

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Headteachers of Lambeth Schools, Academies, PRUs and Nurseries

6th May 2016

LAMBETH EAL ENGLISH PROFICIENCY SCALE ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Dear Headteacher,

Further to my letter of 20th April, drawing your attention to a DfE proposal to include EAL proficiency in English as part of the national School Census, I would like to confirm that the DfE has now approved this.

All schools nationally will be required to assess all of their pupils with EAL for their proficiency in English in reception year and above. Following an initial collection during the Autumn 2016 School Census, information on fluency in English of pupils with EAL will move to an annual collection from the Spring 2017 School Census onwards. Further details about this new requirement can be found on page 10 and page 62 in the new DfE school census guidance notes:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-census-2016-to-2017-guide-for-schools-and-las>

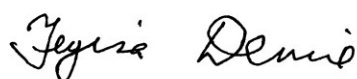
Schools in Lambeth have routinely assessed and submitted EAL fluency and language data as part of the EAL Fluency Survey during the Spring Term each year since 1990. Consequently, we believe Lambeth schools should be well-placed to respond to this request. The government has implemented a national assessment framework based on a 5 Stage Model. In our view, the assessment model Lambeth schools have been using is very similar to that which is being introduced and we will be working towards harmonising these so that we can both meet the statutory needs and continue to assess pupils with EAL effectively, whilst limiting the burden on schools during this transition.

There will be a small Lambeth EAL group set up to look at the existing Lambeth scale and the proposed DfE fluency model. We have asked Amanda Bellsham-Revell, an EAL Consultant who many of you already know, to lead a working party to develop the process and materials, then run training workshops for EAL Coordinators/Teachers. Accordingly, we have booked workshops at **International House, on Wednesday 29th June and Friday 1st July 2016** for training of EAL coordinators and staff with responsibility for EAL assessment and monitoring in schools. It is essential that the move from the 4 existing stages to the 5 new stages, is implemented by all schools in the same way and thus we would urge you to await further information and attend the training, rather than introduce the new scale independently.

I will let you know how we progress. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Attached is the training booking form.

Yours sincerely,



Feyisa Demie
Head of Research and Adviser for School Self-evaluation