

# ALN Additional Learning Needs Parent Handbook



***Helping students with Additional Learning Needs to Flourish***

Taipei European School  
British Primary Section

2021-2022



We are delighted that you are part of our TES family and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you. In the British Primary Section(BPS) at Taipei European School, we strive to provide the best possible education for all of our students. We believe that our students have a right to a broad and balanced education. Differentiation is embedded in each classroom in the BPS, and this, as well as teacher and learning assistant support, allows most children to be successful. As a school that takes a holistic approach to education. However, we do have students who need extra support in order to be able to access the curriculum fully and to reach their full potential.

## What are Additional Learning Needs (ALN)?

The BPS definition of Additional Learning Needs is a child that faces barriers and difficulties in learning or behaviour and requires special attention and support to fully access the curriculum. This additional attention and support is known as additional learning needs provision.

Each student requiring additional learning provision has unique needs, some of which may fit into the categories below:

### Specific Learning Difficulties

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Each student requiring additional learning provision has unique needs, some of which may fit into the categories below:

- Dyslexia** A specific difficulty in learning to read, spell and write.
- Dyscalculia** A specific difficulty in understanding the language, concepts and procedures of mathematics.
- Dyspraxia** An immaturity or impairment in the organisation and planning of controlled movements.
- Dysphasia** Difficulty in producing or understanding grammatical and semantic structure of language.

### Attention Deficit (Hyperactivity) Disorder (ADD/ADHD)

A reduced ability to attend and maintain concentration, sometimes accompanied by extreme physical restlessness.

### Sensory Processing Disorder

It is a condition in which the brain has trouble receiving, processing and responding to information that comes in through the senses.

### Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties

Demonstrates inappropriate behaviour or feelings under normal circumstances, which adversely affect educational performance.

### Autistic Spectrum Disorders

A pattern of abnormal development that is recognised by impairments in social interaction, social communication and imagination.

## How is a student identified as needing additional learning support?

A student can be identified as needing additional learning support through the admissions process, or through a referral by their class teacher.

## What happens if my child is identified at admissions?

During the application process, the Admissions Department will contact the Additional Learning Needs Team if a child is already identified or it appears to have an additional learning need. Following this further information may be requested, and this may include:

- Additional school reports
- Previous IEPs (Individual Education plan)
- Additional assessment from an Educational Psychologist
- Reports from external agencies such as Educational Psychologist, Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapist
- If the child is already in Taipei, your child may be invited for an ALN assessment and/or trial in school.

Following this, the British Primary Section will decide if it can provide the level of support needed, and if so your child will be placed on to one of the bands of support, outlined below.

## What happens if my child is referred to the ALN Team by a class teacher?

As our most valuable partners, you will be informed of the referral and consulted throughout the process. You and your child's teacher will discuss the referral, and you will be informed of the next steps and these will likely involve additional observations and assessment by the ALN team.

Following this, a team meeting is held to discuss the best way we can support your child's needs.

## What plan is created for my child?

Each child that is identified for ALN support has an Individual Pupil Support Plan. This plan is created collaboratively and the team will include the class teacher, ALN team and the parents. The plan outlines the in-school strategies, the child-specific targets, including band and type of support, as well as at-home support targets and recommendations.

There are at least two formal Individual Pupil Support Plan meetings throughout the year, and during this time targets are reviewed and new ones are set, as required. The band and type of support are also discussed and amended as needed and the final decision is made by BPS.

## What support does the British Primary Section offer?

All children with an IEP are placed into one of the following five bands:

Band	Amount of support given each week
1	2-3 hours
2	4-5 hours
3	6-9 hours
4	10-18 hours
5	19+ hours

This additional support is provided by either a fully qualified ALN teacher, or a Learning Support Assistant. Each member of the ALN team receives continued professional development and is highly skilled.

Support, like our students, is unique and is structured around individual needs. It can be provided in the classroom, as a withdrawal session or as a small group.

In addition, your child may need an additional assessment. These can include occupational therapy, speech and language and an Educational psychologist assessment. We will partner with you to find a suitable professional but then you are responsible for payment.

## Who is in the ALN needs team?

The ALN team is a vital part of our school community and one that has student learning at its core. The team is incredibly experienced and each member brings unique skills. These skills are developed throughout the year through regular professional development.

Meet the team!

### **Learning Support Assistants : Silva Leung, Sophia Fang, Cynthia Hsu, Oleg Nevengloskiy, Cheryl Tsui and Chanel Chien**

Learning support assistants are a vital part of the team and they offer support in the classroom and in small supported groups. They collaborate with the class teachers and ALN teachers.

### **Additional Learning Needs Teacher : Peter Beairsto**

Our ALN teacher supports students with specific learning needs and also manages IEPs. This is done in close collaboration with class teachers and the Learning Support Assistants.

### **Additional Learning Needs coordinator: Giles Northover**

Our ALN coordinator also supports students with specific learning needs and manages IEPs. This is done in close collaboration with class teachers and the Learning Support Assistants. In addition to this, he leads the team and delivers regular professional development.

### **Assistant Head with responsibility for ALN: Luke Chaeter**

Our BPS Head oversees the ALN department and is involved in the referral process as well as the day to day support.

## Learning support Fees

Learning support fees can be found on the official TES website and also on the table below. Fees are charged once a child is placed on the ALN register and an IEP is in place.

Band	Amount of support given each week	Fee (per semester)
1	2-3 hours	\$25,000
2	4-5 hours	\$45,000
3	6-9 hours	\$100,000
4	10-18 hours	\$200,000
5	19+ hours	\$330,000

*TES Policy - Please be informed that at TES, the needs for any supplementary fee-based support (e.g. Learning Support, English as an Additional Language Support) for all children are assessed continuously. If at any point it is concluded that your child would require specific support, it will be discussed and communicated to you, and your acceptance of such support will be a requirement for continued enrolment.*



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL



Electronic versions are available through our school website  
[www.taipeieuropeanschool.com](http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com)