

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the ELL program?**

Ross Sheppard's English Language Learner (ELL) program is designed to support students who are working at the English as a Second Language (ESL) Benchmark Levels of 1 through 5. Students are placed in the appropriate ESL level where they practice their English language skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening at a pace that allows for success at their ability level.



### **What do the ELL Level 1 and 2 classes study?**

Students study the foundations of Canadian society in Canadian Studies 15/ 25, and experience several field trips to explore various aspects of Canada. Math 15 ESL and Science 15 ESL build the foundations needed to excel in future courses. Reading 15/ 25 and Expository English 15/ 25 are designed to increase reading comprehension and writing ability, and support students in their other classes. Every ELL student will feel fully supported in our program and will feel a part of the Ross Sheppard community.

### **What type of supports can be found in the ELL classroom?**

Our ELL classes consist of an experienced ELL teacher and an Educational Assistant. We meet the students where they are and use technology, scaffolding, and create solid foundations in the English language to help students grow and succeed.

### **Do I move out of ELL courses after one year?**

We have created sheltered ELL classes for all English -2 and Social -2 classes to help students be successful in graduating high school with a diploma. These sheltered classes are smaller, have EA support and provide accommodations. Students will be doing the same assessments as non-sheltered classes, but will have accommodations built into the class.

### **What community resources are available?**

We have been working with Actions for Healthy Communities for over 5 years at Ross Sheppard. We have also partnered with Catholic Social Services which has provided an ELL Homework Club over the past five years.