

6<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: DfE School Census Information**

This academic year the Department for Education (DfE) are requiring schools to provide them with some additional pieces of information for the school census that we are required to complete in January 2017. In this respect we are writing to all families to collect this information.

The additional information that we are required to collect is as follows:

- Country of Birth;
- Nationality – if your child has a passport this will be stated on there; and
- Proficiency in English for those students whose first language is not English.

For those students for whom English is not their first language we would like you to update us as to what languages your child speaks at home so that we can keep our records up to date and celebrate the wide range of languages that are spoken by our students. If your child is exposed to one or more language, then your child will be identified as EAL (English as an additional language), regardless of their ability and proficiency in English.

The DfE defines EAL learners as follows: ***'A student's first language is defined as any language other than English that a child was exposed to during early development and continues to be exposed to in the home or community. If a child was exposed to more than one language (which may include English) during early development, a language other than English should be recorded as the first language, irrespective of the child's proficiency in English'***.

In order to support this data collection please complete the reply slip below. To ensure that our records are accurate please consider the statement in bold above when completing question 3. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

*K Broadhead*

K Broadhead  
Office Manager

**DfE School Census Information**

Please return this reply slip to student reception no later than Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

Name of Student: ..... Form: .....

1. Country of Birth.....
2. Nationality.....
3. First Language.....

Signed Parent/Carer: ..... Date: .....