

## **ELL Department Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How are students placed in ELL?**

Students who are new to the Burnaby school district AND have spent four years or less in a native English-speaking school system or received ELL support in a previous school AND speak a language other than English are assessed at the District Welcome Centre. The results of this assessment will place the student in an ELL level and these results are then shared with the student's school.

### **Do all ELL students start in Level 1?**

No, as the results of the initial assessment at the District Welcome Centre could place the student in Level 1, 2, 3, or mainstream classes depending on the student's English language abilities.

### **How long do ELL students stay in ELL?**

This varies depending on student and the development of their English language skills. Generally, students starting in Level 1 will take Level 1 classes for one school year (September to June) and then take Level 2 classes the following year. Some students may have to repeat Level 1 or Level 2 classes as they might need more time to work on their English language skills.

### **Do ELL students receive a mark?**

In Levels 1 and 2, students are assessed in terms of their reading, writing, speaking, and listening abilities on a scale of 1 to 4, with 1 being Emerging and 4 being Bridging. ELL students in ELL English 10 and ELL Social Studies 10 receive a percentage mark.