
 <p>Glenroy West Primary School</p>	<h1>EAL (English as an Additional Language) POLICY</h1>
 <p>Interpreter</p>	<p>Help for non-English speakers</p> <p>If you need help to understand this policy, please contact the office for assistance.</p>

Rationale

The EAL (English as an Additional Language) policy addresses the unique needs of students who are learning English in addition to their home language. These learners include students born overseas or in Australia who enter school with varying degrees of English proficiency. EAL learners may start school with little or no exposure to English, and they may have diverse educational backgrounds, including those with limited or interrupted formal education. EAL students have valuable strengths, such as cultural diversity, multilingual abilities, and unique perspectives that enrich the school community.

GWPS has a large EAL cohort, which includes international students, recently arrived migrants and refugees. EAL students at GWPS may face several challenges at school, including, but not limited to, housing instability, visa insecurity, being separated from family members, culture shock, and social isolation.

Glenroy West Primary School is committed to supporting these students' educational and social integration, fostering plurilingualism, and ensuring they can contribute positively to Australian society.

Policy Statement

The EAL policy at Glenroy West Primary School aims to:

- Raise staff awareness of EAL students' needs.
- Provide support for staff to effectively cater to EAL students.
- Ensure that GWPS implements a comprehensive transition process for EAL students.
- Guide teachers to differentiate units of work for EAL students in all classrooms.
- Offer guidelines for assessments and reporting for EAL students.

- Support plurilingualism across the school.
- Provide support for the wellbeing of EAL students.
- Ensure EAL students have access to a challenging curriculum that supports both English language development and overall academic progress.

Action Guidelines

To achieve the policy aims, Glenroy West Primary School will:

- Integrate EAL strategies into the Literacy Action Plan and align with the school's Strategic Plan.
- Encourage all staff to support EAL learners with assistance from EAL teachers.
- Recognize and utilize the specialist skills of EAL teachers.
- Develop an inclusive approach to EAL programs across all curricula.
- Use Multicultural Education Aides (MEAs) for additional support.
- Establish appropriate administrative and curriculum structures for viable programs.

Implementation

- 1. Programs** The EAL program will include:
 - Withdrawal programs: Individual or small group sessions outside the regular classroom conducted across a five-week cycle.
 - EAL classroom program: Timetabled yearly program.
 - Consultation: EAL teachers and Literacy Leading Teachers support mainstream teachers and wellbeing teams in adapting materials and training.
 - Extra-curricular: Opportunities to practice plurilingualism and share culturally significant events.
- 2. Professional Development** Staff professional development will include:
 - Formal sessions, information sessions at staff meetings, mentoring, and resource development.
 - Support from external agencies and upskilling for peer support and debriefing.
- 3. Transition Program**
 - Ensure that the transition program is implemented and followed.
 - *Refer to Appendix A for Transition Program*
- 4. Curriculum Development**
 - Developing units with a literacy focus using EAL strategies by a team starting in 2025.
 - A team, including the EAL teacher, Literacy LT, and MEA, will monitor EAL student progress.
- 5. Assessment**
 - Conduct EAL assessments (e.g. REVEAL Reading Assessment, Speaking & Listening and Writing Assessment)
 - Monitor progress through semester reports, EAL Pathway placement, and consultation with EAL staff.
- 6. Multicultural Aides / Accredited Interpreters**
 - Employ EAL Aides and accredited interpreters to support EAL students and staff.

Monitoring, Reporting, and Review

- EAL students will sit for NAPLAN one year after arrival. Results will assess individual and cohort progress.
- Annual REVEAL assessments to measure program effectiveness. Findings will contribute to the Annual Report's Curriculum Component.

Definitions

- **EAL Students:** Students who are learning English in addition to their home language. These learners include students born overseas or in Australia who enter school with varying degrees of English proficiency.
- **MEAs:** Multicultural Education Aides who support EAL students in their language and cultural transitions.
- **IEP:** Individual Education Plan, a document outlining tailored educational goals and strategies for a specific student.

References

- Victorian Curriculum: vcaa.vic.edu.au
- Insight Platform: global2.vic.edu.au
- Visa Conditions: homeaffairs.gov.au
- RVEAL Assessment on Insight Platform, TEAL Assessments on Global 2 site Tools to Enhance Assessment Literacy | For Teachers of English as an Additional Language (global2.vic.edu.au)

This policy was ratified by the Glenroy West Primary School Council on 30th July 2024.

Evaluation This policy will be reviewed one year from the start date of its implementation.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2024
Approved by	Principal and School Council 2024
	Endorsed by Glenroy West Primary School Council on 30TH July 2024
Next scheduled review date will be 1 year from last review	June 2025