English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D) Education

English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D) programs are provided in many primary and high schools to support EAL/D learners to develop their English language competence. In these schools, EAL/D programs are delivered in a variety of ways to meet the different needs of students at different stages of learning English.

The availability of EAL/D support varies between schools, depending on the number of EAL/D learners enrolled.

Newly Arrived Students

Students who have recently arrived in Australia and who are in the early stages of learning English may be eligible for short term intensive English language support, either in a school or an Intensive English Centre (IEC) or Intensive English High School (IEHS).

Some temporary visas do not entitle the holder to receive EAL/D support. Please refer to the Schedule of Visa Subclass & Conditions document on our website to determine eligibility for EAL/D support.

Secondary Schools

Newly arrived high school aged students may enrol in one of 15 Intensive English Centres (IECs) located in Sydney and Wollongong or the Cleveland Street Intensive English High School (IEHS). These Centres provide short term intensive English and high school preparation programs for students before they enrol in high school.

High school aged students enrolling in high schools outside the Sydney metropolitan or Wollongong areas, where IECs are not available, may receive intensive English support at their local high school.

For high school aged students to be eligible for enrolment in an IEC or the IEHS, the student must:

- Be a permanent or approved temporary resident. Please refer to the Schedule of Visa Subclass & Conditions document on our website for a full listing of visa subclasses and their eligibility for the EAL/D program.
- Be applying for IEC/IEHS enrolment within the first 6 months of arriving in Australia.
- Speak a language other than English as his or her first language and require intensive EAL/D tuition to enable the student to participate in secondary education.
- Have the intention to continue their education in a government high school after the completion of the intensive English course.

Newly arrived students may apply to their local IEC/IEHS for enrolment or they may be referred by a local high school. The IEC/IEHS assesses each student’s English language competence and recommends an appropriate placement, either in an IEC or in a local high school.
Primary Schools

There is no primary school Intensive English Centre. Newly arrived primary school aged students enrol directly in school and receive English language support there.

In certain cases, students in Year 6 may be enrolled in an IEC/IEHS after term 1 in preparation for high school the following year. In addition to the conditions applying to high school students for enrolment in an IEC/IEHS, students must be at least 11 years of age by 31 July in the current year.

EAL/D Students in Year 12

A number of high schools offer the Higher School Certificate English (EAL/D) course. The English (EAL/D) course is open to EAL/D students who have been studying in English as the language of instruction for five years or less at the beginning of the Stage 6 Preliminary course. The course is only offered in those schools which have a sufficient number of eligible students.

EAL/D students who are not able to enrol in the English (EAL/D) course can enrol in the English (Standard) or English (Advanced) courses. EAL/D students may also enrol in the Fundamentals of English, which is a Preliminary course of study which aims to support students’ work in either the English (Standard) course or the English (EAL/D) course and to assist students to use the English language effectively in their study and for vocational and other purposes.

Community Language Programs

A number of primary schools provide community language programs in over 30 languages spoken in the Australian community. These community language programs vary between schools and the availability of particular languages depends on the number of students who wish to study them.

A number of languages are also available for study in high schools, up to the Higher School Certificate level. High school students may also enrol in the Saturday School of Community Languages to study their home language if that language is not available at their school.

Interpreting and Translating Services

Interpreting and translation services are provided for parents and carers who do not speak or understand English. If you need interpreter assistance for a meeting in relation to your child’s education or welfare, please contact your child’s school and ask them to arrange one for you. You may also ring the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask them to connect you to the school.

A number of Departmental publications have been translated in over 40 languages and are available on the Department of Education website. To access the translated documents, please click here.
The following is a listing of Intensive English Centres and Intensive English High School located within the metropolitan Sydney and Wollongong area:

**Bankstown IEC**
Antwerp Street, Bankstown
Ph 02 9796 8138
Host School: Bankstown Senior College
Email: Bankstownc-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Beverly Hills IEC**
Melvin Street, North Beverly Hills
Ph 02 9553 1293
Host School: Beverly Hills Girls High School
Email: Beverlyhg-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Cabramatta IEC**
Aladore Avenue, Cabramatta
Ph 02 9727 3562
Host School: Cabramatta High School
Email: Cabramatta-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Chatswood IEC**
Centennial Avenue, Chatswood
Ph 02 9411 5288
Host School: Chatswood High School
Email: Chatswood-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Chester Hill IEC**
Miller Road, Chester Hill
Ph 02 9645 3780
Host School: Chester Hill High School
Email: Chesterhill-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Cleveland Street IEHS**
Chalmers & Cleveland Streets, Surry Hills
Ph 02 9319 4806
Email: Clevelandi-h.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Evans IEC**
Walters Road Blacktown
Ph 02 9622 1289
Host School: Evans High School
Email: Evans-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Fairfield IEC**
The Horsley Drive, Fairfield
Ph 02 9724 6885
Host School: Fairfield High School
Email: Fairfield-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Holroyd IEC**
7 Cumberland Road, Greystanes
Ph 02 9896 1172
Host School: Holroyd High School
Email: Holroyd-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Kogarah IEC**
Regent Street, Kogarah
Ph 02 9587 0529
Host School: Kogarah High School
Email: Kogarah-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Lurnea IEC**
Hillview Parade, Lurnea
Ph 02 9602 1858
Host School: Lurnea H High School
Email: Lurnea-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Marrickville IEC**
Northcote Street, Marrickville
Ph 02 9550 0251
Host School: Marrickville High School
Email: Marrickville-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Marsden IEC**
Winbourne Street, West Ryde
Ph 02 9858 3440
Host School: Marsden High School
Email: Marsden-i.Admin@det.nsw.edu.au

**Miller IEC**
Cabramatta Avenue, Miller
Ph 02 9607 2751
Host School: Miller High School
Email: Miller-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**Warrawong IEC**
Cowper Street, Warrawong
Ph 02 4274 4346
Host School: Warrawong High School
Email: Warrawong-i.School@det.nsw.edu.au