

EAL ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK FOR SCHOOLS: PRIMARY

Supporting primary and secondary schools in meeting the Department for Education (DfE) requirement to report a Proficiency in English level for English as an Additional Language learners and in assessing progression in EAL learners over time in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Viewing and Writing.

This framework will be updated from time to time. Please check that you have the latest version of the framework on The Bell Foundation website at www.bell-foundation.org.uk.

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Acknowledgements

The Bell Foundation was established in 2012 and is working to overcome exclusion through language education in the UK. The Bell Foundation is a charity and focuses on two thematic areas: children with English as an Additional Language and offenders whose first language is not English.

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Foreword

Dear Colleagues,

As teachers and educators we are rightly proud of the ethnic and linguistic diversity in our schools. At the same time we acknowledge that we have to continually renew our efforts to meet the needs of all pupils. Many of our bilingual or multilingual pupils are in the process of learning English as an Additional Language (EAL). As the language of schooling is English, the vast majority of these pupils experience the curriculum content through, in effect, EAL.

We all know that the process of learning an additional language in school is not the same as early-years first language development. It is therefore very important that teachers are provided with EAL-sensitive assessment tools that can help them recognise pupil language achievements and needs.

I am very pleased to introduce the EAL Assessment Framework for Schools. In the research and development of this assessment framework we consciously adopted a classroom-friendly, curriculum-language integrated approach so that teachers can use the rating scales and the complementary materials for day-to-day informal assessment as well as more formal summative assessment. Many of the assessment descriptors have been formulated in such a way that they can be used by teachers from different curriculum and subject areas.

On behalf of the Research and Development Team, I would like to thank The Bell Foundation for its generous financial support, and The Bell Foundation Associates for their critical comments and insightful advice.

Yours

Professor Constant Leung FAcSS,

King's College London

Constant Lang



Name:

Band

Name:

Band

Class:

First Language:

		Band A Band B		Band C	Band D	Band E
	CODE	of written English; taking first		Drawing on growing knowledge of vocabulary and grammar to engage with curriculum-related texts and tasks	Working with written language and accompanying visuals productively, using different strategies in response to curriculum tasks	Engaging with curriculum- related reading activities independently and productively in different subject areas
Early Pevelopment	I	Can make use of their cultural and linguistic experiences to try to make sense of words in digital and print forms (i.e. doesn't understand but can distinguish between words and numbers or symbols or text types - advertisement or newspaper article)	Can recognise words and the sequences of words that form familiar phrases or expressions (e.g. 'once upon a time')	Can recognise and read irregular (but frequently occurring) spelling patterns (e.g. '-tre' in 'centre')	Can relate written material to classroom activities and understand that written material is often organised and presented differently from spoken language (e.g. written instructions for science experiments versus teacher and peer talk while conducting the experiment)	Can process information in written texts that are structured differently from that gained through spoken language, even if they are on the same topic or have similar content
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year Can follow written text conventions	Academic Year Can use awareness of grapheme-	Academic Year Can recognise common prefixes (e.g. 're' in	Academic Year	Academic Year Can understand and interpret visuals
	2	(e.g. left to right movement (in English), continuity of text from top to bottom of page)	phoneme correspondence to try to decode unfamiliar words/phrases	'return') and suffixes (e.g. 'ed' in 'walked') and punctuation, and use this awareness and knowledge to make sense of text	Can identify the purpose and intended audience of curriculum-related texts without prompting	and graphics in conjunction with written text appropriately
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year	Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year
	3	Can understand that written text and visuals have content, meaning and organisation (e.g. front and back covers of a book)	Can attempt to work with familiar and some unfamiliar words in phrases/sentences, and try to make sense of them	Can make sense of curriculum texts but may need support to comprehend unfamiliar content, culturally engendered nuances (e.g. 'the angel twinkled on the top of the tree'), and figurative and metaphoric expressions (e.g. 'don't wind him up', 'life is a roller coaster')	Can recognise meaning of words/phrases expressing degrees of obligation, probability and possibility in context (e.g. may, must, should)	Can understand the meaning - such as identifying the agent when not obvious and the sequence of happenings - contained in sentences and passages based on knowledge of more complex grammar (e.g. the passive voice 'No pocket money until you tidy your room. You have been warned,' said Mum)
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
	4	Can distinguish and understand different forms of meaning representation, (e.g. letters, words, visual images and graphics)	Can use own growing language knowledge to process text at the phrase/sentence level, showing awareness of idiomatic expressions, (e.g. 'in the beginning', 'a long time ago')	Can identify and interpret information from visual images, tables, charts and graphs, and relate it to the task at hand	Can use growing knowledge of grammar to try to make sense of complex expressions (e.g. conditional constructions such as 'If I had a choice I would')	Academic Year Can recognise complex cohesive markers to link ideas across sentences and passages (e.g. although, in spite of, pronouns referring back across several sentences e.g. 'The stone age was lt')
ı		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
not expected o be achieved in order	5	Can recognise names, including own name, and labels of objects and spaces in the classroom and other familiar parts of the school (e.g. school office)	Can comprehend taught/rehearsed short written passages at whole-text level, using visuals as support where appropriate	Can identify main idea/s in curriculum material and use own prior experience and learning to assist understanding where appropriate	Can follow written material to do tasks such as classifying and sequencing events in narratives, descriptions and processes in subject content texts independently	Can find specific information or detail from written texts to respond to 'how', 'who' or 'why' questions
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
	6	Can match pictures and other visuals with taught/rehearsed words	Can attempt to read/check own writing for meaning with teacher/peer support	Can understand most subject content texts, including factual accounts, narratives, opinion pieces; although may need support with unfamiliar vocabulary, complex sentences and writing styles	Can identify figurative speech (e.g. 'a star was born') and metaphoric expressions (e.g. 'he bottled up his anger') in curriculum texts (and seek help if necessary)	Can identify explicit and implicit messages in informational and fictional texts
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
	7	Can make sense of familiar words in books, on signs and posters in school and in frequently visited digital environments	Can identify and extract information (words and passages) in texts in response to concrete what, where and who questions	Can comprehend curriculum-linked English literature mostly at the literal level, but may rely on teacher and peer support to understand cultural references and meanings	Can recognise different text types/genres, understanding that the purpose of communication can shape text organisation (e.g. a narrative of personal experience versus a report of a science experiment)	Can evaluate an informational or fictional text in terms of its interest, relevance and usefulness
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
	9	Can recognise and use sound-symbol correspondence to decipher the meaning of some words in a	Academic Year Can read out loud short texts with familiar/predictable structures written in everyday languages,	Academic Year Can retrieve relevant details from curriculum and literary texts to retell the gist of content	Academic Year Can use a developing range of reading strategies, especially when prompted (e.g. adjusting their reading rate for	Academic Year Can draw own conclusion/form own opinion from reading where appropriate (e.g. when participating
		taught/rehearsed text Autumn Spring Summer	attempting to use pauses and intonation to mark meaning Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	the task at hand), using dictionaries or other references Autumn Spring Summer	in class and group discussions) Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
		Can follow and make use of familiar words to extract basic meaning from a familiar text	Can begin to work out main points, story lines and explicit messages from illustrated text without prompting	Can begin to differentiate between informational and fictional statements/texts independently	Can reread a text to check understanding if told that the information in the text has not been completely understood	Can analyse curriculum-related texts in terms of nature/type of content, organisation and purpose
		Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year	Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year	Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year	Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year	Autumn Spring Summer Academic Year
	10	Academic Tear	Can use growing awareness of			Can independently apply reading
Getting		Can choose books or other reading materials to join in learning activities, especially when guided	familiar grapheme-phoneme correspondence, spelling patterns, and contextual clues to work out the meaning of unfamiliar words, phrases and short texts	Can use compositional and design features of print and digital material to navigate and locate information (e.g. contents pages, links, tabs, search functions)	Can identify main ideas and specific information in curriculum-related texts for retelling, paraphrasing and answering questions	skills and strategies already acquired to engage with new texts at word, sentence, and whole-text levels, using visuals and prior knowledge to enhance understanding
Closer to the Next		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
Band		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year

Name:

		Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E
					Demonstrating competence	Demonstrating enhanced
	CODE	Showing attempts at	Demonstrating basic skills of	Demonstrating competence in		ability in writing with greater
	CODL	writing in English	spelling and sentence	independent use of vocabulary and	vocabulary, sentences and	accuracy and for a variety of
			construction	construction of simple sentences	genres with increased accuracy and fluency	purposes, mostly at age- expected level
			Can show awareness of common and		accuracy and nuency	expected level
			simple spelling rules (e.g. can show		Can employ a range of modal elements (e.g. 'would', 'should', 'could',	Can demonstrate full control over
Early Development		Can mark/indicate familiar pictures, numbers and other visual images	awareness of basic phonics and starting to spell common consonant-	Can use appropriate time sequencing (e.g. 'first', 'next', 'finally')	'might') and tenses (including present	grammatical features (including types of verb, pronoun reference,
	- 1	Hambers and other visual images	vowel-consonant (CVC) words	inse, nexe, inany)	continuous tense, simple past tense) to construct a text	compound and complex sentences)
\wedge	•		correctly, such as 'hat', 'ant', 'sit')			
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
	2	Can communicate intentions and own	Can form and reproduce most	Can attempt to construct a coherent sentence with familiar vocabulary, including	Can identify spelling errors in words	Can write in clear, well-structured
		meaning through drawing and mark	English letters and attempt to	common articles (e.g. 'a', 'the'), prepositions	used in curriculum subjects when	English across the curriculum using
		making	produce words	(e.g. 'on', 'in') and conjunctions (e.g. 'and', 'but')	proofreading their own writing	appropriate style and layout
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
			, ,	Academic Year	Academic Year	
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Tear	Can combine phrases/sentences to	Academic Year
		Can show awareness of the differences between print and picture in attempting	Can jot down a phrase/sentence from audio/video material and orally	Can use some formulaic expressions in writing (e.g. 'excuse me', 'I suppose so', 'at the	produce a clear and coherent	Can use a variety of tenses (including
	_	to write	rehearse it by themselves	beginning', 'once upon a time')	statement in relation to curriculum tasks	present and past perfect)
	3	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
			, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
		Can show awareness of some basic	C			
		conventions of writing (e.g. writing from left to right — significant if this is not the	Can complete sentence starters if examples are provided	Can use some grammatical structures, such as subject-verb agreement (e.g. 'he walks'),	Can write grammatical sentences on familiar topics (e.g. meeting friends,	Can write competently for a
		convention in the pupil's first language; leaving spaces between symbols or	(e.g. 'I like [apples]', 'The monkey ate [four bananas]')	inflections (e.g. adding 'ed' to form the past tense)	participating in sports events)	range of classroom purposes
	4	letters)	[[our damana]]			
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
				Academic Year		
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Can produce longer sentences based on	Academic Year	Academic Year
not expected		Can form and reproduce some English	Can follow examples and reproduce taught expectations about layout	familiar taught content, but writing reflects	Can write stories and descriptions of personal experience in an appropriate	Can connect or integrate personal
		letters	(e.g. front cover, page number)	features of spoken language (e.g. 'Yesterday, I, then I went home')	time sequence	experiences with literary writing
to be achieved in order	5	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
iii order			A sa damaia Vasa	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Tear	Academic Tear	Academic Tear
			Can make independent use of basic punctuations to achieve various	Can combine ideas based on taught content,	Can use text models to scaffold	Can express ideas and opinions
		Can copy or write own name	purposes (e.g. using commas to separate ideas, capitals to start a	although they are not fully accurate (e.g. 'stone age peoples use sharp stone')	content and structure of writing for different classroom purposes	effectively for expectations
	6		sentence)	stone age peoples use sharp stone)	different classifooni purposes	of age group
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
		Can use first language to scaffold their effort to form English words (e.g. words	Can copy passages from an English text in the curriculum (significant if	Can show understanding of content of taught	Can begin to use phrases/sentences in	Can write reports using technical
		from other languages used in English,	the pupil's first language is in a	sessions through writing using familiar vocabulary and sentence models	a culturally-appropriate way in different areas of the curriculum	vocabulary (e.g. scientific experiments)
	7	such as French 'table')	different script)	,		
		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
			Can combine drawing and writing to			
		Can start to write English to fill in blanks, copy known words or label	create meaningful sentences on	Can draw on first language to plan writing (e.g. use words from first language to scaffold	Can compare, contrast and summarise content-based information (e.g.	Can justify, defend and debate opinions based on supporting
	8	diagrams/images (e.g. labelling a map)	familiar topics (e.g. a picture of a house with 'This is my home')	ideas)	environment, education)	information and evidence
	0	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
		Can contribute to a shared story in the	Can form simple sentences using word/phrase banks for different	Can construct simple connected text based		Can plan writing with a particular
		class and produce letters and strings of	classroom purposes (e.g. words and	on short descriptions of events and activities	Can participate in shared writing activities or write independently	audience in mind (e.g. letter of
	9	letters associated with pictures	phrases highlighted in curriculum tasks)	for classroom purposes	,	complaint, persuasive leaflet)
	ŕ	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
				, o		
		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
		Can copy/reproduce letters shown by	Can write some simple basic phrases or sentences in relation to personal	Can attempt to write short texts in different	Can produce texts in a variety of genres (e.g. narrative, argumentation,	Can review, revise and edit work
\downarrow		teachers to make their own meaning when telling a story	experience (e.g. family, home,	genres (e.g. first person diary entry, letter, third person narrative)	description) using subject - or topic-	with teachers or independently (depending on age)
Gottin-	10		playground activities)		related vocabulary	(12) 3111116 411 1164)
Getting Closer to		Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer	Autumn Spring Summer
the Next		Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year	Academic Year
Band						

DfE Proficiency in English scales

A	New to English	May use first language for learning and other purposes. May remain silent in the classroom. May be copying/repeating some words or phrases. May understand some everyday English expressions but may have minimal or no literacy in English. Needs considerable amount of EAL support.
В	Early Acquisition	May follow day-to-day social communication in English and participate in learning activities with support. Beginning to use spoken English for social purposes. May understand simple instructions and can follow narrative/accounts with visual support. May have developed some skills in reading and writing. May have become familiar with some subject-specific vocabulary. Still needs a significant amount of EAL support to access the curriculum.
C	Developing Competence	May participate in learning activities with increasing independence. Able to express self orally in English but structural inaccuracies are still apparent. Literacy will require ongoing support, particularly for understanding text and writing. May be able to follow abstract concepts and more complex written English. Requires ongoing EAL support to access the curriculum fully.
D	Competent	Oral English will be developing well, enabling successful engagement in activities across the curriculum. Can read and understand a wide variety of texts. Written English may lack complexity and contain occasional evidence of errors in structure. Needs some support to access subtle nuances of meaning, to refine English usage, and to develop abstract vocabulary. Needs some/occasional EAL support to access complex curriculum material and tasks.
Е	Fluent	Can operate across the curriculum to a level of competence equivalent to that of a pupil who uses English as his/her first language. Operates without EAL support across the curriculum.

