

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE: TUITION ENTITLEMENT AND POLICY WHOLE SCHOOL

This Policy applies to the Whole School including EYFS and Boarding

1 EAL Policy

- 1.1 Kent College accepts pupils whose first language is not English, and undertakes, within limited guidelines, to support pupils as they improve their spoken and written English and their reading and listening skills.
- 1.2 As Kent College is not a language school, we normally only offer **English as an Additional Language (EAL)** to pupils whose English is sufficiently advanced for them to follow the school curriculum alongside their peers. Some pupils may, by special arrangement, come to the school for a limited period [usually one academic year] principally to improve their proficiency in English.
- 1.3 In the Prep school and Early Years, pupils whose English is sufficiently advanced for them to follow the school curriculum alongside their peers may be accepted. As formal tests may not be appropriate for younger pupils, acceptance is at the discretion of the Prep School Head and is dependent on individual assessment. There may be a charge for extra language support, depending on the amount needed. Entry to Year 5 or 6 will involve liaison with senior school.

2 General

- 2.1 Although EAL and English for Academic Purposes (EAP) at Kent College fall under the aegis of the Additional Educational Needs department for administrative and budgetary purposes, the school follows the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, according to which, children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught.
- 2.2 Access arrangements: public examinations.
The school follows JCQ regulations governing access arrangements for EAL candidates in public examinations. The school provides, if available in a pupil's first

language, a bilingual translation dictionary. In exceptional circumstances, following JCQ regulations, a pupil may be permitted extra time, up to a maximum of 25%, for the sole purpose of dictionary use. The EAL teacher and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) will inform the examinations officer of the access arrangements for each student.

3 Aims of English as an Additional Language (EAL) tuition:

- To provide language support for those overseas pupils who otherwise would struggle to cope with curriculum subjects.
- To help pupils to extend their vocabulary and to improve use of standard grammar and sentence structure.
- To prepare pupils for Cambridge ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) examinations.
- To support pupils in Years 10 and 11 to enable them to follow IGCSE option subjects and prepare them for the IGCSE English as a Second Language.
- To help pupils in Sixth Form to become more familiar with the grammatical and syntactical conventions of academic writing and typical vocabulary.
- To prepare Sixth Form pupils for IELTS tests to enable them to study at UK universities.

4 Entry procedure

4.1 Any prospective pupil whose first language is not English should provide evidence of their ability in English. This evidence should include a report from the pupil's current school. Kent College will then arrange for an interview and assessment of spoken English.

4.2 The approximate minimum standards for entry are:

- Years 7-9:
to be working at lower intermediate level: Common European Frame of Reference (CEFR) level B1. A2 may be acceptable for Y7 entry.
- Years 10-11:
to be upper intermediate level: working at or towards CEFR level B2 or IELTS 5.
- Sixth Form:
to be upper intermediate/advance level: working at CEFR level C1 or IELTS 6 (Specific entry requirements for A Level subjects will apply).

- Sixth Form (Foundation Course):
to be intermediate level: working at or towards CEFR level B2.

(All applicants will be considered on an individual basis).

- 4.3 Pupils are required to complete the school's entrance test in English. This applies whether the student is applying from overseas or transferring from another school in the UK.
- 4.4 The pupil's level of English will be one factor helping to determine whether or not to offer a place at Kent College.
- 4.5 It is assumed that a pupil entering Sixth Form to study A Level courses will have an academic level of English to follow the course's demands. The school reserves the right to advise pupils on subject choices. Where the level of English required for a subject is deemed to be too demanding for an individual pupil another option will be suggested.
- 4.6 If a place at the school is offered and accepted, parents will be advised of likely EAL tuition needs and charges.

5 Assessment on arrival

- 5.1 When a pupil takes up their place at Kent College, their EAL tuition needs will be assessed by an EAL specialist and parents will be informed of the number of lessons proposed.
- 5.2 The number of lessons needed and offered may be subject to change, dependent on the pupil's rate of progress.

6 Charging policies for EAL tuition

- 6.1 Key personnel: Admissions Manager (at point of entry) and academic staff: EAL specialist, Head of Sixth Form, Deputy Head (Academic).
For charging purposes EAL teacher will provide Bursary with clear list of lessons to be charged to parents each term.
- 6.2 The number of lessons per week should be assessed by an EAL specialist using entry assessment and information from subject staff when appropriate. The number of lessons should be agreed by Deputy Head (Academic).
- 6.3 Parents should be informed in writing (or email) of charges.
- 6.4 Fees for EAL are charged on the International Study Centre (ISC) programmes.

- 6.5 Pupils may be taught individually, in pairs or in small groups. The group size is dependent on:
- need / priority
 - there being other pupils at a compatible level
 - timetabling constraints
 - staff availability

7 Kent College Pembury International Study Centre (ISC)

For the study of English as an Additional Language (EAL).

It is very important that pupils whose first language is not English feel at home at Kent College and can fully benefit from their education in the UK. Not only do we want them to become confident in speaking and writing English as soon as possible, we also want them to acquire a real understanding of the culture and the way of life in England. Our International Study Centre offers excellent opportunities in this regard.

The aims of International Study Centre are:

1. To equip pupils with the language skills that will enable them to access the UK school curriculum and beyond.
2. To enable the pupils to achieve recognised ESOL qualifications, regardless of their point of entry.
3. To provide the excellent level of pastoral support that makes Kent College unique. Staff are highly supportive and all pupils in the ISC enjoy full integration into the boarding houses, tutor groups, sports and the very full activities programme.

All pupils are included in the mainstream education that Kent College has to offer. All teachers are responsible for supporting EAL pupils in their lessons and collaboration between the ISC and subject teachers and departments is essential.

Provision

All pupils are tested before and upon arrival to determine their level of English.

Parents can then be confident that we are providing the most appropriate tuition and curriculum for their child, in order to reach the minimum level for university entrance in the UK.

To that end we offer a bespoke provision through the ISC programmes.

Standard programme - up to five sessions of EAL support a week.

Enhanced programme - over five sessions of EAL support a week.

Study abroad programme – short stay, joining standard or enhanced provision.

Progress is monitored and reported throughout a pupil's time at Kent College and we expect pupils to make fast progress. Typically the level of EAL support tuition reduces over time. **In this case the school will offer a reduced rate as appropriate.** However, it may also be necessary to increase the level of EAL support. We will inform parents on an ongoing basis

should a change in the level of support and associated costs be required. Our aim is to be as flexible and as bespoke as possible with our provision.

In EAL lessons, the focus will be on improving the four language areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Pupils will improve their English to enable them to fully access our curriculum and will also be prepared for appropriate qualifications, depending on the level of English. These include:

Cambridge PET, FCE, and CAE

(Preparation for these examinations will be on top of normal EAL lessons and will require an extra charge).

IELTS

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) provides an English test required for University entrance or work in the UK and other countries where English is spoken as a native language.

IGCSE English as a Second Language.

Pupils will be entered for the GCSE in English Language and Literature and will also take the IGCSE English as a Second language.

Standard Programme

Pupils will have up to five 35 minute timetabled English as an Additional Language (EAL) lessons each week which will be factored into their timetable. In Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils will only take one Modern Foreign Language (MFL) and attend their EAL lessons during the second MFL lesson or Latin/Classics.

For pupils in Years 10 to Upper Sixth, lessons will be provided alongside their GCSE and A Level options.

Enhanced Programme

Based upon the results of the entry assessments and ongoing monitoring of progress, certain pupils may need dedicated enhanced support from the International Study Centre in order to access the full curriculum at Kent College. These pupils will receive the standard provision of lessons, but will also need to attend extra sessions at an additional charge. These sessions will be in small groups or 1:1.

To allow time for this provision, pupils may have a reduced curriculum, as is appropriate for the individual.

The Kent College Pembury Study Abroad Programme

Kent College also welcomes a small number of international pupils for a short stay. This brief taste of a boarding school education boosts each pupil's English through specialised EAL teaching and lessons alongside native English speakers. There is also an exciting cultural programme. Pupils stay with us for between 2 and 6 weeks and receive the excellent care that is at the heart of a Kent College education.

Three Year A-level Programme

Some overseas Sixth Form pupils may struggle to complete a typical Kent College A-level programme in the standard 2 years. This may be because their English is developing or they have not gained sufficient knowledge through their previous studies to access the programmes that the school offers. For instance, pupils coming from overseas may not have sat GCSEs in Maths and Science, yet they would like to pursue these subjects at A-level. As a result, Kent College is in the process of offering a three-year A-level programme to overseas students, to enable these students to pursue their ambitions.

Year 1 (Lower Sixth) - from 2022/23

Pupils will complete a “foundation year” in which pupils will spend an extra year improving their English, completing GCSE Maths (and possibly other GCSEs) whilst trialling a number of their A-level subjects. Some students may show sufficient progress to enable them to move directly on to their final year after this.

Year 2 (Upper Sixth) - from 2023/24

Pupils join Year 13 but follow a full Year 12 programme of study, completing their first year of full A levels.

Year 3 (Upper Sixth +) - from 2024/25

Pupils will join the next Year 13 and complete their final year of A-level studies.

Fees

English as an additional language tuition is provided to very small classes with specialist teaching that is beyond our normal curriculum. To that end EAL teaching is charged at a competitive rate on top of the regular fee structure, with costs dependent upon the amount or level of support required. As noted earlier, this requirement will be assessed before and on arrival at Kent College.

Programmes	Fees 2022-2023
Standard Programme	£320 per term
Enhanced Programme	£320 per term + £32 per 35 min period above the standard 5 EAL lessons.
Study abroad Programme	£1,200 per week

8 Parent information

- 8.1 Parents will be told before entry whether pupils are likely to need EAL lessons and will be advised which programme is best in the offer letter.
- 8.2 At the beginning of the academic year [or on entry if a pupil arrives at Kent College mid-year] parents will be informed as early as possible of the number of lessons recommended.
- 8.3 It will be explained that if a pupil's academic achievement is held back by her weak English, there is no option but to agree to these extra lessons.

Agreed by SLT

Approved by Education Committee: September 2009

Reviewed: EAL teacher January 2013

Agreed by SLT: January 2013

Approved by Education Committee: March 2013

Reviewed : EAL Teacher January 2015

Approved by Education Committee: October 2015

Reviewed by Head of Enhanced Learning : September 2018

Approved by Education Committee: November 2018

Reviewed by Head of Enhanced Learning : January 2020

Approved by Education Committee: March 2020

Reviewed by Head of ISC: March 2023

Approved by Education Committee: March 2023