

EAL/D at Bletchley Park



At Bletchley Park we welcome families from many different cultural backgrounds with varying levels of English. Parents are often concerned about their children arriving at kindy with little or no English. Our school provides support to these children to help them settle into daily routines and become happy and confident at school.

- At the beginning of the year we have extra staff in the Classrooms to assist children in learning routines and concepts.
- Kindy staff use picture cards so the children know what a word or an instruction means.
- If children are upset the teachers will reassure and distract them. It usually doesn't last too long but, if they are very distressed and do not settle, parents will be contacted.
- EAL children are given extra time to follow instructions – our teachers understand that switching between two languages is sometimes difficult.
- We expect that some EAL children will be silent for a period of time before they start to speak in English. This is normal and it doesn't mean they are not learning.
- If parents do not understand English we can easily provide interpreters for talking to teachers. We can do this over the phone or in a face to face interview.

There are also lots of things you can do at home to help:

- Speak to your child in their home language. It is very important for their language development that they continue to build on their home language. This will help them with their English learning in the future.
- Read stories and watch TV shows at home in your home language. If reading is an issue, just having good conversations about school and life experiences in home language helps.
- Expect that your son/daughter might be extra tired when they first begin kindy. It is a busy day and they are learning English at the same time so they may need more sleep. An occasional day off to rest is fine if they need it.
- Be patient and give them lots of time. Don't expect them to learn English overnight. Every child is different and it takes years to become a fluent user of another language.



WELCOME TO BLETCHLEY PARK !