



English not First Language Policy and Procedure:

At Ducklings Childcare Ltd we aim to support children's communication within the status of *prime area* as stated in the EYFS 2017 statutory framework. In the case of children whom English is not their first language, we focus on the needs of the child and try to provide as many opportunities for the child to hear and see their first language as well as English, during the session; this is achieved by the child's key worker learning simple words and phrases from the child's parents and dual-language books.

We respect that bilingual children have ideas and experiences, but cannot always express them in English. If the parents can speak English, we aim to gain as much information as we can about the child before they come into Ducklings Childcare Ltd, so if they have done something very exciting over the weekend we are aware of what the child is trying to express.

Where available support is sought from an interpreter, this enables information to be relayed between the parents and the setting. If the parents' first language is not English, bilingual colleagues can also be helpful when communicating with parents and children; the Nursery environment is enriched by taking on elements of different cultures through displays and physical and human resources.

When assessing children's development, communication, language and literacy skills, practitioners must assess children's skills in English. If a child does not have a strong grasp of English language, practitioners must explore the child's skills in the home language with parents and/or carers, to establish whether there is cause for concern about language delay.