



ENGLISH as an ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL) POLICY

PURPOSE

Wingate is proud to serve a large population of students from different national, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds, and we strive to respect, value, and celebrate our diversity.

While the language of communication and instruction is primarily in English, many of our students come from a variety of linguistic backgrounds. It is crucial that many non-native English speakers acquire the level of English needed to communicate effectively and successfully in social and academic situations to allow their academic progress through Wingate School. For the students who are developing English language proficiency, we provide support in a variety of methods.

School Responsibilities:

As Wingate is a 'Through School' for students aged 3 to 18, each part of the school adopts its own Procedures to support EAL learners but the overriding principles are the same across the school:

- All teaching is done in English (except Spanish lessons)
- Students are encouraged to speak only English both in and out of lessons
- Teachers will differentiate work for EAL learners where necessary
- Teachers will identify those EAL students requiring extra support above that provided in lessons and notify the Head of School, the EAL Coordinator and/or the Head of English
- In EYFS, a bilingual teaching assistant will be provided to support the very young students particularly if they are distressed but increasingly encouraging students to communicate in English
- In KS2 & KS3 additional staff are allocated to support EAL learners but the cost of this support is passed onto parents
- In KS3, language support may be provided in lessons other than their English lessons

Parental Responsibilities:

All students undergo an interview prior to entry to Wingate School, this is primarily to assess their level of English. As a result parents may be informed that to prepare their child for Wingate they **must** undertake any of the following:

- Extra 1 to 1 English lessons (we may be able to advise on a suitable EAL teacher)
- Intensive English courses - particularly over the summer months prior to joining school
- The need for extra lessons once they have joined Wingate and the extra cost additional to normal school fees involved:
 - The need for extra support will continue until the student's level of both written and spoken English is sufficient for the student to cope independently. This decision rests with the school and parents will be informed

Parents can also support their child's learning of English by:

- Encouraging your child to listen to spoken English music, tv and movies
- Use online English Learning Support sites such as BBC Bitesize
- Encouraging your child to read texts in written English

Additionally:

- Should parents be invited to a meeting in school, it is their responsibility to provide an interpreter

Should parents not undertake the advice given and once the child is reassessed showing little or no improvement in their level of English, then Wingate School reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place in school as per the School Terms & Conditions.

Parents should also be aware that should their child make insufficient progress with their level of English, even with the extra support provided, they will be advised that Wingate school is not the right place for their child's

educational (and almost certainly emotional) development and progress, and asked to leave. However, parents should be reassured that this decision is never made lightly and only after considerable effort and communication with parents.

Students Responsibilities:

As with all learning students are expected to:

- Demonstrate a positive commitment independently to their own English development and learning utilising the advice above
- Make positive contributions to their lessons in English (though we accept this may take some time initially)
- Take responsibility and accountability for their spoken and written English, avoiding where possible their 'native language' (though we accept this may take some time initially)



Mr Colin Macrae
Head of Wingate School

Date of review: September 2019