Mother Tongue & EAL

Parent Tea, 29 January 2021
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What is "Mother Tongue"?

The first language that you learn when you are a baby, rather than a language learned at school or as an adult
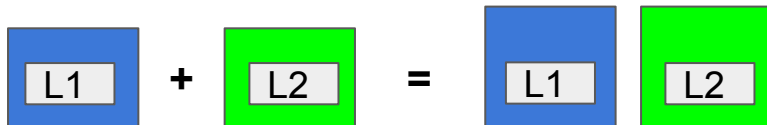
(First language, home language, native language,etc)
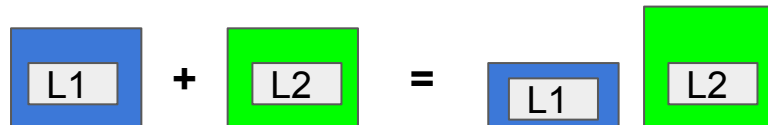
Additive Bilingualism VS Subtractive Bilingualism

Additive Bilingualism

When a student's first language continues to be developed while they're learning their second language
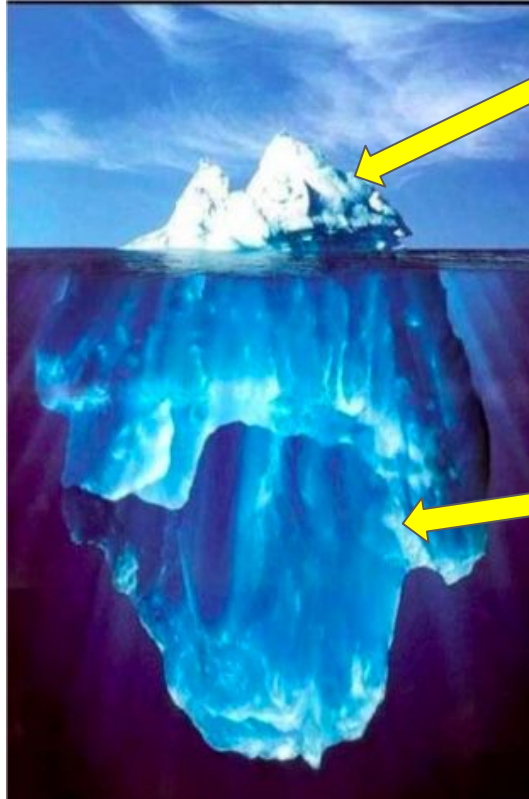
L1 + L2 = L1 L2

Subtractive Bilingualism

When a student learns a second language at the expense of their first language

L1 + L2 = L1 L2

Social Language VS Academic Language

Social Language

- Everyday/ "playground" language
- Language for day to day living, including conversations with friends and teachers
- Not related to academic achievement

Academic Language

- Classroom/ "textbook" language
- Language for class discussion and high-level critical thinking

Why is Mother Tongue important?
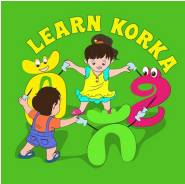
- MT makes it easier for children to pick up and learn other languages

- MT develops a child's personal, social and cultural identity

- MT helps a child develop their critical thinking and literacy skills

- MT helps a child have a better understanding of the curriculum

- Children whose MT is strong enjoy school more and learn faster due to feeling comfortable in their environment

- Children whose MT is strong have high self-esteem

- Skills learned in mother tongue can be transferred to a second language

- Parent child interaction increases

- Children that capitalize on learning through multilingualism enjoy a higher socioeconomic status earn higher earnings

Mother Tongue: What can you do at home?
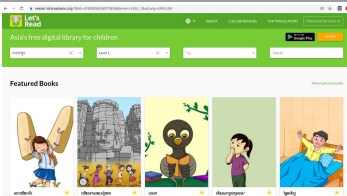
- Remember that YOU are the key to maintaining your home language!

- Make time to hold long conversations in your mother tongue ensuring that all family members participate

- Talk to your child and tell them stories about your life using a wide range of vocabulary, idioms and expressive language

- Only speak in your mother tongue at home and encourage your children to do the same

- Stock books in your child's mother tongue to help them continue practicing the first language

- Check out materials in your language from the library. Ask the library staff to help you find what you need

Khmer Learning Apps and Websites

Khmer Rean An	**Khmer Rean An II**	**Khmer Rean An III**	**Khmer Rean An IV**
Learn Kor Ka I	**Learn Kor ka II**	**Khmer Preschool (EL-KG)**	**Learn Khmer Words**

Sangapac (Khmer public curriculum)
https://www.sangapac.com/?selected=parent
How to sign up:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NE9t7nO7bY6Wvbr6a0iq
xP3WmoM8cCDv/view?usp=sharing

Let's read (Free reading website)
https://reader.letsreadasia.org/?&lId=5190826808311808
&level=LEVEL_1&uiLang=ENGLISH

Mother Tongue in the IB and at NISC

- Within PYP, Language is one subject group - referring to both mother tongue and additional languages
- At NISC, primary students study two languages to better prepare them for future study
  - We call English language classes Literacy
  - Most students also study mother tongue when possible
- Studying two languages is an IB requirement in MYP and DP
- MYP:
  - Language and Literature
  - Language Acquisition
- DP:
  - Language A (either Literature or Language & Literature, both in SL or HL)
  - Language B (*ab initio*, SL or HL)
- In both MYP and DP, there is an option to study 2x Language & Literature/Language A classes → bilingual diploma

EAL overview

- Push-in support model
  - The EAL teacher or TA typically goes INTO the regular classroom and supports the child while they learn with their peers
  - Typically, targeted EAL support is provided for 2 or 3 years
- Focus on developing language skills
  - Breaking down tasks into more understandable expectations
  - Differentiating
  - Helping develop skills
  - Small group or pair work
- Overall objective: to ensure that language is not a barrier in a student's ability to succeed in the classroom

EAL in primary

- Push-in mostly divided between Literacy and Unit of Inquiry classes
- Frequent communication and collaboration with:

  - Classroom teachers

  - Learning support team

  - Reading intervention team

  - Phonics support team
    - Ensuring that the most appropriate support is provided
    - Scaffolding and prioritising support

EAL in secondary

- EAL students study in MYP English Language Acquisition classes
  - Phases with ELA classes mean that students are working at a level in line with their proficiency levels
- Most push-in support happens in Individuals & Societies classes
- Frequent communication and collaboration with:
  - Classroom teachers
  - Learning support team
  - Reading intervention team
    - Ensuring that the most appropriate support is provided
    - Scaffolding and prioritising support

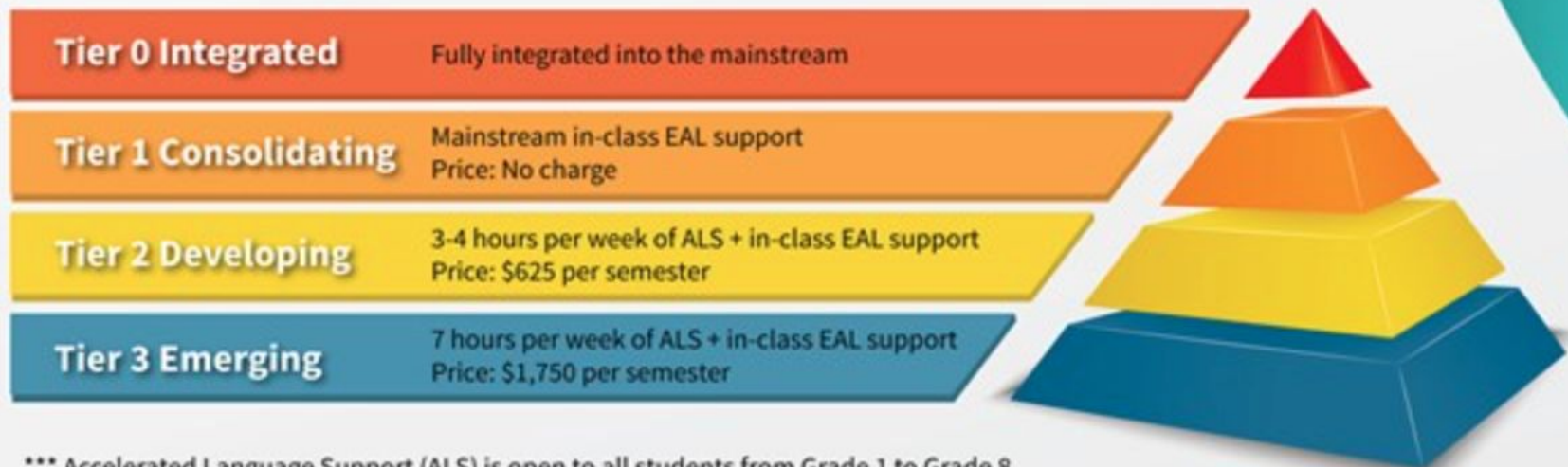# Accelerated Language Support

- New program started for 2020-21, offered to new enrollments
- Provides additional English support
- Focus on language skills needed to support the classroom content objectives

Tier 0 Integrated	Fully integrated into the mainstream
Tier 1 Consolidating	Mainstream in-class EAL support Price: No charge
Tier 2 Developing	3-4 hours per week of ALS + in-class EAL support Price: $625 per semester
Tier 3 Emerging	7 hours per week of ALS + in-class EAL support Price: $1,750 per semester

*** Accelerated Language Support (ALS) is open to all students from Grade 1 to Grade 8.

EAL: what can you do at home?

- Encourage vocabulary development
  - Through conversations and exposure to a wide range of resources in English
  - Practise new words
  - Ask your child to explain what words mean
- Develop listening skills
  - Listen to English podcasts and radio, watch English TV programs and movies
- Read, read and read more
  - Exposing your children to a range of text types will also indirectly help them improve their writing, vocabulary and grammar

Benefits of multilingualism include:

+ Improvements in brain power

+ Increased memory and attention skills

+ Broader economic opportunities

+ More balanced global citizens

+ Better empathy

https://www.nordangliaeducation.com/article/2020/6/4/the-benefits-of-bilingual-education
https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2016/11/29/497943749/6-potential-brain-benefits-of-bilingual-education