

International Students

English Language Proficiency Policy

1. Policy Statement

Kennedy Baptist College is committed to offering educational programs to students from a diverse range of backgrounds, cultures, and languages. The College is responsible for ensuring all students demonstrate a satisfactory proficiency in English to participate in intended study.

English language proficiency refers to an international student's ability to speak, write, read, and comprehend English to a standard relevant to the student's visa requirements.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all prospective and enrolled international students at Kennedy Baptist College. Kennedy Baptist College does not offer English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) or English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.

3. Rationale

English language proficiency is a requirement for certain studying and training visa applications and regulated by the Department of Home Affairs.

Before a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) can be issued, the College must confirm that the student has sufficient English proficiency to undertake the intended education program.

4. Assessing English Language Proficiency

The College will assess evidence of English language proficiency submitted by an international student on receipt of their Application for Enrolment Form (registration).

Evidence will include school reports, English language proficiency test results, language competence displayed during the enrolment process or other similar evidence.

The College sets its English language entry requirements to ensure students can meet the academic demands of their intended year level. Even if an applicant meets the Department of Home Affairs' English standards, the College may refuse enrolment or require an alternative study pathway if the applicant does not meet the College's own requirements.

If evidence, after an offer of enrolment, demonstrates that an applicant's English language proficiency is not satisfactory the College has the right to cancel the application for enrolment.

5. Standardised English Proficiency Test

The College will require one of the following English language tests:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic)
- Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic)
- Australian Education Assessment Services (AEAS) Test.

a. Students entering the College at Years 10 – 12

Students must complete **one** of the following tests to the defined standard:

English language proficiency test	Score required
IELTS Academic	an average band score of at least 6.5
PTE Academic	53.5 in each of the four skills tested
AEAS test	80+

b. Students entering the College at Years 7 – 9

Students must complete **one** of the following tests to the defined standard:

English language proficiency test	Score required
IELTS Academic	an average band score of at least 6.0
PTE Academic	53.5 in each of the four skills tested
AEAS test	At least 71 – 79

6. English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS)

International students who have completed a standardised English language proficiency test, and who **do not** meet the required level of English language proficiency for their intended year level will not be offered a placement.

International students should undertake an ELICOS course, on a full-time basis in Australia, at their own expense. Kennedy Baptist College does not provide ELICOS programs.

7. Transferring from another Registered Provider

International students transferring from another registered provider (i.e., secondary College) will be required to submit evidence of English language proficiency. Students will still be required to demonstrate English language competency via the tests described in section 5.

Version control					
Version	Amendments	Date Reviewed	Endorsed by Board	Next Review	Author of version
1		13/07/2017			
2		29/07/2019	30/07/2019	08/2021	
3		24/08/2021	24/11/2021	08/2023	
4		09/06/2022		08/2023	C Acciano
5		27/11/2023	15/05/2024	08/2025	C Acciano
6	Amendments made to purpose to rationale, assessing English language proficiency and standardised English language proficiency.	09/09/2025	17/09/2025	09/2026	C Acciano
7	Updated rationale, section 5 and clarifying that the College measures ELP greater than the minimum set by DHA.	13/07/2026	23/07/2026	09/2027	J Lamet T Blakey

Appendix 1: Standardised English Language Proficiency Test Providers

IELTS <https://ielts.org/>

Navitas <https://www.navitasenglish.edu.au/courses/ielts-preparation/>

Pearson <https://www.pearsonpte.com/>

AEAS <https://aeas.com.au/>