



Barrowby Church of England Primary School

English as an Acquired Language (EAL) Policy

This Policy must be read in conjunction with our SEND, and PSHCE Policies

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The number of children with English as an additional language across Lincolnshire is increasing. A child who has English as an additional language will already have one or more languages and be learning English in addition to this. These children will need additional support to develop their use of language and to access the curriculum fully.
- 1.2 EAL children are those for whom English is not the dominant language at home. They may be learning English alongside other languages at home, or may have very little exposure to English.
- 1.3 EAL children may be from an isolated linguistic group, or part of an ethnic community.

2. Identifying a need for support

- 2.1 Children due to begin school for the first time are offered induction sessions in school, and there is a meeting for parents. This gives an opportunity to identify any additional needs an incoming Reception child may have.
- 2.2 Where a mid-year application is received for a child with EAL, an induction session will be arranged, where possible.
- 2.2 Once a child is identified as having English as an Acquired Language, this will be assessed to determine the level of support the child will need in school.
- 2.3 Not all EAL children will require support.

3. Working with the families of EAL children

- 3.1 School will endeavour to work closely with parents to support the child. Ideally an initial meeting will take place before the child starts school.
- 3.2 Where parents have difficulty communicating in English, support will be sought to facilitate home-school communication. Clear communication is essential, and where necessary the services of an interpreter may be required.
- 3.3 A child who is encouraged to continue using their first language will most likely make good progress in English. The child will also keep strong links with their culture and identity.
- 3.4 Our educational system, and the expectations within it, may be very different from that which parents of EAL children are familiar with. It is important to ensure that parents have access to school information, and understand what is expected of them, and their child.

- 3.5 It is important to establish which language, or languages are dominant at home, and to reassure parents that continuing to communicate using their dominant language at home is likely to assist the child in learning English.

4. Support from External Agencies

- 4.1 The County Ethnic Minority and Traveller Education Team are the first point of contact to discuss the support needed for an EAL child. They can be contacted at:

The Ethnic Minority and Traveller Education Team
Sturton by Stow Primary School
School Lane
Lincoln
LN1 2BY
Tel: 01427 787190
emtet@lincolnshire.gov.uk

5. English as an Acquired Language (EAL) Policy Review

This policy is reviewed by the Head teacher, staff and Governors in accordance with Barrowby School's Policy and Review Cycle for approval by the Full Governing Body, every 3 years.

Last reviewed: September 2025

Next review: September 2028