



SCHOOL POLICY: English Language Learners (ELL) 2025-26

Definition:

English Language Learners (ELL) are learners with English as their second language, which require the provision of extra assistance, adapted programmes, learning environments, or materials, to support students with accessing the NZ curriculum in a range of settings.

Some students are recent immigrants to New Zealand or live in homes where English is not the first language used. These students can access support through the ELL programme. They will have a wide range of different life and school experiences. Many of them will be entitled to special funding from the Ministry of Education, and the Migrant, Refugee and International Education Team, where appropriate.

Purpose

To ensure that students with English as a second language are supported to access the NZ curriculum alongside their peers.

Guidelines

Hukanui School is committed to providing learning programmes that deliver effective school support for multilingual students. Hukanui School will develop programmes, and provide appropriate resources to support all English Language Learners.

There will be a focus on the diversity of learners and a commitment to practices that are responsive to the needs of students and their families. The programme will ensure bilingual and multilingual students have carefully planned teaching programmes that will enable access to the New Zealand Curriculum at age-appropriate levels.

Keep Identity, Language and Culture (at the heart) – make connections and build relationships

- Promote a wide, holistic understanding of bilingual and multilingual students' strengths and use language that reflects this. Focus on language and linguistic strengths, rather than English deficit.
- Have knowledge of cultures and languages learning, and advocate for this within the teaching community.
- Welcome students and families at enrolment/ first day of school. Enrolment form includes any home languages. Allowing for a support person or interpreter to be present if necessary and discuss the families' aspirations for their child.
- Consult and decide on an appropriate class placement – perhaps where there are other bilingual students.



- Acknowledge cultural festivals and observations, mark International Languages Day, encourage use of multiple languages in classrooms and around the school.
- Keep the specific cultural and language needs of students in front of the staff by opening up conversations at staff meetings.
- Keep in touch with families regarding school events and processes, and student progress.
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ELL Funding Procedure

The International and ESOL Coordinator - is responsible for overseeing the ESOL programme, including its funding, returns, and organisation with support from the **Deputy Principal/ SENCO**.

English Language Learners (ELL) are identified at enrolment, or through teacher or parent requests. Identified students are usually placed in classes with their peer group.

Students are assessed according to the **English Language Learning Progressions (ELLP)**. (Additional standardised summative assessments, as well as formative assessments, contribute towards our baseline information.) See the TKI website [ESOL Online](#) for more information.

Each year in term 1 and term 3, an ELL Funding Application Form is made to the Ministry of Education. Eligible students receive funding which may be used to employ teacher aides/ English Language Learning Assistants or to provide other forms of support. These resources are managed and reported on by the ELL Lead Teacher and Deputy Principal/ SENCO. The support programmes for ELL students are designed and resourced by the Lead ELL Teacher in collaboration with the Deputy Principal/SENCO.

Managing the ELL Funding

Purpose:

To manage the ELL funding in a way that meets the needs of students with English as a second language i.e. students who will require support;

- adapted programmes
- Supplementary programmes
- Adapted learning environments
- specialist personnel, equipment or materials.

Ensure that appropriate resources are purchased to support learning programmes.

Ensure that monitoring is ongoing to ensure that materials and personnel are directly supporting student's learning.

All funds will be managed in line with Hukanui School Finance Policies and monitored by the DP/SENCO and International and ESOL Coordinator.



Principal: Leo Spaans

Review next: 2026