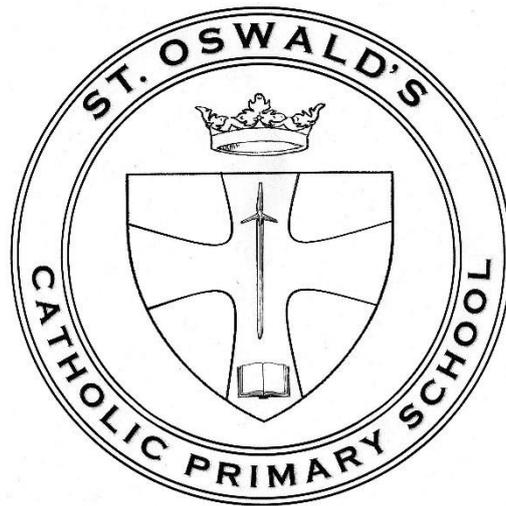


St Oswald's Catholic Primary School



EAL Policy

Approved by:	Approval date	Renewal date

This EAL Policy is set within the context of the whole school aims and mission statement:



*Together with Jesus,
We will Learn and Grow in Faith*

Introduction

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for EAL at St Oswald's Primary School and its implementation is the responsibility of all members of staff at St Oswald's.

Everyone at St Oswald's Catholic Primary School has the right to an outstanding education. It is our aim to ensure that every child learns to the best of their ability within the rights-respecting ethos of the school.

This policy is a statement St Oswald's Catholic Primary School aims and strategies to ensure that all EAL pupils fulfil their true potential.

All pupils need to feel safe, accepted and valued in order to learn effectively and become successful members of society. For pupils, who are learning English as an additional language, this includes recognising and valuing their home language and background. As a school, we are aware that bilingualism can be a useful learning tool and that all EAL pupils can make a valuable contribution to their school community. We take a whole school approach, including ethos, curriculum and education against racism through Cultural Diversity Days, including MFL days and Diversity Week.

Aims of the EAL Policy

The policy aims to raise awareness and to support planning, organisation, teaching and assessment procedures, and the use of resources and strategies to meet the needs of pupils who have English as an additional language (EAL); therefore, raising pupil achievement and aspirations.

1. Equality

To be proactive in removing barriers that stand in the way of our EAL pupils' learning and success.

2. Diversity

To meet our responsibilities to EAL pupils by ensuring equal access to the National Curriculum and the achievement of their educational potential.

3. Belonging and Cohesion

To provide our EAL pupils with a safe, welcoming, nurturing environment where they are accepted, valued and encouraged to participate.

Objectives of the EAL Policy

- To assist all EAL pupils to become fluent English speakers as quickly as possible.
- To assist and support all EAL pupils in their acquisition of English language skills.
- To develop staff expertise to ensure that all EAL pupils attain levels of achievement appropriate to their intellectual abilities.

EAL pupils are entitled to the full National Curriculum programme of study and all their teachers have a responsibility for teaching English as well as other subject content.

Access to learning requires attention to words and meanings embodied in each curriculum area. Meanings and understanding cannot be assumed, but must be made explicit.

Language is central to our identity. Therefore, the home language of all pupils and staff should be recognised and valued. Pupils should be encouraged to maintain their home language.

Although many pupils acquire the ability to communicate on a day to day basis in English quite quickly, the level of language needed for academic study is much deeper and more detailed, and can require continuing support for up to ten years.

The role of EAL Lead is to:

Support teachers in planning lessons that integrate curriculum content with the language learning of EAL pupils.

Guide teachers to focus on language that is relevant to the levels of the children and relates to the topic

The role of class teachers is to:

Develop consistent approaches to teaching and learning in literacy and to build increased awareness of the existing language knowledge and understanding that pupils bring to lessons

Use speaking and listening strategies to develop subject learning

Plan for teaching and learning of subject-specific vocabulary

Develop active reading strategies to increase pupils' ability to read for a purpose and engage with a variety of texts.

Model writing for key text types within their subject.

Assessment

All EAL pupils are assessed in line with the school's assessment procedures.

New children within the first two weeks of their arrival to St Oswald's will be assessed and a portfolio completed by the EAL Lead.

Staff have the opportunity to discuss pupils' progress, needs and targets via planning meetings. Progress in the acquisition of English is regularly assessed and monitored.

Assessment methods are checked for cultural bias which may cause results to be inaccurate and action is taken to remove any that is identified.

Consideration and sensitivity is given to the appropriateness of testing EAL pupils at the earlier stages of English acquisition.

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Core EAL Skill Targets for EAL pupils are appropriate, challenging and reviewed on a half termly basis.

Planning for EAL pupils incorporates both curriculum and EAL specific objectives.

Staff regularly observe, assess and record information about pupils' developing use of language.