

# Mount Ridley P12 College

## EAL - NEW ARRIVALS POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you require assistance with understanding this policy, please do not hesitate to contact the College and someone will organise a multicultural aide or the relevant person to assist you.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Language Background Other Than English (LBOTE) including English as an Additional Language (EAL) students receive appropriate support to enhance their English language skills in order to communicate proficiently in their school life and in the wider community.

Mount Ridley has a growing contingent of EAL students from a wide variety of Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Indeed, the greater majority of students at Mount Ridley College have a LBOTE. Presently there are over 50 different cultural groups and 70 languages spoken. This number continues to increase year by year.

### SCOPE

To ensure that parents or carers of newly arrived students for whom English is an additional language are aware of what intensive English language support is available for their children, and how it can be accessed.

The Department provides intensive EAL instruction to prepare students for participation in mainstream schools.

Students may attend an English Language School/Centre for a period of six and twelve months, depending on their educational background and/or refugee/humanitarian status.

At times placement at an English Language School might not be possible for various reasons. Therefore, students are required to access mainstream schooling. When placements become available, students will be referred to the closest English Language School/Centre.

### POLICY

#### Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to attend an English Language School/Centre, New Arrivals Program students:

- must hold a visa that entitles them to enrol in a Victorian government school and attract Student Resource Package (SRP) funding
- must speak a language other than English as their main language at home

- must have proficiency in English that is determined, at the local level by a school or English language school, to require intensive assistance to enable them to participate fully in mainstream classroom programs
- must be within 18 months of arrival if entering the first year of primary schooling
- must be within 6 months of arrival if entering any other year of schooling; and
- at the time of enrolling in an English language school/centre, students must be undertaking or intending to undertake primary or secondary education at a Victorian Government school as soon as practicable after completing the course.

### **International students**

Fee-paying overseas students requiring an intensive English language course before entering mainstream classes can enrol in an English Language School/Centre to undertake such a course.

Students must enrol in a school through the International Student Program before enrolling in an English language school/centre.

### **At Mount Ridley P-12 College, EAL students will be supported through:**

- the establishment and maintenance of links with language schools in Craigieburn, Hume and Broadmeadows
- our EAL Leaders attending enrolment meetings
- our EAL Leaders assessing student English Language competency
- our EAL Leaders offering the Intensive English Language School Program as an option provided that the students meet the aforementioned requirements
- our EAL Curriculum Leaders coordinating transition days prior to students returning to mainstream school
- the translation of enrolment information for parents in key community languages
- testing to confirm proficiency level; and
- grouping into support classes (where possible) using EAL pathways (A, B and C)

## **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

<b>Created date</b>	<b>October 2023</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Various staff groups October College Council October
<b>Endorsed by</b>	Principal
<b>Endorsed on</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2023
<b>Next review date</b>	June 2026