



Epsom College
Learning Support Department
English as an Additional Language (EAL) Section

The Learning Support Department, EAL section, makes provision for those pupils for whom English is an additional language. The philosophy of the Department is that all pupils can improve and achieve in English language to the highest level given appropriate specialist teaching. The generic target is that all pupils with EAL will gain competence in all four language components: speaking, listening, reading and writing. The expectation is that all pupils will reach a level of language ability which will qualify them for acceptance in their chosen subject, by any university in Britain, including Oxbridge, and any other English-medium tertiary institution worldwide.

The EAL staff will ensure that pupils are exposed to tasks which stretch their abilities without creating insecurity in the target language. A wide range of activities will help stimulate interest and, subsequently, learning, through careful explanation of concepts, written and oral practice, and regular testing and revision. A wide range of up to date teaching material will be used to provide a stimulating learning experience to facilitate speedy progress in language acquisition. Use of the pupils' first language to elicit information should be an integral part of the teaching process and is good practice. Pupil interaction and active participation is paramount. Careful inspection of work and regular monitoring of progress are vital components in effective teaching and learning.

The aim of the EAL section, therefore, is to provide the pupils with advanced English language skills that will enable them to understand the wide range of formal and informal situations possible, and allow them to make sound judgements about those situations. To achieve this high level of competence, they need to have a sound grasp of the grammatical and lexical structures of English and develop the skill of accurate interpretation of inflection and tone in both expressive and receptive language. Consistent, regular practice in the four areas of language learning is essential. The pupils will be given every opportunity to use and develop these skills in lessons and beyond.

In tandem with these academic and educational aims is the social aspect of life at College and in the UK. Emotional, social and cultural support is considered of enormous importance in the Department. The EAL staff make every effort to ensure full and happy social integration of the pupils in class, in College, and in the wider community.

Mrs. Rosemary DOYLE BA BPhil
Head: Learning Support and EAL
Tel: 01372 821129
RD@epsomcollege.org.uk