Cambridge Primary combines a world-class curriculum with high-quality support for teachers and integrated assessment. The curriculum is dedicated to helping schools develop learners who are confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged. Cambridge Primary has curriculum frameworks for English (including English as a Second Language), Mathematics and Science which have been designed to engage learners in an active and creative learning journey.

The curriculum frameworks for each subject for Cambridge Primary are organised into six stages. They reflect the teaching target for each year group and provide comprehensive learning objectives.

For Cambridge Primary English as a Second Language, the curriculum is presented in five content areas or ‘strands’. The learning outcomes in each strand for each successive stage are defined in terms of what learners should be able to do in English. The five strands are:

- Reading
- Use of English
- Speaking
- Writing
- Listening

The curriculum provides a comprehensive set of progressive learning objectives for learners of English as a Second Language. These are based on the Council of Europe’s Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), which is used widely both within and beyond Europe to map learners’ progression in English. The framing of learning objectives as a progressive can-do sequence should encourage the use of learning-centred, activity-based approaches by teachers in the implementation of the curriculum frameworks.

The Cambridge Primary English as a Second Language curriculum framework provides a solid foundation on which the later stages of education can be built.

Cambridge Primary offers an optional testing structure to assess learner performance and report progress for both learners and parents. Cambridge Primary Progression Tests are available to schools registered for Cambridge Primary for stages 3–6. These tests are taken in class and come with mark schemes so they can be marked by teachers.

At the end of Cambridge Primary, schools offering English as a Second Language can choose to enter learners for Cambridge English Language Assessment exams. These exams provide an international benchmark and objective evidence that learners are making progress.

On the following pages, you will find some examples from the Speaking strand for stages 1, 3 and 5 of the Cambridge Primary English as a Second Language curriculum.
Stage 1

Strand: Speaking

- Make and respond to basic statements related to personal information
- Ask questions in order to find out about a limited range of personal information and classroom routines
- Use a limited range of basic words, phrases and sentences related to classroom objects, activities and routines
- Respond to basic questions on classroom and daily routines
- Use words and phrases to describe people and objects
- Contribute suitable words and phrases to pair, group and whole class exchanges
- Take turns when speaking with others in a limited range of short, basic exchanges
- Express basic likes and dislikes.

Stage 3

Strand: Speaking

- Make basic statements which provide personal information on a limited range of general topics
- Ask questions to find out about an increasing range of personal information
- Describe basic present and past actions on a limited range of general and curricular topics
- Use basic vocabulary for a limited range of general and curricular topics
- Give short, basic descriptions of people and objects
- Contribute a growing range of suitable words, phrases and sentences during short pair, group and whole-class exchanges
- Take turns when speaking with others in a growing range of short, basic exchanges
- Relate very short, basic stories and events on a limited range of general and curricular topics.
Stage 5

Strand: Speaking

• Provide basic information about themselves and others at discourse level on a range of general topics
• Ask questions to find out general information on a range of general and curricular topics
• Give an opinion at discourse level on an increasing range of general and curricular topics
• Respond, with limited flexibility, at both sentence and discourse level to unexpected comments on a range of general and curricular topics
• Organise talk at discourse level using appropriate connectors on a range of general and curricular topics
• Communicate meaning clearly at sentence and discourse level during pair, group and whole-class exchanges
• Keep interaction going in longer exchanges on a range of general and curricular topics
• Relate some extended stories and events on a limited range of general and curricular topics.

How can I access the full curriculum framework?

Only schools offering Cambridge Primary can access the full curriculum frameworks.

• If you are a Cambridge Primary school you can download the full curriculum framework from our password protected Cambridge Primary site
• If you are a Cambridge school and would like to offer Cambridge Primary complete and return our Additional Qualification Types form
• If you are not a Cambridge school and would like to find out more about Cambridge Primary complete our Expression of interest form.

How do I enter learners for Cambridge English Language Assessment exams?

Contact our Customer Registration team at centreregistration@cie.org.uk and we will tell you what you need to do next.