**Silver Birch School**

**ESOL POLICY (English for Speakers of Other**

**Languages)**

**Issued:** 31/08/13

**Reviewed:** 19/08/18

**Next review date:** August 2019

## **1.0** Policy Statement

**1.1** Specialist ESOL teachers assist students whose first language is not English so that they can participate fully in all the activities of the school and grow in confidence. The aim is to give every student the opportunity to fulfill their potential at Silver Birch School through the medium of English.

**1.2** All students are encouraged to develop their written and spoken communication skills with appropriate fluency and register. There is great emphasis on learning vocabulary in context, developing reading and writing skills, improving grammatical accuracy and learning study skills. It is also important that students develop a greater cultural awareness and understanding of independent learning techniques.

**1.3** Our teaching approaches are very practical and are designed to help students communicate effectively both in the classroom situation and in the community. Students are encouraged to read: there is a small ESOL library and a selection of graded ESOL material to encourage the concept of independent learning. Students are also encouraged to use web-based materials for extra practice and to use internet sites for research purposes and to keep up to date with current affairs through the medium of English.

**1.4** Students are encouraged to bring work from other subject areas to ESOL staff for further explanation, clarification and help with accuracy of written answers. The ESOL teachers liaise closely with other subject staff to ensure the students’ wellbeing and to cater fully for their needs. It is also considered important to offer support where necessary to the subject teachers. There is an after-school ESOL club where students are offered off-timetable support and the chance to learn more about UK life and culture. All students are encouraged to make full use of the help offered by ESOL staff.

1.5 Students are also made aware of the school’s policy with regard to pastoral care. Each student is encouraged to feel part of the school and to feel they can turn to the staff for help and support in a wide range of situations, whether academic, practical or emotional.

## 2.0 Summary

To sum up, the aims of school are:

* To improve each student’s level of English and prepare them for appropriate exams

* To offer subject support

* To offer pastoral care, practical and emotional support

* To give students the skills, language and cultural awareness to cope with living and studying in a foreign country