



ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE



EAL (English as an Additional Language) service are a small team who the school calls upon if they think your child may need extra support in helping them acquire English. The school refers them to us having gained your permission. We assess the student before the support begins and then work with them, usually on a one-to-one basis for 45 – 60 minutes, on a weekly basis.

The support continues until the EAL Staff member working alongside the class teacher deems that your child has made significant progress. A second assessment is then carried out to determine how much progress has been made. A report is then sent to schools which you can also access.

Throughout the school year we host coffee afternoons and events to celebrate the different languages and cultures in Knowsley. We hope that you will be able to join us, we will let you know about them on the school website. Knowsley Local Offer also has information on events.

<https://www.knowsleyinfo.co.uk/content/eal-events>

Some children when arriving at a new school may go through a 'silent phase'. This means that they may not speak for the first 6/8 weeks. Please do not worry as they are adjusting to a new language and new routines.

Always speak in your first language at home. This needs to be fully developed before a child can learn a new language. **OPOL – One Parent One Language.**

It takes 2 years to learn social/playground language, it can take 5-7 years to learn academic language.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's English language, please inform the school contact Karen Foley EAL Manager at karen.foley@knowsley.gov.uk