

This policy is for the whole school, including the EYFS.

Roedean Moira House School has a number of pupils for whom English is not a first language, and who therefore have additional needs for which provision has to be made. The main aim of the EAL department is to support these pupils directly and also to advise staff on the language levels and needs of EAL pupils in the classroom.

The age range of EAL pupils goes from younger pupils in the Junior School to those in Year 13. The majority of overseas students who need language support are from mainland China, with others from Hong Kong, Russia, Korea and Thailand. The majority enter the school at the beginning of Year 10 in order to study at GCSE level, or at the beginning of Year 12 to study AS and A Levels. However, we encourage EAL pupils to start with us as early as possible, in Year 8 or 9, so as to allow them more time to build English language skills and adjust to the British education system.

All new pupils for whom English is not a first language are tested on arrival by the EAL Department in order to assess the language level. As a general policy, current EAL pupils are re-tested regularly to monitor progress and to review the level of support needed.

Subject staff are informed of the language level of new and existing students at the beginning of the school year so that they are aware of the needs. The Head of EAL also liaise with subject teachers to give advice on lesson preparation and methods of making their subject more accessible to EAL pupils.

The nature of language support will depend on the individual needs of pupils. Younger pupils who arrive with only a basic level of English will initially need a great deal of speaking and listening practice in order to acquire basic communication skills. The emphasis will then shift towards reading and writing skills in order to develop academic language proficiency.

Many pupils who enter the school score at an elementary or lower intermediate level. The EAL department uses graded reading programmes to build literacy skills at all levels.

Pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 who have a good level of English may join a mainstream iGCSE First Language English class alongside their English peers. These pupils may sit the iGCSE English as a Second Language or the iGCSE English as a First Language in Year 11. Pupils in Year 11 also start preparing for the IELTS examination.

Pupils entering the Sixth Form should have ideally already reached an intermediate level of English (IELTS 5.5). Pupils whose level of English is not sufficient to enter the Sixth Form can be offered a place on our pre-A Level course where the academic year is primarily focused on raising the language level from pre-intermediate to upper intermediate, leading to preparation for the IELTS examination.

The Cambridge IELTS examination is sat at the end of the Easter term.

At all levels, pupils have access to specialist support during daily lunchtime surgeries and evening / weekend work from boarding staff qualified in English, EAL and IELTS. Individual or group lessons can be arranged for pupils who require specialised subject support or extra EAL/IELTS practice.

Related policies and documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and documents:



ROEDEAN
MOIRA HOUSE

ROEDEAN MOIRA HOUSE EAL POLICY 2018-2019

Employee Handbook
Staff Handbook
Code of Conduct for Employees
Health Safety Handbook
Boarding Staff Handbook
National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools
ISI Handbook for the Inspection of Schools, Regulatory Requirements
Teachers' Standards
Departmental Handbook
Differentiation Policy
Complaints Policy (Parents)
Complaints Policy (Pupils)

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL: June 2018

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL:

NEXT REVIEW: