

## **Forres Sandle Manor (Academic) Policy**

Policy Title	ESoL Policy
Policy Lead (Appointment (& Initials))	Deputy Head Academic (WP) Head of English (EG)
Date of Last Review	February 2025
Date of Next Review	February 2026

### **ESoL (English for Speakers of other Languages)**

#### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this ESOL policy is to ensure that all students who are speakers of other languages are afforded a positive, supportive and memorable learning experience at FSM. We recognise the importance of English language proficiency for academic achievement, and remain committed to providing the necessary support to help these students thrive.

#### **2. Scope and Terminology:**

This policy applies to all students who are identified as ESOL learners. Please note the two types of ESOL learner at FSM:

Short term international pupils - often with us for a short time, often with limited English language skills.

Long term international pupils- who stay with us for a year or more and can engage conversationally as well as use English language to access most of their learning.

Provision for these pupils may look different depending on each pupil's proficiency and confidence towards speaking, reading and writing in English.

#### **3. Objectives**

- To assess the English language proficiency of new and existing students accurately and consistently.
- To provide two main ESOL support services tailored to individual student needs:
  1. Where needed, short term international pupils will be provided access to small group ESOL learning as well attending curriculum lessons. They will be in sets, where appropriate.
  2. Long term international pupils will join curriculum lessons and access to the curriculum objectives alongside their peers.
- FSM aims to foster an inclusive school environment that celebrates linguistic and cultural diversity.
- FSM is actively planning to ensure ESOL teaching methodologies and cultural competencies are shared and updated.

#### **4. Identification and Assessment**

- All new students will be assessed for their English language proficiency upon enrolment and CFR levels (or other) will be shared by the Admissions Office with all relevant staff.
- Children in Year 7 & 8 (not studying MFL) will attend ESOL support learning where further assessment and support may take place.
- Short term international pupils will not follow the FSM summative assessment pathway and reporting structure, however will receive a written summative comment from their tutor, ESOL and English teachers.
- FSM is actively planning for longer term international pupils to sit progress tests and other key summative tests (with the exception of CEM) as appropriate from September 2025.

## **5. Support Services**

- A dedicated ESOL program will be implemented in Year 7 & 8, providing small group instruction for all international students, alongside immersion experiences into classes.
- Curriculum modifications and accommodations will be made, where reasonable, to ensure equitable access to the FSM curriculum for all ESOL pupils. Where pupils are staying at FSM on a short term basis, opportunities to observe and take part in high quality English discussion will be prioritised.
- Where possible, resources, such as Google Translate and language support materials, will be provided to assist students in their learning.

## **6. Teacher Training and Development**

- FSM staff will receive professional development on ESOL education, and strategies for differentiating instruction as part of the CPD cycle, with refreshers as appropriate or requested.
- When appropriate, cultural competencies will be discussed in staff meetings and key pupils' needs discussed.

## **7. Family and Community Engagement**

- Communication with families will be conducted in English, however, existing multilingual staff may be used to further support and encourage clarity. Families are also welcome to use online translation services.
- As a host school for short term international learners, we will actively seek to learn more from visiting pupils, encouraging where children are comfortable, them to prepare presentations about their own countries, cultures and traditions.

## **8. Monitoring and Evaluation**

- The effectiveness of the ESOL program will be evaluated regularly through student performance data, feedback from staff, and family input.
- Adjustments will be made to the policy and program based on findings from evaluations to ensure continuous improvement and effectiveness.

## **9. Conclusion**

FSM is committed to creating a supportive and inclusive environment for all students, particularly those who are learning English as an additional language. By implementing this ESOL policy, we aim to provide each student with the opportunity to achieve their potential.