



EAL POLICY

Policy 2025-2028



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact Roxburgh College on 9930 8100

Rationale:

To provide equity in education for all students so they can perform to the best of their ability.

Guiding Principles:

- To have mutual respect and work in a harmonious and supportive environment
- To enable EAL students to improve learning outcomes in reading, writing and speaking and listening
- To share a common goal of high aspirations for a future pathway

Eligibility:

Factors affecting students:

Most EAL students have little exposure to English whether born overseas or in Australia to parents of LBOTE (Language background other than English) background. Some students have had disrupted schooling due to war in their home countries. Fleeing to other countries for safety and other traumatic experiences have impacted on their learning.

- Students in Years 7 – 10: Students are deemed eligible if they have met the DET criteria and receive SRP (School Resource Package) funding for EAL.
- Students in Years 11 and 12: Students are deemed eligible if they have satisfied the VCAA guidelines of being in Australia seven years or less.

Structure:

Years 7 - 9:

- Students are eligible if they have been in Australia for less than 5 years or those who have significant gaps in the language acquisition based on recommendation from the EAL team.
- Students participate in EAL program as a one year elective, in addition to being in a mainstream English form.
- Recommended class size is a maximum of 15 students.

Years 10-12

- Students do not participate in mainstream English; they are enrolled in 5 periods of EAL.
- If students are in Year 10 and have been 5-6 years in Australia they transition to mainstream English because they will not qualify for VCE EAL.
- If students are in Year 12 and have been in Australia 7 years or less, they qualify for VCE EAL.
- Based on numbers, staffing, student pathway options, timetabling and socio-linguistic needs, Bridging EAL (for a 3 year VCE pathway) is offered on a year-to-year basis.
- Recommended class size is a maximum of 15 students.

Evaluation:

Every 3 years or as directed by the Department of Education.

Implementation:

Roxburgh College is aware:

- Students need to feel safe and supported.
- Preserving culture and having a sense of belonging is imperative for students' success.
- Students have their own language and it might take a LBOTE student more than five years to be proficient in academic English.

The role of the school:

- Implement a whole school approach in supporting the learning of EAL students
- Have provision for an EAL program
- To access EAL qualified staff where possible
- To access MEAs (multicultural education aides)
- Acknowledge the strength of diversity

The role of the EAL coordinator:

- Ensure effective delivery of the programs involving EAL students
- Have an in-depth knowledge about EAL teaching and learning
- Ensure students are reported on the EAL continuum
- Support staff with reporting and delivery of content
- Monitor students' achievement data
- Organise transition for new arrivals

The role of the classroom teacher:

- Cater teaching and learning activities to the students' needs
- Value and build on students' strengths and culture
- Collaborate with staff members to improve student learning

The role of the MEA

- Support students' transition into the school
- To bridge the gap between home and school
- Communicate with parents/carers about school expectations
- Support students' learning by using L1 where necessary

Further Information and Resources:

- DET Human Resources:
 - <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/support/diversity/eal/Pages/default.aspx>
 - <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/hrweb/divequity/Pages/culture.aspx>
- The EAL Handbook –
 - <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/teachers/teachingresources/diversity/eal/eslhandbook.pdf>

Communication:

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Included in staff induction processes

- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Included in our staff policy handbook
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request
- Uploaded to our school website

Policy Review and Approval:

Policy last reviewed	May 2025
Approved by	Principal and School Council
Next scheduled review date	May 2028