



English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

Policy

The Victorian Curriculum F-10 English as an Additional Language (EAL) is now the mandated curriculum for EAL students in all Victorian government schools. Templeton Primary School enrolls a large number of EAL students each year, and the following policy outlines practices and processes in relation to EAL teaching, learning and assessment.

Summary

- EAL Index funding is allocated to Victorian government primary, secondary and combined primary-secondary schools through the Student Resource Package (SRP).
- Schools receiving EAL Index funding must provide programs to develop the English language proficiency of EAL learners who are still in the process of learning English.

Details

Primary, secondary and combined primary-secondary schools may receive EAL Index funding through the Student Resource Package (SRP) based on data from the Language Background Other Than English Census, which is collected in August each year. Funding is allocated to schools to provide EAL programs based on the number of students who meet criteria outlined in the SRP, refer to: [Student Resources Package — Equity Funding, EAL Program Funding \(Reference 26\)](#). The SRP Guide also contains information on how EAL Index funding is calculated for each school.

Templeton Primary School:

- Provides programs to develop the English language proficiency of EAL learners who are still in the process of learning English
- Wherever possible, assigns qualified EAL teachers to EAL positions so that programs are conducted by teachers who have relevant training in teaching English as an additional language
- Completes the EAL section of the mid-year supplementary census

EAL programs

All programs in which EAL learners participate need to provide optimal conditions for learning English. EAL learners in EAL index funded schools will be learning their English through specialist EAL support programs as well as through EAL-informed classroom support.

In schools that do not receive EAL index funding, EAL learners spend their time in mainstream classrooms, and need appropriate EAL-informed teaching. Classroom teachers must understand and be equipped to meet the educational needs of their EAL learners.

Templeton Primary School is developing:

- a whole-school approach to EAL programming and provision
- the ways in which EAL needs in mainstream classrooms are met
- the professional learning needs of staff

Refer to the Guidance tab for detailed advice on planning and implementing effective EAL programs, as well as support available for schools from regional offices.

EAL contingency funding

Schools that experience significant increases to their EAL student profile throughout the year may be eligible for EAL Contingency funding. For more information, refer to: [EAL Contingency Funding \(Reference 27\)](#).

Multicultural Education Aides

- EAL Index funding is available to schools to staff EAL programs with appropriately qualified EAL teachers and Multicultural Education Aides (MEAs).
- MEAs assist with communication between the school and parents of students from language backgrounds other than English. They also assist students in the classroom in small groups or on a one-to-one basis.
- The MEA Handbook provides advice to schools about the employment and roles of MEAs in Victorian government schools.
- Refer to the Resources tab for the MEA Handbook.

Assessment and reporting for EAL students

EAL students require specific assessment and reporting processes. All students enrolled in EAL receive an EAL report in June and December in the areas of Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening. At Templeton Primary School, our EAL students are assessed according to:

- [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10 and](#)
- [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)

Related policies

- [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
- [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
- [Student Resource Package — Equity Funding \(Student Based Funding\)](#)
- [Student Enrolment Census](#)

Last ratified by School Council in May 2024