

EAL Newsletter

JANUARY 2024/2025



Happy 2025!

Welcome to our Spring EAL newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments and information to be able to support pupils, families and educators.

Last term was a busy one for our team: we were kindly asked by a number of schools to join them in hosting coffee mornings for parents who have English as an additional language. Each of the sessions were useful for both schools, parents and ourselves.

At the beginning of the term, we worked alongside Early Years to deliver two 'EAL in EYFS' training sessions. These sessions were very successful and there will be a repeat session in February.

We also successfully hosted our first Coordinator Network meeting with many schools attending. We are currently planning sessions for later this term and next which will be tailored to the needs of Coordinators.

Our team also attended the NALDIC conference which highlighted the use of subject journals for pupils to make notes in their chosen language. Research found it makes an immediate improvement in error reduction (<https://www.continentalpress.com/blog/take-a-look-at-student-journaling/?srsltid=AfmBOopM8Wj3RB-DRcw5zvsvN4pUueYMxpHjIwdAE7MnA961j5-jaEpE>)

This term we will also be contacting previously visited schools to arrange follow-up meetings.

As exam season approaches, we will be compiling resources for schools and parents to use with pupils. Please let us know what resources you would find useful and the ages of the pupils.

Together, we can make a real difference. Enjoy this month's newsletter!

EAL Team

In this newsletter you can expect:

EAL Updates

FREE EAL Training

Trauma Informed Practice - Tree of Life

National Storytelling Week 2025

Community Events

Contact Information

EAL Updates

English Proficiency Assessment

Strong research evidence has shown the link between English proficiency and attainment; yet the requirement for schools to assess EAL pupils' proficiency was removed in 2018.

If EAL pupils are to be represented within the school system, this key indicator needs to be carried out. With assessment frameworks, such as The Bell Foundation's assessment, schools have access to robust and evidence informed frameworks which can be utilised for free.



Carrying out English proficiency assessments on your EAL pupils would help teachers understand specific needs and how they can support them within the classroom.

It is worth noting that pupils working at Band C are generally working at national standard and those working Band D and E are, generally, working above national standard.

If you need support in implementing an English proficiency assessment, please contact the team.

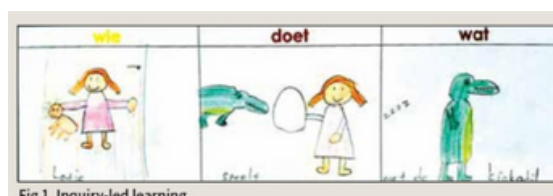
Keeping Children Safe in Education - EAL

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everybody's responsibility. That is why all staff must be able to understand safeguarding guidance.

It can be a challenge for those who are EAL to fully understand the meaning and principles of this guidance. LGfL have commissioned translations of KCSIE Part One into 13 community languages which are available as free, open access documents for the benefit of schools.

This document might be worth sharing with EAL parents so they are aware of the responsibility school has to ensure the physiological and psychological wellbeing of all children.

<https://lgfl.net/safeguarding/kcsietranslate>



The Importance of Scaffolding in Reading Comprehension

While activating prior knowledge, scaffolding creates a foundation for understanding new material. It ensures that EAL pupils receive targeted support as they engage with new texts and languages.

Gibbons (2009) describes scaffolding as the 'temporary, future-orientated, targeted help' that supports pupils as they develop new skills, knowledge and understanding. She describes three characteristics of scaffolding:

1. It is a temporary help that assists pupils in moving forward to new concepts, understanding and language.
2. It enables pupils to understand how to do something, not just what to do
3. It is future orientated; the goal is to enable students to complete the task independently

Pre-teaching is also recommended, as a study by Goossens & Vermeer (2009) found that readers must know 91.2% of the words in the text to be able to reach an acceptable understanding of what they have read. Using home-languages to translate words can be useful when pre-teaching.

<https://naldic.org.uk/publications/eal-journal/eal-journal-e-issue-25/>

EAL Training 2024/2025



Supporting EAL Children in EYFS

An opportunity for professionals working with early years children who have EAL to learn about the most useful strategies and resources within EYFS.

Wednesday 12th February
9:30am



Healing Classrooms

This session aims to support educators to develop inclusive and nurturing learning spaces for students affected by trauma, particularly refugees, asylum seekers and new arrivals following IRC guidance.

Wednesday 22nd January
9:30am
Friday 14th March
12:30pm

PRIMARY LISTENING			
	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C
CODE	Engaging in highly-scaffolded listening activities, learning basic classroom language and linking sounds to actions and meanings	Demonstrating an emerging ability to understand and respond verbally in interactions with others based on their understanding of the context	Developing more independence in the use of the basic listening skills needed to engage with learning
EARLY DEVELOPMENT	1 Can understand single words or short phrases in familiar contexts (e.g. classroom, playground)	Can understand everyday expressions aimed at meeting simple needs of a concrete type, delivered directly to them in clear and deliberate speech by a sympathetic speaker	Can follow oral instructions (e.g. 'Draw a circle under the line')
	2 Can follow simple instructions and identify objects, images, figures and people from oral statements or understand simple questions with contextual support (e.g. 'Which one is a rock?')	Can respond to simply phrased factual questions (e.g. 'Which things use water?')	Is beginning to understand and acquire topic/subject-specific vocabulary

English Proficiency Assessment

We will explore The Bell Foundation's English proficiency assessment and the best ways to implement it within school. Upon attending this session, participants will receive a pupil profile and proficiency tracker.

Date TBA
Please contact us for specific assessment support



EAL Coordinator Network

We will examine the role of the EAL Coordinator and explore how those working in this position can work with staff members to meet the needs of EAL learners. There will also be opportunity to network.

Wednesday 5th March
Wednesday 14th May
9:30am



EAL and SEND

We will explore the ways to establish whether pupils are displaying academic and/or social behaviours related to SEND or English proficiency. Participants will also be advised on ways to support families of these pupils.

Wednesday 9th July
9:30am



EAL Drop-In

There is no set agenda for these sessions, but there will be an opportunity for all professionals working with EAL children to discuss any EAL concerns or matters.

Wednesday 7th May
Wednesday 2nd July
9:30am

1–9 February 2025

National Storytelling Week

Reimagine your world



National
Literacy
Trust

Change your story

Supported by

amazon

National Storytelling Week - 1st - 9th February

National Storytelling Week is a brilliant way to share texts which support and promote English as an additional language. It also opens opportunities to study authors from minority cultures and whose stories connect with your EAL pupils.

National Storytelling Week also allows pupils to study texts which are not necessarily age related e.g. KS3 pupils could study Little Red (Little Red Riding Hood) or The Rough-Face Girl (Cinderella).

Stories in a child's home language are transferable to a second language and are therefore a great advantage to those learning EAL. Knowledge of stories enhances and facilitates their learning, especially when using dual text.

Choose a story with a clear storyline and simple direct language. Illustrated books are great and can help the children learn about other cultures. They are an inclusive way of teaching.

Take a number of words from the story and list them on the wall with a picture. Put the English name against the child's first language. You can then refer to these words as you are telling the story.

For example, if you are telling a story about the 3 little pigs you would have a picture of the pig and the word 'pig' underneath. Write the word 'pig' in the child's first language, and give them comfort and context.

If you have several children in the setting or school with EAL then you might want to put them into small groups or pairs with children whose first language is English to help them learn together. This will help the English-speaking children learn a new language and again create an inclusive learning environment.

The theme for National Storytelling Week 2025 is 'Reimagine your world'. Whether it's something unexpected on your way to school, odd sounds you hear at night, or a path you've never followed, the world around us is full of secret lives, places and possibilities. The most extraordinary story can come from the most ordinary place: it just needs someone to find it.

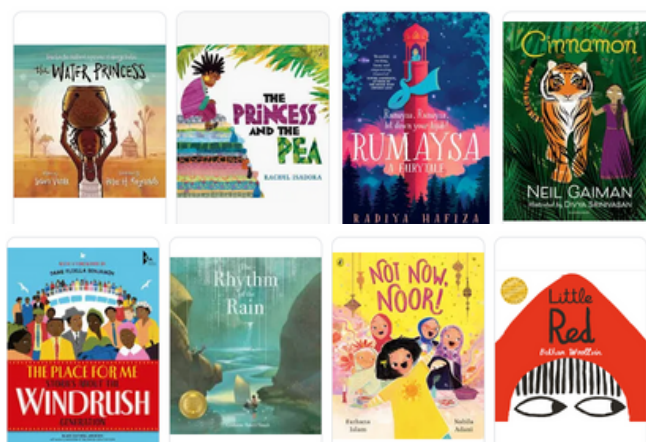
It might also be a good opportunity to invite EAL parents into school to share a story from their home country. Pupils could use cues to translate meaning from the story and could compare it to well known English tales.

Below are some excellent suggestions for tales from different cultures:

<https://www.readbrihtly.com/multicultural-fairy-tales-for-children/>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/book-list/different-cultures-primary-book>

<https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/fairy-tales-from-other-cultures>



Community Events

Little Stars Children's Centre Timetable

Boulting Ave, Dallam WA5 0JG 01925 443444 (option 3)

6th January - 14th February 2025

Monday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
Citizen's Advice Bureau 1.00pm - 2.30pm
Call 01925 443444 Option 3 to book

Tuesday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
**CYMPHS - Riding the Rapids 9.30am - 12.30pm
Drop in Well Baby Weigh in & Advice Clinic 9.30 - 11.30am
Introducing Solids 7.15 & 4.25 11.30am - 12.30pm

Wednesday

Development Checks 9.00am - 12.00pm
Appointment Only
* Chatterbox 10.00am - 11.45am
Referral only
**New Beginnings & Creche 9.30am - 11.30am
The Bread and Butter Thing 1.30 - 3.00pm
Ask at reception for more information

Thursday

Burtonwood Library, Chapel Street, WA5 4PS
Story & Singing 0 - 4 Years
9.15am - 10.15am No need to book
Development Checks 1.30pm - 4.00pm
Appointment Only

Friday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only

For all timetables and updates follow our Facebook page Warrington Children's Centres
Midwives Number - 01925 662092
Health Visitor Number 01925 946904
Coming Soon - Lots of exciting play sessions

*All sessions must be pre-booked. To book your place call 01925 443444 (option 3) or email Westclusterc@warrington.gov.uk
**Referral Only - Some Sessions are run by an external partner

Great Sankey Children's Centre Timetable

Barnes Close/Liverpool Road, WA5 1SB. 01925 443444 (Option 3)

6th January - 14th February 2025

Monday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
Development Checks 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
Citizen's Advice Bureau 9.30 - 11.30am
Call 01925 443444 to book
No need to book

Tuesday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
*Baby Play - 0 - 1 Years
10.00 - 11.00am
*Little Explorers - 0 - 6 Months
1.00 - 2.00pm

Wednesday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
*Toddler Play - Confident walkers - 4 Years
10.00 - 11.00am
Drop in Health Visitor Advice 1.30 - 3.30pm
*Play Session on During HV Drop in - 0 - 2 Years
Introducing Solids - Drop in 3.30 - 4.30pm
8th January & 5th February

Thursday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
Burtonwood Library, Chapel Street, WA5 4PS
Story & Singing 0 - 4 Years - 9.15 - 10.15am
No need to book
*Movers & Groovers - Confident Walkers - 4 Years
10.00 - 10.45am
Infant Feeding Support Group
1.00 - 2.30pm
Drop in (no need to book)

Friday

Community Midwife 9.00am - 4.00pm
Appointment Only
*Baby Massage - 09.45 - 10.30am
*Baby Sing Along - 0 - 1 Years
1.30 - 2.15pm

For all timetables and updates follow our Facebook page Warrington Children's Centres
Midwives Number - 01925 662092
Health Visitor Number 01925 946904
CAB - 0808 278 7993

*All sessions must be pre-booked. To book your place call 01925 443444 (option 3) or email Westclusterc@warrington.gov.uk



Connect, play and learn

Activities and classes for families with babies and toddlers.

- Everyone is welcome
- Completely free
- No need to book
- Activities running all day



Sunshine Children's Centre Timetable

O'Leary St, WA2 7RQ. 01925 443444 (option 2) central@southcc.warrington.gov.uk

6th January - 14th February 2025

Tuesday

Toddler play
We are working hard to finalise a new space for us - check back for more details

Wednesday

Baby play
0 - walking
1.30 - 2.30pm
50p Donation

Health

For Midwife appointments please call the community midwives on 01925 662092.

Health Visitor drop in advice clinics
Sunshine - Monday 1.30 - 3.30pm

CAB

Sunshine - Tuesdays
30 minute appointments available between 9.30am and 11am
Please call 01925 443444 to book an appointment

*Please call or email the centre to book your space
Follow us on Facebook for all our updates

Birchwood Children's Centre Timetable

Admirals Road, Birchwood, Warrington, WA5 6QG 01925 443444 (option 1) email: centroleastcc@warrington.gov.uk

6th January - 14th February 2025

Thursday's

Baby Play and Sensory
13.30 - 14.30

Tuesday 21st January

Messy Play
13.30 - 14.30
£1.50 per family

Tuesday 11th February

Messy Play
13.30 - 14.30
£1.50 per family

Please call or email the centre to book a place at our sessions

Westy Children's Centre Timetable

Tinsley St, WA4 1RE. 01925 443444 (option 2) central@southcc.warrington.gov.uk

6th January - 14th February 2025

Monday

Toddler & Toast
Confident walkers+
10-11am
50p donation

Tuesday

Infant Feeding support group
10.00-11.30am
Drop in session

Wednesday

*Baby massage
10.00-11.00pm
booking essential

Thursday

Coffee Morning
9-10.30am
Drop in session
Baby play & Weigh in clinic
0-walking 1.30-3.30pm
Drop in session.

Friday

*Baby sing Along
10.00-10.45am
0-Walking
*Messy play
Available 24.01 & 14.02.2025
1-2pm
£1.50 booking essential

Daily

Soft Play available from 9.00 until 3.45pm
*Tuesday 9-11.30am
0-12months only - term time only
*Light and sound room available

Willow green Café open 9.30-2 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Health

For Midwife appointments please call the community midwives on 01925 662092

Health Visitor drop in advice clinics
Westy - Thursday 1.30 - 3.30pm

CAB

Westy - Wednesdays
30 minute appointments available between 9.30 and 11.00am
Please call 01925 443444 to book an appointment

*Please call or email the centre to book your space Follow us on Facebook for all our updates

Sandy Lane Children's Centre Timetable

Sandy Lane, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9HY 01925 443444 (option 1) email: centroleastcc@warrington.gov.uk

6th January - 14th February 2025

Monday

Community Midwives 09:00-17:00
for appointments call 01925 662092

Tuesday

CAB 09:30-11:30
Baby Play 10:00-11:00
Community Midwives 09:00-17:00
for appointments call 01925 662092

Wednesday

Toddler Play 10:30-11:30
Parenting and Creche 12:30-14:30
referral only

Thursday

Messy Play (Baby)
23rd January 10:30-11:30
(bookable session, £1.50 per family)
Messy Play (Toddler)
13th February 10:30-11:30
(bookable session, £1.50 per family)

Friday

Community Midwives 09:00-17:00
for appointments call 01925 662092

Please call or email the centre to book a place at our sessions

The Orchard Children's Centre Timetable

Hidden Road, Padgate, Warrington, WA2 0JP 01925 443444 (option 1) email: centroleastcc@warrington.gov.uk

6th January - 14th February 2025

Monday

Baby Explorers 10:00-11:00
(bookable session)
Tots Play 13:30-14:30
Community Midwives 09:00-17:00
for appointments call 01925 662092

Tuesday

Chatterbox 10:30 - 11:15am
(By professional referral only)
Chatterbox Play Session 10:30 - 11:15
Development Checks 09:00-17:00
for appointments please call 01925 946858

Wednesday

Health Visitor Drop in Advice Clinic
9:30 - 10:30am
Baby Play 10:00 - 11:15am
Infant Feeding Support Group
(Drop in session)
10:30 - 11:30am
Community Midwives 09:00 - 17:00
For appointments call 01925 662092

Thursday

Community Midwives 09:00-17:00
for appointments call 01925 662092
Parenting session and creche
09:45-11:45 referral only
12:30-14:30 referral only

Friday

Baby Sing Along 11:00-11:45
Citizens Advice 10:00 - 12:00pm
Toddler Play 13:30-14:30
Community Midwives 09:00-17:00
for appointments call 01925 662092

Please call or email the centre to book a place at our sessions



Warrington & Vale Royal College
ADULT COLLEGE
www.ac.uk/english-maths
FREE English & maths courses

CHESHIRE LANGUAGE ACADEMY ESOL

https://www.mylifewarrington.co.uk/kb5/warrington/directory/service.page?id=j2VN1hBb_GM

Contact Information

Please contact us if you wish you discuss your whole EAL cohort or individual pupils. Use the below contact information to arrange a school visit, in-house CPD and to discuss any additional EAL support your school requires.

EAL@warrington.gov.uk

01925 442343