

Proficiency in English Scale

A

New to English

- May use first language for learning and other purposes.
- May remain completely silent in the classroom.
- May be copying/repeating some words or phrases.
- May understand some everyday expressions in English but may have minimal/no literacy in English.
- Needs a considerable amount of EAL support.

B

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.

E

Fluent

- Can operate across the curriculum to a level of competence that is equivalent to a pupil who uses English as his/her first language.
- Operates without EAL support across the curriculum.