

Introduction to the Initial Support Pack CD

Welcome to the English as an additional language: Initial Support Pack for Schools.

The number of pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds in Cumbria has been steadily increasing over recent years. For the first time many schools are facing the opportunity and challenge of working with newly arrived pupils for whom English is as an additional language (EAL). In some cases pupils with EAL have already been in school for a number of years and have settled well, but staff may feel the need for further advice on how to help these pupils achieve their potential.

Within the Specialist Advisory Teaching Service it is the role of Ethnic Minority Achievement Specialists to support the achievement of ethnic minority pupils in Cumbrian schools. We do this by advising schools on supporting the inclusion of pupils with EAL, thereby facilitating their language acquisition and curriculum access. We also advise schools on how to support and include Traveller pupils, who may have learning needs as a result of interrupted learning due to a mobile lifestyle. Where appropriate we support individual pupils in school.

We have produced this Initial Support Pack as a means of providing information on how best to meet the needs of pupils with English as an additional language. We particularly wanted to provide a quick response to schools when pupils are newly arrived.

We have arranged the information in the Initial Support Pack (ISP) CD into folders that we hope you will find useful. The folders are:

- Assessments
- Contact us
- Communicating with parents
- Curriculum Access
- EMA paperwork
- Government Publications
- Introduction to CD
- IT Resources
- Language Acquisition
- Language & Country Resources
- New Arrivals
- Race Equality for schools
- SATS Information Sheets
- SEN & EAL
- Useful websites

In each folder you will find information from various sources and in various formats, including:

- SATS Information sheets on related subjects
- Copies of Government guidance
- List of key words in various languages
- Some useful classroom words and phrases in various languages
- Links to useful websites

The folder entitled 'SATS Information Sheets' holds all the Information sheets. However, we have also put certain ones into relevant sections where appropriate to make referencing easier. Any file name that is prefixed with 'ISP' denotes that it is a SATS Information Sheet.

We recommend that you start your viewing with the SATS Information folder and then access the various folders that match your requirements in order to support your pupils.

You will need certain programmes on your computer to access all the files, for example Adobe Acrobat for pdf files, Macromedia Flash Player and Windows Media Player. Please contact your usual IT support if you need help accessing any of these programmes.

We will review the ISP regularly and will add appropriate information as it becomes available. This especially relates to language resources as some languages currently have more resources available than others. We may send updates to you via the School Portal where they can then be saved on the CD.

We hope that you find this Initial Support Pack useful. If you have any queries or feel that there is information not currently on the CD that you would find useful, please contact Sophie Tinker on 01228 60 6955 or sophie.tinker@cumbriacc.gov.uk.

Please note

The Specialist Advisory Teaching Service wishes to make it clear that whilst we have made every effort to ensure the quality of resources suggested, whether these are in the form of printed publications or on a website, we can accept no responsibility for the actual content.

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