



English as an Additional Language

Supporting BME Children and Families in Edinburgh Schools

Eileen Simpson
EAL Service

www.ealedinburgh.org.uk

The EAL Service is a city-wide teaching service which works **in partnership** with schools to:

- identify and address the needs of learners with English as an additional language
- promote inclusion, equality and achievement for Bilingual and Minority Ethnic (BME) children and their families

Quiz



- What percentage of pupils in City of Edinburgh schools are from bilingual/minority ethnic (BME) groups?
- What percentage of pupils in these schools need support to develop their English?
- How many languages are spoken by pupils in these schools?
- What do we mean by ‘bilingual learners’?

Who are our 'client group'?



- Approx 18% are BME (2011-2012)
- Approx 10% supported pupils in primary and secondary schools
- 97 different home languages
- New, growing and changing bilingual populations
- Distribution of bilingual populations (new and established)

Who are 'Bilingual Learners'?



- o Pupils who function in more than one language in their daily lives
- o The term 'bilingual' emphasises that we acknowledge they already have one language and that English is a second or additional language.
- o It does not imply an equal or specified level of proficiency in two languages

Who are we?



- o 40 EAL Teachers (27 posts)
- o 13 Bilingual Support Assistants(8.2 posts)
- 'BSAs'

For 7 most common languages: Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Mandarin, Panjabi, Polish, Urdu-Punjabi

What do we do?



- o Teaching and tuition
- o Advice, consultancy and development courses for school staff
- o Address barriers to Race Equality, Inclusion and Achievement

Helping schools build:



- home-school partnerships
- equality and anti-racist practice
- links with other partner services & agencies

How can you contact us?



- o EAL teachers in most primary and secondary schools on a weekly basis
- o Website: www.ealedinburgh.org.uk
- o Leaflet details
- o EAL Service Base: Westwood House
- o Admin: rachael.hay@ea.edin.sch.uk
- o Tel: 0131 469 2890