



# ABINGDON

## **Arrangements for EAL (English as an Additional Language) Provision**

Abingdon School is committed to making appropriate provision of teaching and pastoral support for pupils for whom English is an additional language (referred to as EAL students in this document). We aim to ensure that all EAL students are able to use English competently and confidently in order to access the full curriculum and play a full part in the life of the school.

### **Aims**

1. To ensure as far as possible that language is not a hindrance to the development of each boy's potential.
2. To offer support, encouragement and recognition at all stages of the language learning process.
3. To achieve effective yet sensitive integration into the school community.
4. To create an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding of cultural differences.
5. To encourage a sense of pride in each boy's own culture.
6. To guide and encourage boys to make the most of their time in England.
7. To assist boys to meet the language matriculation requirements for British universities where appropriate.

### **Objectives**

1. To assist our EAL students to improve their spoken and written English in order to access their academic curriculum and in social contexts.
2. To give EAL students the skills and confidence to use a variety of strategies to enhance understanding and to express meaning clearly and accurately.

### **Underlying Principles**

Abingdon recognises that our EAL students come from a variety of backgrounds with different experiences of learning English. We believe the multilingualism of our EAL pupils enriches our school and our community. We believe there is a collective responsibility, held by all staff, to identify and remove barriers that stand in the way of EAL pupils' learning and success.

The Head of EAL works closely with housemasters and tutors to monitor academic progress and social integration and welfare.

### **How this works in practice**

- On application, boys complete a grammar test, a written English test and an oral interview.
- All relevant boys' files are reviewed by the Head of EAL in the Registry before admission to the school and any potential problems (academic or pastoral) are identified.
- All relevant boys are interviewed in the first week of the school year (or when they arrive if admitted during the school year) to assess level of EAL provision required, if any.
- EAL support/ subject support is put in place for Lower and Middle School boys who require extra support. Boys receive one-to-one tuition during study periods or free time. This tends to continue until the end of the 5th year.

- Support is offered to 6th formers who wish to prepare for the external examinations required by some universities. Small group or individual classes are offered to prepare for the IELTS (International Language Testing System) examination.
- Subject support is provided for 6th formers if necessary, either by self-referral or referral by subject teachers. This takes the form of additional lessons arranged in a boy's study periods or free time.
- EAL teachers co-ordinate with tutors and subject teachers to ensure no problems that a boy is having are attributable to English.
- An EAL provision list is circulated to all staff to identify those boys who are receiving help.
- The Head of EAL works with housemasters and tutors to monitor our EAL students' happiness and welfare.

Head of EAL

January 2011