



A2b - EDUCATIONAL AND WELFARE PROVISION FOR PUPILS FOR WHOM ENGLISH IS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE POLICY

Introduction:

Duke of Kent School recognises the rich contribution made to its community by those pupils who have English as an Additional Language (EAL), and who may have had significant life experience of other cultures. Studying in an additional language, particularly if family are living overseas, can present considerable challenges, however, and the School seeks to support pupils with EAL in a number of ways: through academic provision, through communication with pupils and parents, through support with cultural and social development. We pursue equal opportunities for all members of our community and value diversity.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other School policies, including the Curriculum Policy, Equal Opportunities, and Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural Policy.

Academic Provision:

1.1 Pupils for whom English is not the primary language will be screened on admission and will have appropriate access to EAL lessons where this is deemed appropriate by the Head of Learning Development (SENCO), either from arrival or at any later stage in their School career should the need arise.

1.2 Small class sizes (maximum 18 in Prep and Senior School, 16 in Pre-prep) mean that pupils will receive considerable attention in the classroom. Where appropriate, Learning Support assistants can be assigned to support EAL pupils in specific areas of challenge, with a view to working towards ultimate linguistic independence.

1.3 Staff are expected to keep in mind the needs of pupils with EAL in planning and delivering lessons. All teachers will be expected to be sensitive to EAL pupils need to have contextual support in order to access all areas of the curriculum, for example.

1.4 Pupils of appropriate ages who have strengths in languages (e.g. Russian native speakers) not taught as part of the School curriculum will be encouraged where appropriate, and supported when possible, to study for public examinations in their native language. This is a powerful way of supporting EAL pupils to achieve positive educational outcomes from their linguistic heritage, reinforcing skills for future use, and formalising learning.

Communication with Pupils and Parents:

2.1 Particular care is taken with the provision of information for EAL pupils and their families: materials must be clear and should be checked for potentially confusing idiom and cultural assumptions.

2.2 Reports/letters are sent home electronically for ease of translation where this is required. Relevant School publications or communications maybe produced for parents in translation on request where possible. Interpretation services can also be arranged for parents, with appropriate notice of the request, when required. There will be a cost for this service.

Cultural and Social:

3.1 Pupils with EAL play a full part in the life of the School and are encouraged and, where necessary, supported to take part in activities, for example, in which they may have had no prior opportunity to participate.

3.2 Events such as European Day of Languages and World Book Day present opportunities for the whole School, including pupils with EAL, to explore a rich variety of other languages and cultures, enhancing the global perspective of the School community and stressing to peers the skills being developed by pupils with EAL. A variety of national cuisines are often presented by the team in the School Kitchen, with themed lunches and suppers as elements in study days related to other languages and cultures.

3.3 Pupils, including those with EAL, are encouraged to give presentations in Form/Assembly time, and in English lessons, about important aspects of their lives, including cultural heritage or traditions.

3.4 Form Tutors will pay particular attention to the social development of pupils with EAL, supporting the development of friendships where necessary.

Person Responsible for this policy: Head of Learning Development

Reviewed: September 2019

Next Review: September 2020