



**Tenby International School  
Penang**



# English Support

for Non-English Speaking Students

Part of



**International<sup>®</sup>  
Schools  
Partnership**



## Mastering the English Language

Our students come to us from many different backgrounds, and with many different needs too. As the school of choice in Penang, we strive to equip all students with the tools necessary to make the most of their learning opportunities.

If your child enrolls in Tenby International School with minimal English, he or she may be required to take additional English Support lessons to ensure they are able to access to the curriculum and make good progress during their learning journey.





## **Determining a child's English Support Needs**

During the entrance assessment, applicants will complete the CAT4 (Cognitive Abilities Test) which is one of the most widely used cognitive abilities tests in the UK. It is used by schools to help them understand a student's developed abilities (where they are now) and likely academic potential (where they could be).






This allows us to support students in the right way to ensure that they achieve their potential. These tests measure the Verbal, Non-Verbal, Quantitative and Spatial Reasoning of children according to their age.

When a student's Verbal score is below 90, they will be required to undergo an English assessment with the Head of Learning Support. This will enable us to create a bespoke English Support Programme for your child.

# Types of English Support

We offer 3 types of support according to the English level of your child:

- English Immersion Classes for Beginners in our English Language Centre (ELC)
- English Proficiency Classes in our English Language Centre (ELC)
- English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support

Stage	Type of English Support	Level Description	Fee
1 	English Immersion for Beginners in our English Language Center (ELC)	NEW TO ENGLISH	<b>RM 6,400 per term</b> with deposit. No additional Tuition Fee is required.
2 	English Proficiency Classes in the English Language Centre (ELC) with some access to mainstream lessons	EARLY ACQUISITION	<b>RM 3,000 per term</b> with Tuition Fee according to Year Group.*
3 	English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support with full access to mainstream lessons	DEVELOPING COMPETENCE	<b>Complimentary</b> support with no additional fee needed.
4 	English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support with full access to mainstream lesson	COMPETENT	<b>Complimentary</b> support with no additional fee needed.
5 	End of EAL support	FLUENT	No additional fee needed.

\*Reduced to **RM2,550** for students who need to stay on for an additional term in ELC.



**Stage 1:  
English Immersion Classes  
for Beginners in our English  
Language Centre (ELC)**

If your child is new to English and needs to start with the basics, he or she will be enrolled in the school on a Conditional Offer in our English Immersion Classes until we see progress in their level of English. English Immersion is a highly intensive class for approximately 15 hours a week.

Students will be taught in small classes to ensure individualised support. They will also get the opportunity to sign up for selected CCA's (Co-Curricular Activities) in their afternoon sessions so that they can meet other students and become integrated in the school community.

Duration:

One (1) academic term. The school expects to see progress made in English so students can move to stage 2 after 1 academic term.

Year Groups:

Year 2 to 7 only





## Stage 2: English Proficiency Classes in the English Language Centre (ELC)

If the entrance assessment shows that your child's English level is at Stage 2, they will be enrolled into the school on a Conditional Offer and be placed in this programme.

Students will spend about 7 to 11 hours per week (depending on their year group) in the ELC. They will also access some subjects in the mainstream curriculum which don't require a high level of English such as Mathematics, Physical Education (PE), Music and ICT and will have a customised timetable.

### Duration:

One to two (1-2) academic terms. Students in the ELC will be assessed at the end of every term and move on to English as an Additional Language (EAL) support according to the assessment outcome.

### Year Groups:

Year 3 to 8 only

**Stage 3 & 4:  
English as an Additional  
Language (EAL) Support**

**In Tenby International Primary School (TIPS):**

- Your child will be supported in class by the EAL teacher and/or will be extracted from the class for a 40 minute lesson once or twice a week. These lessons are small group lessons so that the students can benefit from extra support.
- The EAL teacher will assess and track the progress of your child in the English language and will send a report through the school portal at the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3.

**In Tenby International Secondary School (TISS):**

- In KS3 (Y7, Y8 and Y9), students are extracted for small group English lessons once or twice a week for 1h 20 minutes. Students tend to be extracted from 1 subject out of either Music, Design Technologies, ICT or Drama. Each term, the EAL timetable will change so that students can be extracted from a different subject and not miss out on that subject for longer than a term. Some students may also be supported in classes by the EAL teacher.
- In KS4 (Y10 and Y11), students do not get extracted from lessons. They usually get extra support in class from the EAL teacher. Some students may also be strongly advised to attend booster sessions or EAL CCA after school in order to get extra support.










# Assessments



## How are students assessed in English Support?

At Tenby School Penang, we use the DfE (Department for Education) proficiency in English scale.

All English Support students will be assessed termly in reading, listening, speaking and writing. A report is sent home to parents at the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3.

Stage	Description	
1		NEW TO ENGLISH
2		EARLY ACQUISITION
3		DEVELOPING COMPETENCE
4		COMPETENT
5		FLUENT

## When are students exited from the EAL programme? (no longer need support)

Students will be exited from the EAL programme once they have reached Stage 5 in most skills (reading, listening, writing and speaking).



# Support Your Child

## What can I do to support my child at home?

There is a lot you may be able to do at home to support your child in improving their level of English. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Daily reading in English:** Helps students to develop vocabulary, spelling and sentence structure. Primary School students all have access to Bug Club (Tenby's online reading resource). Class teachers allocate a range of books at the appropriate level for your child. Your child can directly access their books at <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/>. Your child will be given a username, password and school code.
- **Supporting with homework.**
- **Providing a bilingual dictionary:** The use of a dictionary is excellent practice for students. Google translate is not always accurate and using a bilingual dictionary for EAL students is an essential skill.
- **Using language Apps:** Students can download a few apps on their device such as Duolingo or Memrise. These apps are useful to practice everyday vocabulary and spelling. These apps will also cater for individual needs and levels.
- **Entertainment in English:** When watching movies or videos, students are encouraged to do so in English with English subtitles. This is a great help and will support their listening skills as well as their spelling and vocabulary building.
- **Conversation:** If a member of the family has a good level of English, try to have as many English conversations as possible at home. This will help with building confidence in speaking.

# Bilingual



## What does it mean to be bilingual?

It is very common for children all over the world to grow up using more than one language. We use the term “bilingual” for people who use more than one language in their daily lives. It does not mean that the person has equal skills in each language.

## What are the advantages of being bilingual?

### References:

*A Parents' and a Teachers' Guide to Bilingualism*

Baker, Colin 1995

*Learning in 2+ Languages*

*Learning and Teaching Scotland, 2005*

<https://naldic.org.uk/>

### **Culture**

Speaking more than one language means you experience more than one world: different ways of thinking, ideas and beliefs. The home language is very important for passing on values and traditions and maintaining cultural identity.

### **Family**

The home language is usually the first language learnt by the child so it has special value and is the most natural way to express emotions. The home language is also important for maintaining relationships with friends and family.

### **Thinking power**

Learning and using more than one language can improve creative thinking, problem solving and expression.

### **Language**

Bilingualism creates a better understanding of how language works and can make learning other languages easier.

### **A world of opportunities**

Many jobs and employers need people who can speak, read and write in other languages.



## Contact Us



**If you have any queries, please contact the Learning Support Department or Admissions Department at Tenby Schools Penang.**

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