St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

<u>School EAL Policy</u>

September 2025
Policy Review: July 2026

Signed by:

Mrs M Galbraith

Chair of Governors

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St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy
Provision for students with EAL 2025-2026
(English as an Additional Language)

1. The EAL community at St. Anthony's.

St. Anthony's is a fully inclusive school which currently has 18.5% EAL students on roll (accurate July 2025). Additional languages spoken by minority ethnic groups are:

- Akan
- Arabic
- Bengali
- Chinese
- Chinese (Cantonese)
- Chinese (Mandarin/Putonghua)
- Edo/Bini
- Filipino
- French
- German
- Gujarati
- Hindi
- Igbo
- Konkani
- Kurdish
- Lithuanian
- Luganda
- Malayalam
- Marathi
- Panjabi
- Pashto
- Persian
- Punjabi
- Polish
- Romanian
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Tamil
- Thai
- Urdu
- Yoruba

2. Provision co-ordinated by the SENDCo (Mrs. Nicola Frame), the Subject Leader MFL (Mrs Rachel Robertson) and the Senior Team.

- We use buddy systems on initial entry
- If appropriate we seek assistance from EMTAS regarding language support https://www.sunderlandinformationpoint.co.uk/kb5/sunderland/directory/service.page?id=rCc6-4YfwMY
- We buy dictionaries; both picture and vocabulary where necessary and these are available in the library.
- Staff are accustomed to translating work using google translate and the translate functions in PowerPoint
- Each department has full information via Assessment Manager and Edukey.
- Special EAL resources are shared as appropriate.
- CPD help sheets and teaching support resources are provided by the SENDCo.

3. English as an Additional Language summary CPD "helpsheet".

Helping EAL Learners in the Classroom:

Your EAL pupil will/may have different experiences
- expectations
- background
- religion
- culture
- sounds/language/alphabet/writing
- school history
- ability

EAL children can be included in lessons at varying levels:

- Teach the basics
  - classroom vocabulary
  - lesson names
  - numbers and colours
  - days and months
  - teachers' names
  - the way round school   etc.
- Use clear question words – Who? Where? What? Why? When?
- Make clear teaching points – show key words/pictures at beginning of lesson.
- Don't sit all EAL children together all the time.
- EAL students do not need to sit with children who may have other additional needs.
- Give them a class buddy (one who speaks clearly and not necessarily EAL).
- They will quickly pick up what is allowed in your class in

- terms of behaviour, presentation, manners etc.
- Label classroom equipment.
- Have a world map on the wall or something about their country of origin.
- Use correct terms in your lessons.
- Students need to hear correct terms and according to age they need to acquire the concept.
- Learn a few words in their first language if possible (use the web).
- Beware culture/gender bias.
- Remember- pupils learn in spite of you!
- Younger children have a better "ear" for learning a new language.
- A silent period is perfectly normal, it doesn't mean they aren't trying. Allow processing time

4. Additional CPD linked to EAL support for staff:

PowerPoint presentations provided by the SENDCo are available for all teaching staff:
- "The EAL Toolkit"
- "New to English"

5. Provision co-ordinated by the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Department (Mrs Rachel Robertson, Subject Leader).

Often EAL students are some of the strongest linguists and really strive in MFL lessons as they are accustomed to learning foreign languages and the challenges it brings.

Language teachers support the EAL pupils using the following strategies:

- Any pupil who has EAL and struggles to understand in English in MFL lessons will have a 'buddy' to help support them in the lesson.
- In MFL staff try to focus on target language (French and Spanish) rather than English and put a heavy focus on picture stimulus or use of actions rather than English language.
- If EAL pupils have been in the country less than two years they qualify for a dictionary in their examination and we have bought some dictionaries for the library in previous years.
- If we have a teacher who speaks their native language the Deputy Head often timetables that member of staff in the library with the pupil to support them.
- Classroom displays in MFL are strongly visual and provide key words alongside the image to remove the need for English.
- The MFL department tries to find suitable language exams in the pupil's first language and we encourage the pupils to sit exams in these languages (in

many cases they count for the E-Bacc MFL) working closely with the Examinations Officer

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Examinations in first language:
Suitable examinations have been sourced in:

- Panjabi
- Bengali
- Polish
- Italian
- Arabic
- Urdu
- Mandarin
- Cantonese
- Greek
- Russian
- Portuguese
- Turkish