full curriculum beyond that of their ability to communicate in English.
- Ensuring that vocabulary work covers the technical as well as the everyday meanings.
- Providing the children with a variety of reading materials, to exemplify the different ways in which English is used.
- Giving them appropriate opportunities for talking and using talking to support writing.
- Using texts and materials that suit their ages and abilities.
- Providing support through the use of ICT, video and audio materials, dictionaries and translators.
- Using the home or first language where appropriate.

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

The Foundation stage help support children learning English as an additional language by:

- Building on their experiences of acquiring language at home and in the wider community, so that this experience supports their developing use of English.
- Providing stimulating environments with well planned activities to engage the children as learners.
- Teaching high quality discrete phonics lessons.
- Using a wide range of visual and practical resources.
- Providing a wide range of opportunities for talk through discrete teaching, interaction with peers, role-play, singing and story time/cafes.

EAL and inclusion

In our school, we value each child as a unique individual. We strive to meet the needs of all our children, and to ensure that we meet all statutory requirements related to inclusion. We provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress and strive hard to meet the needs of all pupils learning English as an additional language.

Parents as partners

As a school we work closely with parents to ensure that the children learning English as an additional language are encouraged to continue speaking their first language in the home. When the children first arrive at school a meeting is held with the parents to find out:

- What country are you from?
- What is the pupil's first language/language spoken at home?
- Can the child read or write in their first language?
- Does the child have any understanding of English?
- Has the child been in a school setting before?

Parents are encouraged to attend Parent meetings with a translator provided if necessary.

Where needed, letters are translated into the family's home language.

To support the parents in spending time reading and conversing with their children, bilingual books are provided by the school for families to borrow and use. In school class dojo is used to contact parents, parents are able to translate messages from their child's class teacher into their home language as well as translate any important messages that have been posted by other members of staff.

Throughout the year Nelson Academy celebrates numerous events, an international food evening takes place early in the school year, this is an evening where parents and staff members are invited to enjoy an evening of food from all over the world. Each family brings one dish from anywhere in the world to share with the rest of the school community.

We also take part in the European day of languages where we explore different countries encouraging our EAL children to speak in their home language and teach others.

A culture club is held during lunch times throughout the year. Each week a different country is explored, a selection of parents have been invited in to speak to children about their country of heritage and teach children some words from their home language.

Monitoring and Review

All children with English as an additional language are assessed each term using the Bell Scheme in order to see how they are progressing with English in reading, writing, speaking and listening. This policy is monitored by the Academy Council and shall be reviewed every two years or earlier if necessary.