

English as an Additional Language

Policy Folder:

Safeguarding

English as an Additional Language Statement

Mountfield Heath School (MHS) believes that it is a priority for children learning English as an Additional Language (EAL) to rapidly acquire language so that they can gain access to the curriculum as quickly as possible.

Pupils learning EAL will generally be taught in class alongside their peers. Newly arrived pupils will usually be given additional help in learning English, commensurate with the learning needs. Classroom teachers have responsibility for ensuring that pupils can participate in lessons. Where appropriate, MHS may also set up withdrawal classes to provide more focused support.

All newly-arrived bilingual learners have a right of access to the curriculum, and provision for newly arrived EAL learners is not separate but integrated into all subject areas.

Children and young people learn best when they feel secure and valued. We therefore, focus on the positive contributions made by new arrivals. Provision is based on a meaningful assessment of pupils' prior knowledge and experience as well as language development.

All classes have dedicated weekly lessons in the use of Signed Supported English, delivered by a specialist signing practitioner. This promotes the use of non-verbal communication across the school. All staff receive regular training to ensure a consistent high level of signing support.

MHS will provide appropriate translation services as needed to parent or carers of EAL students.

MHS believes that promoting tolerance and building harmonious communities is important. We encourage young people to learn about different people's cultures as it can help them to understand better the community in which they live and to become safe and respectful citizens.

English is the language of instruction at MHS.

We are part of the Outcomes First Group Family, by working together we will build incredible futures by empowering vulnerable children, young people and adults in the UK to be happy and make their way in the world.



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