

EAL &amp; NEW ARRIVALS · ALL GRADES

# EAL Survival Vocabulary

The 50 most essential words

## How to use

Print these 50 words. Laminate. Keep on the child's desk or in a small ring binder. The child can point to them when they need something. The teacher can point to them when giving instructions. After 2-3 weeks, most children will have learned the words and the cards become unnecessary.

## Body & feelings (10 cards)

English	Picture	When useful
TOILET	■	Most important word in any language
WATER	■	Drinking, washing, accidents
HUNGRY	■	Before lunch, snack time
TIRED	■	End of day, illness
HURT / SICK	■	Medical issues, comfort
HOT	■■	Weather, food, comfort
COLD	❄ ■	Weather, food, comfort
HAPPY	■	Emotional check-in
SAD	■	Emotional check-in
SCARED	■	Emotional check-in



## Classroom essentials (15 cards)

English	Picture	When useful
YES	■	Confirming
NO	■	Denying
HELP	■	Asking for support
FINISHED	■	Completing tasks
MORE	■	Asking for more
STOP	■	When something is wrong
LISTEN	■	Pay attention
LOOK	■	Look at something
WAIT	■	Patience
READ	■	Reading time
WRITE	✍ ■	Writing time
DRAW	■	Art
BOOK	■	Lessons
PENCIL	✎ ■	Lessons
PAPER	■	Lessons

## School locations (10 cards)

English	Picture	When useful
CLASSROOM	■	Where we work
TOILET	■	Bathroom
PLAYGROUND	■	Break time
HALL	■	Assembly, PE
LIBRARY	■	Books
OFFICE	■	School office



English	Picture	When useful
LUNCHROOM	■■■	Eating
KITCHEN	■	Where lunch is made
COAT PEG	■	Where coats go
MY DESK	■	Their place

## People (8 cards)

English	Picture	When useful
TEACHER	■■■■	You
FRIEND	■	Classmates
MUM / MOM	■	Family
DAD	■	Family
BROTHER	■	Family
SISTER	■	Family
NURSE / DOCTOR	■	If unwell
HEAD TEACHER	■	Important adult

## Time & numbers (7 cards)

English	Picture	When useful
NOW	■	Right this moment
LATER	■	Soon, but not now
TODAY	■	This day
TOMORROW	■	Next day
LUNCH	■■■	Midday meal
BREAK	■	Mid-morning rest
HOME	■	End of day



## How to make a card set

Print this page. For each word, take a small piece of card (credit-card sized). On one side write the English word in big bold letters with the picture cue. On the back, leave space for the child or family to write the same word in their first language. Laminate. Punch a hole in the corner. Loop on a binder ring. The child can keep it on their desk or wear it. They build their own personal vocabulary set this way.

