

Neurodiversity and EAL

Overview

It is estimated that around 15-20% of the student population is neurodivergent.

Neurodivergent students who are also learning English as an additional language may face a combination of challenges related to language, learning differences, and cultural adjustment. Supporting learners in the classroom requires a nuanced approach that recognises both the unique learning needs of neurodivergent students and those learning English as an additional language.

A neurodiversity-affirming approach acknowledges that variations in brain functioning, such as dyslexia, ADHD, or autism, are natural and part of a spectrum of learning styles. Simultaneously, EAL learners may face additional challenges related to language acquisition, social and emotional pressures and content comprehension in English. Effective teaching involves understanding both aspects and providing individualised support that addresses both neurodiversity and EAL needs.

What it involves:

- Tools to identify language needs in the classroom
- Tools to identify learning and developmental differences in the classroom
- Essential support strategies for neurodivergent learners who have EAL
- Support for parents and carers of neurodivergent children who have EAL

Who is it for:

Class teachers, Specialist Teachers, Headteachers, SENCOs, Speech & Language Therapists, and Educational Psychologists.

When:

4 December 2025

13.00 - 15.30

Where:

The Circle,

33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield, S1 4FW



EAL & Neurodiversity (SEND)



Cost: Maintained School - £85

Academy / Other - £135

Closing date for applications: 4 working-days before course delivery

For further details please contact the EAL / New Arrivals Team.

Email: EALNewArrivals@sheffield.gov.uk

Contact Number: 0114 250 6852

<https://forms.office.com/e/HsjsVirRfe>