

English and Maths at ELATT

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Policy Summary

All learners between the ages of 16 and 19 who have not achieved grade 9 to 4 in both English and Maths will be required to enrol on a suitable course to achieve that grade in those subjects unless an appropriate exemption is in place.

Adults who have not achieved grade 9 to 4 in both English and Maths will be encouraged to work towards this.

Policy Statement

ELATT supports learners of all ages from 16 and above. We want our learners of all ages to achieve their full potential in life and work, and this includes having a solid foundation in English and Maths.

However, in this respect there are different statutory requirements for learners aged 16 – 19 and learners aged 19+, set out as follows:

ELATT Sixth Form students

ELATT Sixth Form students have to study English and Maths as a condition of funding until they achieve Level 2 unless they are exempt. For full details see pages 2 – 4 of this Policy.

ELATT Adult students

ELATT Adult Vocational students are not required to work towards Level 2 English and Maths as a condition of funding.

However, we assess English and Maths as part of the enrolment process to ensure that an applicant meets the entry requirements for their vocational course in these subjects. We also encourage adults who do not have Level 2 English and Maths to work towards this. To support students aiming to gain Level 2 English and maths, we run Functional Skills English and Maths classes and ESOL classes from Entry to Level 2.

We also give adult students access to online materials for English and maths where a student is not able to commit to an additional course in English and maths.

Sixth Form English and Maths Policy

Purpose

The English and Maths requirement of Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) study programmes¹ means that students who have not achieved an A* to C/9 to 4 GCSE, L2 Functional Skill (FS) or equivalent in one or both of these subjects by age 16 will continue to study towards achieving them as a part of their 16 to 19 Study Programmes. This requirement will be enforced by making the study of English and mathematics a condition of the student place being funded.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that learners who meet these criteria understand the requirement to continue to study English and / or Maths as part of their study programme at ELATT.

Scope

This policy relates to all ESFA funded learners on 16-19 Study Programmes studying at ELATT.

Students over the age of 19 studying full time courses who do not have GCSE grade A* to C/9 to 4 or L2 FS in English² and / or Maths will be encouraged to take appropriate Functional Skills or GCSEs. Where a 16-18 year old student, or 16-25 for those with an EHCP, does not have a GCSE A*-C/9 to 4, L2 FS or equivalent, they must be enrolled on a GCSE or approved stepping stone qualification.

A student who has grade D/3 (or equivalent, see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-funding-Maths-and-english-condition-of-funding>) in both Maths and in English will need to be enrolled on GCSE in both subjects in each academic year and is required to continue to study until they achieve at least a grade 4 in the GCSE, or until they are no longer 16-19 Study Programme funded.

Exemptions

There may be circumstances where students with an EHCP who have not achieved a GCSE A*-C/9 to 4, L2 FS or equivalent in English and Maths can be exempted from the requirement to study towards a recognised English and/or maths qualification. Where this is the case, if the Local Authority which is funding the individual has included an English and Maths outcome in the EHCP, we will make the decision on exemption in consultation with the Local Authority. However, our intention is for all students, whether with an EHCP or not, to achieve 9 – 4 in English and maths GCSE, and the decision to exempt will only be made in exceptional circumstances.

All exemptions must be supported by appropriate evidence within the student's EHCP and additional assessments to confirm that they are not able to study either GCSE or an approved stepping-stone qualification. All exemptions must be approved by the Vocational Manager and recorded on the Individual Learner Record (ILR). Exemptions for continuing/progressing students will be reviewed at the start of each academic year and continued where it is identified that students have not progressed sufficiently to be able to study towards a Condition of Funding compliant qualification.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-funding-Maths-and-english-condition-of-funding>

² Includes GCSE English, GCSE English Language, GCSE English Language & Literature, GCSE English Literature, iGCSE English

Basic Principles

The English and Maths studied by ESFA funded students on any course will be guided by each individual student's qualifications and initial assessment on entry. However, where appropriate and in discussion with the student alternative pathways may be followed to best suit the student's need and/or career aspirations, this include students enrolled on part time, 16 – 18, study programmes.

<p>English and Maths provision</p>	<p>Students aged 16-18, at enrolment, who do not yet have Grade A* to C / 9 to 4 or L2 in GCSE English and/or Maths must take either GCSE or Functional Skills as a stepping-stone to achieving GCSE grade A* to C / 9 to 4. Functional Skills may include Entry Level.</p> <p>Students aged 16 – 24 with an EHCP who have yet to achieve grade A* to C / 9 to 4 or L2 in GCSE English and Maths will continue to study towards achieving them by taking a GCSE or appropriate stepping-stone qualification, unless there is an exceptional exemption.</p> <p>Exemptions from studying towards recognised English and Maths qualifications will be applied where supportive evidence is available within an EHCP and from ELATT's EHCP and Disability Liaison Officer in conjunction with the Tutor and Vocational Manager.</p>
<p>General Principle and Levels of Study</p>	<p>The level of English and Maths studied will be based on previous qualifications and initial assessment. Generally:</p> <p>English / Maths GCSE Grade F / 1 or below = Entry Level/Level 1 Functional Skills (level determined by initial assessment results)</p> <p>English / Maths GCSE Grade E / 2 = GCSE (full-time students), FS (Part-time students)</p> <p>English / Maths GCSE Grade D / 3, Functional Skills Level 1 = GCSE (full-time students), FS (Part-time students)</p> <p>English/Maths GCSE Grade A* to C / 9 to 4 or L2 Functional Skill = Continued development of English and Maths skills in vocational sessions and independent study</p>
<p>Delivery model</p>	<p>Functional skills – Each functional skill will be timetabled for one session of 3 hours per week.</p> <p>GCSE – Each GCSE will be timetabled for 6 hours per week (2 x 3hr sessions)</p> <p>Vocational sessions - Promotion of English and Maths skills development in all other sessions where relevant.</p> <p>Homework and independent study - Students will be encouraged to do work outside of the classroom to continue to develop their English and Maths skills.</p>

Sixth Form English and Maths Assessment and Enrolment Process

Once the student completes the application process and has told us about their prior qualifications, our Key Worker will hold an assessment interview with the student.

The student will provide any certificates that they hold, and we will also check their prior learning on the Prior Learning Record (PLR).

Where a student does not have any prior qualifications in English and maths, we will provide them with the BKS Initial Assessment in order to assess their English and maths level.

Based on the result either of their prior certificates, or their English and Maths Initial Assessment, we will place them at the next stage to achieve GCSE 9 – 4.

This may mean the student's next English and maths course could be at Functional Skills Entry Level, Level 1 or Level 2, or GCSE, depending on their individual needs.

We will consider the student's prior learning experiences when placing them at the most appropriate level. For example, where the student has recently missed their GCSE target and/or has had a recent negative experience at school or college and may be at risk of dropping out, we may choose to enter them initially on a Functional Skills course as a step towards the re-taking of the GCSE.