



St Anthony's EAL/EM Policy 2010-11

St. Anthony's aims to provide a welcoming environment for all students, regardless of ethnicity, faith or language, in line with our Inclusion Policy, our Equal Opportunities Policy and with the philosophy underpinning our Mission Statement.

St. Anthony's is committed to the appropriate provision of teaching and resources, to identifying and monitoring individual needs, and to ensuring equality of access to the curriculum for students for whom English is an additional language and for those students from Ethnic Minorities.

- Undertake an annual audit of languages spoken in our school.
- Identify the percentage of our students for whom English is an additional language and who need support.
- Make provision and provide support for children from ethnic minorities as the need arises.
- Make provision for asylum seekers and refugees as the need arises, recognising that such children may have needs additional to EAL.
- Provide such school and LA support as is necessary and available to meet the needs of individual students for whom English is an additional language.
- Ensure that all pupils have access to statutory assessments where appropriate, making full use of special arrangements.
- Ensure that appropriate targets are set for identified EAL/EM students.
- Recognise that in those cases where EAL/EM pupils have additional Special Educational Needs, those who are identified will have equality of access to SEN provision.
- Provide training and systems to enable staff to differentiate their teaching and plan appropriately with support staff for EAL/EM students.
- Ensure that EAL students have full access to literacy and numeracy provision and that staff training includes focus on the inclusion and challenges of EAL/EM students.
- Allocate funds and resources to provide adequately for the needs of EAL/EM students.

Induction and Education

- All staff are committed to providing safe and secure environment sensitive to the previous experiences of EAL/EM students. St. Anthony's school is committed to making the admissions process as welcoming, comfortable and equitable as possible. We will involve the Local Authority EAL service and mother tongue support where necessary and appropriate. School will involve parents, carers and extended families to the fullest extent possible in the induction and education of their child, supported by accessible communication strategies such as translators, where available.
- In cases where a student has attended an English primary school, St. Anthony's will contact either the primary school or an appropriate authority to obtain information on the educational standard of the student, prior to entry to school, so that support structures can be put into place wherever necessary.
- We are aware of the need for effective communication between school and home. The St. Anthony's School Handbook, which explains essential school policies and standards, is available in a modified and illustrated form to facilitate this communication. For other important written communications we recognise that parents/carers of students may be mono-lingual in a language other than English, and will require basic accurate information presented in a different manner. We aim to ensure that all staff are aware of the circumstances when this approach may be advisable.
- Those students who do not possess the necessary English language skills to be integrated into the curriculum will be partly removed from the timetable and educated within the school environment until they can communicate effectively. This is achieved by both St Anthony's staff and LA English Language Teachers working in co-operation (EMTAS service)
- We aim to provide support within the classroom where necessary. This is not limited to school induction but also extends later into the school life of the student. As curriculum concepts become more complex, students may need additional help with ideas, concepts and technical vocabulary.
- St. Anthony's EAL/EM immersion policy supports and encourages interaction, tolerance and active partnership between home and school. We recognise the equal importance of both the majority and minority languages within the school, and encourage the development of both. St Anthony's also recognises and encourages the personal and cultural identity of each individual student. We

encourage EAL/EM students to participate in cultural and linguistic events at school, and support and encourage bilingualism whenever possible.

Social and Pastoral

- We are sensitive to the fact that differing socio-economic factors may create different challenges. We also understand and anticipate the attainment problems which can arise if the student is not literate in his first language, or has experienced an insufficient or interrupted education. Finally, St. Anthony's recognises that students may experience difficulty in adjusting to the English education system, which can result in lack of confidence or underachievement. We encourage EAL/EM students to adapt to their new surroundings in a positive, relaxed and self-confident manner.
- St Anthony's recognises, and is proud of the heritage and history of each student individually. We also recognise the need for privacy and understand that some students are reluctant to share or disclose their experiences in classroom situations. We encourage all of our students and staff to accept and understand this. In addition, St. Anthony's acknowledges that some political, religious and family issues can be of a sensitive nature. Our aim is to make all students and staff aware and equally sensitive when these topics are discussed either educationally or socially.
- When necessary we provide extra documentation covering background information on some topics relevant specifically to English culture. Help is given whenever possible with those subjects whom assume a basic knowledge of British or European History, Geography, Literature, Technology, Theology, and Food.
- For those EAL/EM students not achieving their potential, extra support is offered in the form of extra curricula clubs, to which all EAL/EM students are welcome. EAL/EM students are encouraged to talk frankly and openly to staff about their experiences in school. St Anthony's learning mentor system is available to those students who may need personal or educational advice.