



THE INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF
KUALA LUMPUR

**ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
ENGLISH AS
ADDITIONAL
LANGUAGE
PROGRAM**

WHAT IS EAL AT ISKL?

English as an Additional Language (EAL) supports students who are developing English alongside another home language.

Our goal is simple: help multilingual learners become confident, independent users of English so they can access the full ISKL curriculum and thrive socially.

OUR COMMITMENT

The EAL team provides developmental language teaching that builds reading, writing, speaking, listening, and social language skills. Support is age appropriate, strengths based, and grounded in inclusion.

HOW SUPPORT WORKS

EAL support is flexible and matched to each student's language development. It may include:

- **In Class Support:** Students receive EAL teaching during Language Arts and, when needed, in science, math, and social studies. Small group sessions target specific language skills and help students engage successfully with classroom learning.
- **Monitoring:** Students no longer receive direct EAL lessons, but their language growth and classroom progress are checked regularly by EAL and homeroom teachers. Support can be added again if needed.

Collaboration Is Core

Every classroom teacher is part of our EAL program. EAL teachers and homeroom teachers plan together, teach together, and share responsibility for language growth.

This teamwork ensures language support connects directly to classroom learning.



LANGUAGE LEARNING TAKES TIME

Learning another language is a personal journey and progress is different for every child. Children usually develop social, conversational English faster than academic English needed for reading, writing, and learning across subjects. Research shows that full academic proficiency can take between three and nine years. At ISKL, EAL focuses on building academic language while students continue to grow socially and culturally within our community.

Many factors can influence second language development, including:

- Motivation and confidence in using English.
- First language strength and prior schooling.
- Learning skills.
- Cultural expectations and adjustment to a new school environment.

ADMISSIONS, PLACEMENT, AND EXIT

To support learning well for all students, the number of English language learners is limited at each grade level. Students who require English language support may be admitted based on the minimum expectations of each division.

- Elementary School accepts a managed number of students with a wide range of language proficiency.
- Middle and High School require a minimum level of proficiency and admission is subject to the assessment results (ISKL uses WIDA testing for all grades) and the school's capacity to meet the needs of the student.

Placement At Entry

Students complete speaking, listening, reading, and writing checks on admission. Results help us place students in a classroom where their language needs can be best supported.

Monitoring Growth

EAL and homeroom teachers use classroom evidence, internal assessments, and the ISKL EAL continuum to track progress over time.

Exiting EAL Support

A student exits EAL when they are consistently able to:

- Follow and participate in classroom learning with minimal language scaffolding.
- Work independently and confidently across subjects.
- Demonstrate sustained progress in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

REPORTING PROGRESS

Families receive EAL progress updates twice each year, alongside report cards. Parent teacher conferences are held after the first and third quarters, and additional meetings are always available. Communication between home and school is encouraged throughout the year.



HOW FAMILIES CAN HELP

- You are a key partner in your child's language growth. The most helpful steps are simple and steady.
- Keep your child's home language strong through conversation, reading, and learning at home
- Celebrate multilingualism and show pride in your child's language and culture.
- Read in both languages whenever possible.
- Support consistent homework routines.
- Encourage friendships and play in English and in home language groups'.
- Stay in touch with your child's EAL teacher with questions or updates
- Help your child keep using English during holidays through reading, listening, and real conversations.
- In addition to learning a new language, your child is also adjusting socially and academically. At times, they are likely to feel frustrated. Please be patient with them.

A FINAL NOTE

ISKL is an ideal place for children to learn English because they are surrounded by meaningful, daily language use in a caring community. Growth is gradual, and confidence builds with time, practice, and support. We are proud to partner with you in your child's journey as a multilingual learner.

CONTACT

For questions about EAL support, placement, or progress, please reach out to the Elementary School EAL team at esoffice@iskl.edu.my or your child's teacher.



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