

ESL FAQ Sheet - Bell HS

Q1 Who are ESL students?

Students whose first language is not English, or a variety of English significantly different from that used for instruction in Ontario schools. They are students who arrive in Canada with age-appropriate first-language literacy skills and educational backgrounds.

Q2 Do students receive credits for taking ESL pathway courses (ESLAO, ESLBO, ESLCO, ESLDO, ESLEO)?

Students receive a credit for their ESL language courses, but the courses are not linked to any grade because placement is based on English language proficiency.

Q3 What is the ESL pathway and when do ESL students move into regular English classes?

<https://docs.google.com/drawings/d/1JtEeUE7TLys5w3pkzQhCqfJBz8Vwwmlr6nAXL4hE/edit>

Q4 What supports does Bell have for ESL students?

- *5 levels of programming - from ESLAO to ESLEO*
- *Sheltered Learning Strategies courses (GLS1OS/4OS) for students in ESLAO and ESLBO*
- *Congregated site: students are in ESL pathway courses with students who are at similar language acquisition levels*
- *support from ESL Lead and preparation for regular English classes and post-secondary opportunities*
- *integration with students from all programs/pathways in elective courses*
- *Sheltered courses for Grade 9 and 10 compulsory courses and some elective courses in Grades 9-11.*

Q5 What is a Sheltered course?

The course content is adapted to build confidence and skills to better prepare a student for regular stream courses. The credit and course content are the SAME as a non-sheltered class but there are language accommodations embedded in the instructional, environmental and assessment practices of the teacher.