

## **Individual support for overseas pupils of all levels**

The English as an Additional Language (EAL) Department teaches English to overseas pupils of all levels, covering reading, writing, speaking and listening and providing exceptional levels of support for pupils who do not have English as a first language.

In line with Tring Park's ethos, our mission is to provide all individual pupils with the skills and resources to achieve their very highest personal standards. We seek to enable our pupils to transfer the language they learn to the outside world, and to support them in becoming independent learners of English and other subjects.

We prepare EAL pupils for IGCSE English as a Second Language and/or IELTS examinations. The IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) English as a Second Language course is a two year course which is better suited for many overseas pupils than the standard GCSE in English as it has no coursework element and no bias towards literary language or specifically British cultural content. A grade C pass in this exam is sufficient to satisfy most British universities that you are able to cope with their courses. Sixth Form pupils study for the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) examination. This is the English language qualification for overseas pupils applying for places in British and Australian universities. It is also recognised by an increasing number of US universities.

We also provide a programme of language support for pupils working towards their GCSE or A level examinations in specific academic or vocational subjects, with EAL staff liaising with Directors and subject teachers on how best to support EAL pupils. Progress in academic subjects is monitored by pupils' Group Tutors, subject teachers as well as the Head of EAL. We also offer guidance for university applications and help develop interview skills.

Timetabling is flexible and structured according to the needs of individuals. All pupils are assessed on arrival for the degree of language support needed. We recognise that all of our pupils are different and therefore offer flexibility to account for individual needs, learning styles and cultural backgrounds. As a result, tuition is in small classes, including some one-to-one teaching and support when necessary. There is no rigid, pre-determined syllabus. Classes focus on the general improvement of language skills, examination preparation and language support for work in other academic subject areas.