



Advice for English as an Additional Language (EAL) Learners



WELCOME TO WOLSEY HALL - PRIMARY

If your child is learning with Wolsey Hall Oxford but your first language at home is not English, you may be looking for some advice on improving your child's current level of English and how to support them in their learning of the English language. Here is some advice to help you at home, with links to websites where you can find resources to help improve your English skills.

Learn English as a family

If English is an additional language for the family, consider learning English together to help motivate and encourage your child. The more opportunities for English speaking you have, the faster you will learn the language.

Translate key vocabulary into your first language

When preparing lessons, translate key vocabulary into your first language as well. This will help your child bridge their understanding of English words.



Keep a vocabulary book

Use a notebook at home, and encourage your child to add new English words to the book each day. Keep looking through the book together to practise saying what the word means.

Put up English words around the house on objects

Use sticky notes (or similar) to label objects and actions around your house in English. Walking past them, and reading the notes will help your child to develop their vocabulary in English, e.g. a chair under the table.



TV, movies and radio

Although we do not want children spending too much time watching TV and movies, try to put on English-speaking shows and films to help your child absorb the English language. Try putting on an English-speaking radio station to listen to at home.

Invite English speaking friends for a play date or video call

If you have any English-speaking friends, use this to help improve your child's skills. Find as many opportunities as possible for your child to interact and use their English skills with other English speakers.



Try to use English outside of the learning time

Try to use English at home outside of learning times. Make it part of your normal day to help your child develop their language skills in English.

Read English or bilingual stories to your child

Choose books in English to read and share with your child. Bilingual books are also a useful resource to help your child with understanding meanings in English. Try to do this regularly as part of your home routine.

[Kids World Fun](#)
[Oxford Owl](#)
[Get Epic](#)
[Children's Library](#)



Use Audiobooks

English speaking audiobooks are a great way for your child to listen to the English language in a fun and engaging way.

[stories.audible.com](#)
[harpercollinschildrensbooks.co.uk/listen-for-free](#)
[researchify.co.uk/audiobooks](#)

Encourage writing for pleasure in English

Many children learn by 'doing'. Encourage your child to participate in a writing activity, e.g. a diary or a journal in English to practise their English language skills regularly.

Play and do other activities in English

When having fun at home try to make English your language of conversation. Try baking using English to communicate and share with each other, or a craft activity.



Join an English-speaking club or external activity

If you are lucky enough to have clubs and activities near your home where the language of instruction and conversation is in English, sign up your child to provide more opportunity to hear the English language being used.

Songs in English together

Singing songs together is a great way to use your English language skills. Whether it is English nursery rhymes or the latest pop songs, sing together and discuss what the words mean.

bussongs.com/singalong-songs
learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/songs



Have a Family Meal in English

Why not make meal time an opportunity to learn? Choose one meal time (or more) each week to practise your English language skills as a family.

Relax

Learning English should be a fun experience. The more your child is enjoying using their English language skills, the more successful they will be. Be careful to motivate and encourage your child in English, rather than pushing them so much that they become resistant to it. It is fine for mistakes to be made and this is often how we learn best.

There are many online opportunities to practise English. These sites provide links to activities and opportunities to practise your English.

learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/fun-games
nightzookeeper
eslgamesplus.com/fun-games
gamestolearnenglish
education.com/games

Please note that all links worked at the time of writing this document. Wolsey Hall Oxford does not endorse any of these sites.