



English as an Second Language

2020-2021

English as a Second Language is the key to achieving success for most Lucton School Shanghai students. The entrance English examination, the interview and the previous school report will give a good indication of what level of English support each student needs. The student will discuss the best balance between ESL studies and exam based academic studies with the Deputy Head Academic and the Head of ESL prior to starting at Lucton School Shanghai. Progress and any necessary programme adjustment will be assessed during regular meetings so that each student has a flexible programme providing the best outcome both linguistically and academically.

All Universities in English speaking countries require examined proof of English level as part of their entry requirements. Lucton School Shanghai will be offering two English routes. Students who are native English speakers, bilingual or close to fluent will be able to take the one year IGCSE English course. Student not yet at those levels will be prepared for IELTS (International English Language Testing System) tests. These are set by Cambridge Assessment and accepted by all Universities in English speaking countries. A grade C or above in IGCSE English is acceptable for entry to a course taught in English. IELTS tests can be taken throughout the year and Lucton School Shanghai will be following the Academic module which tests Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking separately during a period of nearly three hours.

Acceptable levels vary according to University ranking and academic course. Cambridge and Harvard Universities will require higher levels than medium ranking Universities. Levels required for Mathematics or Engineering degrees may be a little lower than those required for Business, Law or Entrepreneurship degrees. IELTS examinations can be repeated until the required level is reached.

The ESL teaching staff at Lucton School Shanghai are experienced qualified practitioners. The usual qualification will be: Graduate of an acceptable University; post graduate EAL training and qualification; achievement of qualified teacher status and at least three years of practical experience. There will be classroom assistants supporting the mainstream teachers whose primary role will be providing students with conversation practice.

Class size will vary, but will be small enough to allow each student to be treated as an individual and given the opportunity to speak in class. Some students may be recommended to have extra individual tuition to improve their rate of progress. This can be done outside the normal working day and will attract an extra charge as indicated in the fees section. Parents will always be consulted before this happens and be asked for written agreement.