RYDE SCHOOL
WITH UPPER CHINE

English as an Additional Language Policy

Policy date:	September 2026	
Date of next review:	Summer Term 2026-27	
Owner(s):	AGD	
Approval body:	Head Master	
Intended audience:	Pupils, parents and staff	
ISI Regulatory Paragraph No:	Para. 32 (3)(b)	
Location (tick as appropriate):	Website	✓
	Parent Portal	✓
	Staff Portal	✓
	Inspection folder	✓

Consistent with levels of support provided to pupils with special educational needs, support for pupils who have English as a second language is classified by waves of support as follows:

Wave One – In class support provided by the class teacher which responds to the in-class strategies identified by the Learning Support department for all pupils with an identified EAL need.

Wave Two – Small group intervention to enable pupils to develop the skills required for them to access the curriculum to their full potential.

Wave Three – 1 to 1 support provided by specialist the EAL teacher (chargeable).

Pupils who arrive at Ryde School with English as an additional language (EAL) have their progress monitored by an EAL specialist teacher who acts under the supervision of the Head of Languages. Teaching staff are expected to differentiate and personalise the learning (Wave 1) for these pupils in a similar way to those with SEND. All pupils with EAL needs attend ESL lessons as part of their timetable (Wave 2). In Year 11, pupils whose English is not proficient enough to take the GCSE English will take the ESL GCSE.

Where a pupil is identified as requiring EAL support beyond the group ESL sessions, they may be withdrawn individually from part of a lesson (Wave 3). The number and duration of lessons will reflect the pupil's individual needs.

Withdrawal of support will only happen on agreement between the EAL tutor, the pupil, the parents, and the Head of Section/Year (in the Senior School) or the Head of Prep. This will normally be when the pupils have achieved the standard required to allow them to access the next stage of their academic career.

A pupil wishing to cease Wave 3 support, without the recommendation of the EAL tutor, is required to give half a term's notice in writing to the School.

Pupils with EAL needs in Years 7 - 9 will take English as an Additional Language (EAL) as a subject rather than a second foreign language; where appropriate pupils will continue with English as a Second Language (ESL) in Years 10 & 11.

Pupils who join the School in Year 11 for the Pre-Sixth Form course have three lessons of ESL per week as part of their timetable and take the ESL GCSE at the end of the year.

Pupils within the Sixth Form who have English as an additional language take part in the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) and are supported to achieve the IELTS qualification at Level 5 or above. To reach this level overseas pupils have one lesson per week within their curriculum. Where additional support is required students have individual or group lessons for which there is an additional charge.

In some cases, a pupil with EAL may have learning difficulties and in these circumstances, it may take time to unpick the area of the difficulty: a language barrier or another area. EAL pupils would be monitored, screened and assessed in a similar way to those pupils undergoing monitoring in the usual 4-stage cycle.

As with all SEN information, EAL information on individual pupils is maintained in the School's SEND & EAL section of the School Portal.