BRADFIELD COLLEGE

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

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1.8	HEB	09/24	General view of changes made since last version
1.8	HEB	09/25	General Review – no changes
1.9	HEB	09/26	Updates to provision and testing

English as an Additional Language

Review due: September 2027

Prior to admission and on joining Bradfield, pupils who are non-native speakers of English are assessed in their competence in using English for Academic Purposes. The results are used diagnostically to inform the teaching and learning of English as an Additional Language.

Lower School

Timetabled EAL lessons are provided in Years 9, 10 and 11 in place of one Modern Foreign Language. These lead to the recognised qualifications of Cambridge B2 First for Schools at the end Year 9 and IGCSE English as a Second Language at the end of Year 11. Pupils who come for one year in Year 11 take a one-year GCSE English Language course.

If it becomes apparent that additional tuition, on an individual basis, is needed to support what is on offer within the mainstream curriculum, the EAL Department will recommend extra lessons which may incur extra cost.

It is possible for pupils to take GCSE or IGCSE qualifications in their native tongue if an examination is available. This can be of value as it involves more than a test of competence in one's native tongue; pupils can learn valuable skills that are not developed in other subjects.

In all school holidays, and especially over the long summer break, in order to prevent deterioration in English language skills, the College recommends a range of resources for ongoing practice of English.

Sixth Form

In the Sixth Form, if required, EAL is provided for A-Level pupils on an individual bespoke basis. Pupils can also prepare for the internationally recognised IELTS qualification which is required of non-native speakers by most British universities. Pupils take the examination in June of the Lower Sixth year or December of the Upper Sixth depending on competence and progress.

The majority of pupils following IBDP do not have formal timetabled EAL lessons but are provided with individual support as necessary by the EAL Department.

Pupils are also encouraged to take A-Level qualifications in their native tongue if the examination is available. This additional qualification is often a source of valuable UCAS points when pupils come to apply for university places, and, in preparation, pupils learn valuable skills that may not be developed in other subjects.

In all school holidays, especially the summer between the Lower and Upper Sixth, in order to prevent any deterioration in English language skills whilst pupils are on holiday, the College recommends a range of resources for pupils ongoing practice of English.

Further Information

- There is an EAL Register which enables all teaching staff to view students' specific levels and needs and to access detailed profiles to assist in teaching and learning.

- Pupils are provided with subject-specific vocabulary glossaries appropriate to their age and the qualification towards which they are being taught.

- Pupils are provided with bilingual translation dictionaries and are encouraged to use translanguaging where this will assist them in fully understanding a concept.

Head of EAL