



## Program Description:

The Newcomers Program is designed to provide academic instruction for students with less than reasonable fluency in English. This IUSD model for Structured English Immersion is the recommended program placement for students whose CELDT results indicate an Overall performance level of Beginning (1) or Early Intermediate (2).

Classroom populations may include English learners of varying ages and grades but whose level of English proficiency is similar.<sup>1</sup>

Program participation is not normally intended to exceed one year, unless otherwise determined as necessary to meet the identified instructional needs of a student.<sup>2</sup>

Once English learners have acquired a good working knowledge of English, as determined by established exit criteria, they will be transferred to English language mainstream classrooms.<sup>3</sup>

## Program Purpose and Focus:

The primary focus of the Newcomers Program is the rapid and effective acquisition of reasonable English fluency and the foundational literacy skills critical to student academic success.<sup>4</sup>

## Instructional Design:

The instructional plan for teaching and learning in the Newcomers Program is designed to:

1. Provide the context in which strong, structured, sequential English Language Development (ELD) and academic learning is integrated
2. Develop student English fluency in the areas of listening and speaking
3. Provide the foundation for the literacy skills necessary to tackle the language demands associated with content-area reading and academic discourse - writing, speaking, and listening
4. Develop grade level math computation skills and academic language
5. Foster conceptual development in the academic core content for science, social science, and/or English Language Arts

*English fluency and academic achievement in the core curriculum do not need to be achieved simultaneously but may be addressed sequentially as long as over a reasonable period of time English learners do not suffer academically as measured under the federal standards established in Castaneda v. Pickard (5<sup>th</sup> cir. 1981) 648 F.2d 989.*

---

<sup>1</sup> California Education Code Section 305

<sup>2</sup> California Education Code Section 305

<sup>3</sup> California Education Code Section 305

<sup>4</sup> California Education Code Section 300; 400