



ESOL Faculty

Our Aims

The ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) faculty offers English to non-native speakers of English and this is done through a variety of programmes. The faculty aims to bridge the gap between native and non-native speakers and ensure that the latter is equipped with the language skills to cope in an international English-speaking environment.

Our Approach

Communicative competence is the focus in all our lessons. For students who are new to the English-speaking environment, the ability to communicate is vital. As such, our English lessons focus on enabling students to express themselves confidently in social and academic situations so that they can then function effectively with their fellow students and teachers in this international environment.

To be successful in any academic programme, students must first be equipped with the relevant skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking. The ESOL faculty works collaboratively within the department as well as with teachers from other faculties to help students become successful in these skills. Therefore, our curriculum is skills-based and every activity and task is a form of scaffolding that ultimately, leads to the acquiring of these skills.

Our Programmes

All non-native speakers of English are required to take an English placement test followed by an interview with the Head of Faculty of ESOL. The success of this test will determine the programme in which the student is placed into:

The Mainstream Curriculum

The ESOL faculty is responsible for students in the IGCSE programme and IBDP who are taking the following subjects:

- IGCSE (ESL)
- IBDP English B (Group 2)

The Bridging Programme

Most ESOL students often start with one year of foundational preparation before gaining admission into the mainstream programme. This is where the Bridging Programme comes in. The following levels are available in the Bridging Programme:

1B

Year 1, preparing for entry into the Year 2 mainstream programme

Pre-IGCSE

Year 2, preparing for entry into the Year 3 IGCSE programme. Students will then take either ESL or English as a first language at IGCSE level. This is dependent on their English grades in the end-of-year examinations.

Pre-IB

Year 4, preparing for entry into the Year 5 International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP). Students will then study English as a Group 2 subject.