Sir John Nelthorpe School

English as an Additional Language Policy

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Consultations/Training	SLT, Governors, Area Leaders, Subject Teachers

English as an Additional Language Policy

At Sir John Nelthorpe School, the number of pupils for whom English is not their first language, is small. Their needs must be considered by all staff when planning and delivering lessons. Many of the points below relate to general good practice and are not exclusive to dealing with EAL pupils.

- All lessons must be socially and intellectually inclusive: strategies should be sought, which allow the pupil to access the curriculum
- Pupils' mother tongue must be valued, as must their cultural background. We must encourage other pupils to value diversity
- We must recognise that EAL pupils may be intellectually very able, but their command of English may mean that they do not understand concepts as quickly as other pupils. Pupils must be given time to absorb information and respond to questions
- We recognise that EAL pupils do not have a language difficulty, ("no" language), they have a different language. Pupils must be allowed to use their mother tongue to explore concepts
- The experiences of EAL pupils can provide valuable cultural experiences for other pupils. We must encourage pupils to talk about their experiences and language
- Every teacher has the responsibility of helping EAL pupils develop their language skills. Staff should have high expectations and so pupils should be asked to develop and extend their answers, rather than giving single – word answers
- We must ensure that EAL pupils are set appropriate and challenging learning objectives in line with their progress
- We must not allow any racist comments or jokes to pass without sanction - these should be dealt with immediately and the incident noted to a Learning Coordinator
- To ensure that EAL pupils hear good models of English, wherever possible, they should be grouped with higher-attaining pupils when oral work is being undertaken
- Use collaborative learning techniques - encourage pupils to work together in pairs and small groups, to discuss their work and possibly produce a joint piece of work or report for the class; this is a valuable strategy for promoting learning for EAL pupils
- Select reading materials/resources which contain pictures or other visual aids.

When assessing work, assess the pupils' competence in the concepts, not in the use of the language. However, encourage pupils to become competent writers in English, through structured feedback.

Relationships with other Policies : Curriculum Policy; Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy; Equality Duty Policy

Monitoring and Review This policy will be reviewed annually by members of SLT with responsibility for Teaching and Learning and Curriculum.