

English As A Second Language



Intent

At Kensington Avenue Primary School, we celebrate the diverse languages spoken by our pupils, many of whom speak and/or write more than one language at different levels of fluency at home. We recognise the importance to our school and the wider community of pupils' ability to communicate using a variety of languages as well as cultural diversity.

We have a high expectation of all pupils regardless of ethnic, cultural or linguistic heritage.

We provide a supportive environment for pupils who join the school with limited or no English through the following principles:

- to settle pupils as quickly as possible, into school life
- to encourage them to take part in the daily routines and structures which help them develop an understanding of 1, how to use academic English and 2, how to use the language as a social interaction.

Admissions

At Kensington Avenue Primary school, pupils whose first language is not English, will be admitted under the same criteria as any other pupil applying for a place.

On admission, the student will have access to a welcome and induction programme which will recognise their linguistic needs and provide a safe and secure start to their learning.

We work alongside parents/guardians to ensure a smooth transition into school. Where parents/carers do not speak English, we endeavour to provide oral and written information and help in their first language which will support the admission process and provide key information about our school. Where necessary, we use translators, within our staff, to assist at our entry interview. We believe that this interview is vital to:

- help pupils settle into their new environment as smoothly as possible.
- find out details of pupils' past school experiences, including their previous exposure to English.

Identification/Implementation

On admission, we work closely with previous schools, professionals and parents to identify the needs of students.

Our English as Additional Language pupils are assessed on entry to the school, using the school assessment framework which includes:

- An initial assessment of EAL using Learning Village.
- A first language (mother tongue) writing assessment to assess their writing skills.

This helps us to establish an initial progress level and to set targets in Speaking, Listening and Understanding, Reading and Writing. Progress levels are reassessed, and new targets set on a termly basis. Progress of EAL students are monitored against the five codes² of EAL proficiency and against National Curriculum indicators. This facilitates pupils' progress.

Enrichment

Enrichment is integral at KAPS. We offer a range of extra-curricular activities, in which all pupils are encouraged to participate without barriers to entry, and pupils with English as an Additional Language are equally expected and encouraged to participate.

These programmes and activities allow pupils to explore and develop their skills outside the classroom. Through their participation in these programmes and activities, they are able to challenge themselves, build character and enjoy mutually supportive interactions with their peers

Our school also offers peer support, through language ambassadors and a weekly homework club using the Learning Village programme.

Impact

Pupils at Kensington Avenue Primary School are fully supported in their learning, at appropriate levels, throughout their time here.

Our English as Additional Language assessment and monitoring procedures are designed to support pupils' learning across the whole curriculum. This enables Kensington Avenue pupils to excel and take a full and fulfilling role in our school community. All pupils at Kensington Avenue are valued for the unique contribution they make to the school, enriching us through their different cultures, religions, languages and their experiences of the world.