

NOTRE DAME SENIOR SCHOOL

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

Girls enter the school from abroad mostly through parental connections with local employers in overseas companies.

Levels of English vary considerably through the recognised four stages of functioning.

Assessment

An assessment is carried out for each of the girls in English grammar and writing to determine functioning level of English. In addition on entrance Maths and Non Verbal Reasoning is tested.

Provision

Up to four lessons per week of 1:1 teaching can be provided as an intensive course in English.

Modern Foreign Languages are offered to girls but discontinued if English is seen as a greater priority.

At KS4 girls are provided with the opportunity to take a GCSE in their native language, if available.

Girls can be prepared for Cambridge ESOL examinations which can be sat as external candidates at local colleges in Guildford or private language schools. These qualifications are highly regarded overseas and are required prior to entry to other educational establishments.

Population

On average there are 1-2 girls per year group at NDS who have English as an Additional Language. This approximates to 2% of the school population of which at least 50% have Level 4 English Language Development.

Notre Dame has introduced the 2016 DFES changes regarding the tracking and monitoring of EAL pupils, ensuring we are up to date with accurately reporting progress.

Schools now need to report on each child's country of birth, nationality and their level of proficiency in English if it is not their first language. The DFES have provided 5 new Codes to help assess and identify pupils' levels of proficiency in English:

- A- New to English
- B- Early Acquisition
- C- Developing Competence
- D- Competent
- E- Fluent

On entering Notre Dame, EAL pupils are assessed and attributed a code which is then registered on to the shared database for teachers and reviewed termly.