

Headteachers of Lambeth Schools

6th July 2018

EAL PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH DATA COLLECTION

Dear colleague,

Following the introduction of the “Proficiency in English” data collection as a statutory requirement, the DfE have made changes so that this will no longer be a part of the Spring School Census.

I am writing to you to clarify that as a local authority with a long track record of success with supporting our pupils with English as an additional language, this change has no bearing on our continued monitoring of English proficiency and we will continue to assess and collect the Stages of English Proficiency (A - E) during the Spring term as we have done for many years.

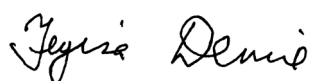
In line with local strategies, we need to collect this data to continue to monitor the characteristics of the pupils attending your school and for benchmarking purposes and it is used for value-added analyses of EYFS, KS1, KS2 and GCSE results. The information is invaluable to teachers for informing planning and targets and has been effectively used to demonstrate impact of teaching and progress (key to Ofsted at the moment), by looking at the movement through the stages of those children new to English.

With around half of all Lambeth pupils being classed as having English as an additional language, we have one of the highest EAL pupil populations in England. It is widely recognised that English proficiency is the major factor influencing the performance of pupils with English as an additional language, with ***fully fluent*** EAL pupils being among the highest achieving in Lambeth schools. As such, it is essential that we continue to assess English proficiency so that we can continue to effectively support our EAL pupils and help them to realise their potential.

I would encourage you to continue to develop your school's EAL strategy and embed good practice so that we can maintain our excellent standards of achievement and the local authority will continue to support schools in this regard.

If you have any questions pertaining to this or wish to discuss further, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Feyisa Demie

Head of Research and Statistics / Adviser for School Self-Evaluation

Children and Young People's Service

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