



English Language Learners (ELLs)

Introduction

At Elckerlyc, we recognise that many of our students do not have English as a first language. As language is a vital part of learning, we believe that it is the role of both staff and parents to work in partnership to create an environment where all children's language is enriched, and where diversity is embraced and celebrated. We offer an inclusive approach to language enrichment, providing support for a greater number of children in a variety of settings.

Intensive English Support

New beginners follow an Intensive English programme. Children are supported until they reach a level of competency that enables them to access the full curriculum in the classroom. This comprises small group input, as well as in-class support, use of iPads and online resources. There is an additional cost for the Intensive English Programme.

Supporting our ELLs

At Elckerlyc, English language teachers and class teachers work collaboratively to support the needs of our ELLs. This support includes amending the curriculum, co-teaching, as well as pre-teaching. ELLs are actively encouraged to use their home languages for learning in the classroom, as research supports the use of a child's full language repertoire in the acquisition of a new language.

Assessment

During the first few weeks, new students are given a baseline assessment and appropriate support is put in place. Teachers then use the NASSEA EAL assessment framework to track students' progress throughout the year.

Home languages library

We are building up our home languages library so that pupils can access books in their own language. This is a positive way to encourage literacy in the home language, as well as in English.