

## **ENGLISH as an ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL) POLICY**

'A pupil is recorded as having English as an additional language if she/he is exposed to a language at home that is known or believed to be other than English' (DfE English Proficiency of pupils with English as an additional language, Ad-hoc notice February 2020)

Whilst this policy was drawn up to support international pupils joining the School, it will be applied, where possible, to all pupils with English as an Additional Language.

Hereford Cathedral School seeks to provide a wide range of educational opportunities for a broad spectrum of pupils. The School recognises that a diverse range of cultures will significantly add to this goal, and therefore welcomes pupils from other countries who would directly benefit from our unique Cathedral School education. Overseas pupils are integrated with care and sensitivity so that the quality of their own academic, pastoral, spiritual and social experience is enhanced whilst that of the wider school community is also enriched. The School is keen to ensure that overseas pupils leave with skills, attributes and experiences that make a valid contribution to their own culture.

Hereford Cathedral School recognises that for pupils to benefit fully from the broad educational opportunities available, they must be able to speak and use English as well as possible. 'Proficiency in English is the **key predictor** of educational achievement of pupils with EAL' (Strand and Hessel, 2018).

For those pupils whose first language is not English, the School will determine whether additional tuition in English will be necessary. All such tuition will come under the EAL Policy, which itself will be subject to regular review by the School's Learning Skills Department and overseen by the Governing Body Education Committee. The School recognises that whilst it can offer some specialist EAL tuition, this may not be sufficient to meet the needs of some pupils for some courses. For pupils who require intensive EAL tuition and where it is judged that adequate support cannot be provided, the School reserves the right to deny an offer of a place.

### **The Policy aims to:**

1. Identify those pupils with specific EAL requirements, assess their needs and make appropriate adjustments to their curriculum;
2. Provide appropriate support measures to enable pupils with EAL needs to make good progress and to gain access to the school's curriculum, both academic and extracurricular;
3. Provide opportunities for 'EAL pupils' to contribute to school life, their own learning and to facilitate a full development of their character, identity and self-esteem;
4. To regularly monitor the specific needs, and progress, of all pupils receiving EAL support;

5. To prepare sixth form students so that they are able to meet the necessary English language entrance requirements for University.

**Delivery of EAL support at HCS:**

1. EAL is provided by suitably qualified professional teacher(s) who seek to support full access to the curriculum by those pupils whose first language is not English.
2. Year 10 & 11 pupils are normally prepared for the GCSE ESL exam, at the end of Year 11. In exceptional circumstances, Year 10/11 pupils may be entered for GCSE English.
3. Year 12 and 13 pupils are normally prepared for the IELTS exam (unless they have already achieved the requisite level for university entrance requirements).
4. Pupils receiving EAL support are automatically included on the Learning and Study Support Register (Level 1) to raise awareness amongst all members of staff.
5. INSET workshops or other training opportunities will be provided for staff teaching international students.
6. Parents of pupils receiving additional support for English will be required to meet some of the extra costs of tuition.
7. For overseas students, the EAL tutor will liaise with the Head/Deputy Head of International Students and, when necessary, specific teachers and tutors.
8. For overseas students, English is taught in small groups at specific allocated timetabled periods during the week.
9. The EAL tutor will arrange for all assessments, monitoring and reporting in relation to English tuition.
10. The Learning Skills Department and EAL Tutor will ensure that all staff are aware of this policy through the Level 1 register, the underlying principles of EAL support, and the need for everyone to be aware of the needs of those with English as an additional language.

Updated by AJC/SH March 2024