

Mayflower College Aims and Curriculum Policy

- To provide high-quality, cost-effective English language teaching and testing programmes to international students and professionals
- To constantly improve services for the benefit of students, partners and members of staff
- To provide a friendly, personalised and caring environment in which students are able to relax and learn
- To establish long term relationships with students, agents and partners
- To help students become self-directed lifelong learners
- To provide welcoming, safe and comfortable homestay accommodation where students can improve their English and experience the British way of life
- To provide students with an interesting & varied social programme.

With the exception of our special purpose courses (IELTS preparation, Aviation English, Teachers of English for Aviation, Raters of Aviation English, closed school groups), adult General English courses are linked to the CEFR and are designed to accommodate the needs of our learners. Each level contains a mixture of general English and skills/academic skills.

At any given time any number of the class levels A1 to C2 may be running dependent on student needs at that time. No level will be restricted to one class but will be appropriate to the number of students assessed to be at that level. This is reviewed weekly based on existing student progress and new student intake.

We have devised our own planning system at Mayflower College, with continuous enrolment very much in mind. Every week, a programme (teaching schedule) is produced for the subsequent week's classes. The plan is designed in accordance with the following objectives:

- To meet the diverse linguistic needs of our students (accommodating both short and long-term students)
- To create the conditions for student-centred learning to take place
- To ensure continuity throughout the week
- To achieve a balance between the teaching of grammar and other language functions.
- To ensure a balanced programme in relation to the four skills.
- To involve students in a variety of activities, materials and methods.

Morning Classes

Generally speaking, the morning lessons place more emphasis on grammatical and lexical input. Students are tested on the week's course content every Friday. This enables teaching staff to further ascertain

whether each student is in the correct class and identify areas to work on with students in future classes. Students are also able to identify areas for self-study.

Afternoon Classes

Afternoon classes tend to focus on skills development, fluency practice and pronunciation. The emphasis is on production rather than theory or input. The overall aim is to achieve a balance of skills, structures and functions to enable learners to communicate effectively in English.

A plan is produced which teachers are encouraged to follow, whilst displaying creativity in their lesson planning and incorporating their own supplementary ideas and learning materials, as appropriate. Teachers are encouraged to consider different methods and approaches to teaching and learning styles.

Last reviewed 01/12/2022