



Anns Grove Primary School

EAL policy

Introduction

At Anns Grove School, we are proud to be an inner-city multi-cultural school. Over 30 languages are spoken at Anns Grove. After English, the most commonly spoken languages are Arabic and Bengali. We celebrate the fact that many of our children speak more than one language and acknowledge their ability to use a variety of community languages. In our school the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of all children are important. We encourage all children to achieve the highest possible standards. We do this by taking account of each child's life experiences and needs.

Terminology

First Stage EAL Learners: International new arrivals who are new to English. This category may also include children who have not been exposed to much English before starting school.

Second Stage EAL Learners: children may have been in the country for a few years and may have learnt BICS (Basic Communicative skills).

Advanced EAL learners: This is a term used to describe children who have had considerable exposure to English and are no longer in the early stages of English acquisition. These are children who, often born in this country, appear to be fluent in ordinary everyday conversational contexts (BICS) but require continued support in order to develop the cognitive and academic language necessary for academic success.

Aims

The National Curriculum secures entitlement for all children to a number of areas of learning and gives them opportunity to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes that are necessary for their self-fulfilment and development as responsible citizens. We promote the principles of fairness and justice for all through the diverse education that we provide in our school.

The aim of this policy is to help ensure that we meet the full range of the needs of those children who are learning English as an additional language. This is in line with the requirements of the Race Relations Act 1976 and Race Relations (amendment) Act 2001 and Equality ACT 2010.

New arrival and First Stage EAL learners

If new arrival and First Stage EAL learner children are in KS1, EYFS and foundation stage, they access the Read Write Inc scheme of work for an hour each morning where they learn vocabulary and how to read and write.

Children in key stage 2 attend an EAL group for the first ninety minutes of school each day. In these lessons, they are pre taught vocabulary that they will use in maths and other part of the curriculum. They are taught the language used in social interactions to build vocabulary: this learning is taught through activities and games. They are also taught RWI sounds and take part in activities constructing words and sentences.

Assessment

On arrival at Anns Grove the parents of EAL children complete an arrival form to give the language and education background for their child. This gives the EAL lead and staff an idea of their language exposure, language ability in home language and experience in English education. We then use the Sheffield EMAS assessment booklet to assess the child's current level of English, including number work. The EAL group work is then tailored around this. We use the NASSEA assessment system to assign each child a level, which is used in conjunction with the proficiency in English levels. Children are assessed each half term. Our aim is to move children quickly into full mainstream education; therefore, once the children have shown progress and are working at 'Competent Stage' they are full time in class. Children are also assessed for the IDL program and this is used to teach common words and learn how to spell them.

Curriculum access

Our curriculum at Anns Grove is underpinned by reading and vocabulary development.

We support EAL learners in lessons by:

- Using engaging visuals on the flipchart,
- Use of pictures to support vocabulary on the flipcharts,
- Children having access to dictionaries and bilingual dictionaries,
- Children having access to bi-lingual texts,
- Children using RWI sound charts to support their spelling,
- Communication in print used when needed,
- Words mats and parts of sentences provided,
- Pre teaching in EAL group.
- Engaging and interesting texts used across all subjects.

Reading

Reading is high priority at Anns Grove. All EAL children working below the competent stage read with Anns Grove 'Reading champions' twice a week in the afternoons. In these sessions, they focus on becoming fluent by using their phonic sounds to read texts at their level. Children take this book home to read and bring it back to school every day.