

# Helping your child learn



Guidance for parents of students who use English as an Additional Language (EAL)

## Here you can find practical ideas for:

1. Getting involved with school life
2. Helping your child to learn

### Getting involved with school life

Chase High want parents to be actively involved in school life and we will help you to get involved if you are not confident in English.

### Here are some ideas to help:

- Tell us if you find some texts difficult to understand e.g. school letters or the school website.
- Tell us what will help you understand school communications better e.g. translations of spoken communications.
- Tell our staff if they are speaking too fast for you or use words that you don't know.

### Here are some polite phrases you can use for this:

Could you say that again?  
I didn't understand.

I'm sorry, but I didn't understand you.  
Could you please repeat that?

Could you please tell me what \_\_\_\_\_ means?

- Tell us when the best time is to contact you and the best contact number.
- Tell us if there is another family member who could communicate with the school.
- Ask us for information about the school and your child's learning. Ask for this information to be translated into your home language.

### You should ask about:

- The school timetable
- Your child's homework
- Exams and tests (these are sometimes called 'assessments')
- Attendance
- The curriculum

- Join a parent group with other parents who speak the same language as you.
- Attend parents' evenings. If you are worried about your English, you could request a one-to-one meeting with a teacher to talk about your child's progress. You could also ask the school if an interpreter can be there to help you.

## Helping your child to learn

Chase High expect children to do their homework and for parents to help and encourage home learning.

### Here are some ideas on how you can help your child to learn:

#### To help children with homework:

- Ask questions and talk about the topics studied in your first language.
  - Encourage your child to use a bilingual dictionary to translate words.
  - Encourage your child to write down any new words in English and/or their first language to help them remember them.
  - Encourage your child to ask their teachers for help if they do not understand something.
- Read with your child at home. You can do this in your first language and talk about the pictures and what is happening in the story. These websites have stories in lots of different languages, and they are free: [World Stories](#) and [Unite for Literacy](#).
  - Join a class to help you develop your English. Some schools run English classes for parents so ask if this is available. You can also find [ESOL](#) classes in your local Further Education College. If you can't join a class, or want to learn independently, you can find free English practice from the [British Council](#).

## OUR CONTACTS:

Mrs Jones	<a href="mailto:maggie.jones@chasehigh.org">maggie.jones@chasehigh.org</a>	01702 963888
Mrs Farmer	<a href="mailto:daria.farmer@chasehigh.org">daria.farmer@chasehigh.org</a>	01702 963883
Ms Liddell	<a href="mailto:karina.liddell@chasehigh.org">karina.liddell@chasehigh.org</a>	01702 963894