English as an Additional Language Policy

This Policy is an Appendix to the Accessibility Policy.

Haberdashers’ Monmouth Schools welcome pupils from all social and ethnic backgrounds and with a wide range of language backgrounds and this is reflected in the care and attention that is given in the tutor groups, classes and in the boarding houses.

The EAL departments offer support to all pupils for whom English is an additional language, according to the needs of the individual. We aim to support pupils’ learning so that each student can fully access the curriculum and display curriculum knowledge. We require pupils to reach a satisfactory standard in the entrance examination so that all areas of the curriculum can be accessed. We understand that cultural and linguistic heritage impacts on learning and use of language and, as a community, we aim to support and learn from cultural diversity.

**Identification of pupils who need support**

Depending on their point of entry, pupils are tested appropriately. Tests may be used to establish language awareness, skills and grammar, reading comprehension and free writing skills. These tests help us to ascertain the level of support required and pupils may be grouped, according to their needs. In addition, all new pupils, shortly after entry, will take a range of tests and the results of this test give us further information.

Teachers who are particularly concerned about a student’s ability to deal with subject-specific issues, can refer a them to an EAL teacher.
Appendix 1 Monmouth School for Girls and Monmouth School for Boys

Provision for pupils who need support

Years 7-11
Support is provided by one-to-one or small groups and the focus is on vocabulary, different types of text (e.g. narrative, report, procedure) and the grammar needed to communicate ideas effectively. Pupils are encouraged to participate in class discussion to develop speaking and listening skills. They will follow a various courses either leading to the Cambridge Suite of English language tests or Cambridge IGSCE as a Second Language.

In years 7-9 pupils are taught EAL in modern foreign language lesson time. In years 10-11 pupils are generally taught EAL in one of the option blocks at the girls’ school and during English lessons at the boys’ school.

Sixth Form
Candidates applying for entry to the sixth form sit examinations in their chosen subjects and have to achieve the standards needed before being admitted to the school. Pupils in sixth form will attend IELTS lessons.

International pupils are required to show proficiency in English language skills when applying to universities in the UK, Europe and America and/or to satisfy the regulations of UK Visas and Immigration. This can be via an IGCSE English Language examination usually at grade 6 or above and/or IELTS. International pupils entering the schools in Year 12 usually work towards taking the IELTS examination at the end of the academic year so EAL classes focus on preparing pupils for this. However, each student is expected to check the requirements of their university of choice as these can vary greatly from one institution to another. The Sixth Form tutors, the Director of Sixth Form and the EAL teacher assists overseas pupils with preparation for the UCAS application process and for university interview.

Temporary overseas pupils
EAL tuition is offered to temporary overseas pupils and, if the length of their stay permits, they can be prepared for Cambridge English examinations such as PET, FCE or CAE.

Pupils who do not speak English as their first language are encouraged to gain qualifications in their mother tongue.

There may be a charge for EAL lessons, refer to the Haberdashers’ Monmouth Schools Financial Information, updated annually and available on the schools’ website.

Revised November 2021, next review November 2023
Appendix 2 Monmouth Prep School

The Prep is happy to admit pupils with a mother-tongue other than English, provided that the Head is satisfied that a pupil’s standard of written and spoken English is sufficient to enable them to benefit fully from the school curriculum.

Support may be provided for a small number of pupils whose first language is not English and who need coaching in order to have access to the curriculum. These pupils are identified on entry. A programme of support is then tailored to suit each pupil’s needs within the resources available.

Advice, guidance, support and materials would be available from the EAL Departments at the senior schools. Members of staff from the senior schools’ EAL departments may be able to deliver the coaching sessions, but if they are not able to due to timetable commitments, the coaching support could come from within the learning support resources of the prep school. In the case of younger pupils, the coaching sessions may take the form of additional in-class support, for instance, an additional Teaching Assistant in certain curriculum lessons.

There is a charge for EAL lessons. The charge for EAL lessons at the Prep would be in-line with the Haberdashers’ Monmouth Schools Financial Information, updated annually and available on the schools’ website.