




INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2023-2024 bulletin of the English inspectorate which includes initial information. You can read more about the topics by clicking on the icon  in each section. I am sure you will find this bulletin informative and helpful for planning the new school year.

The yearly theme for 2023 – 2024 is *Maximizing Potential and Reaching Excellence*.

In addition, teachers should focus on: *Promoting a positive and safe school environment and preventing violence and social exclusion*. Materials for suggested implementation will be posted on the portal.

Wishing you all a productive and healthy school year,


Dr. Tziona Levi,

Chief Inspector for English as EFL
Director of Languages Department


SPREAD THE WORD

Spread the Word is the English inspectorate's newsletter published every two months. It provides continuous updates during the school year. See past issues and join a WhatsApp group to receive new issues and other updates. 

NATIONAL COUNSELORS 2023 - 2024

See the list of your national counsellors, their areas of responsibility and contact info. 


ENGLISH PORTAL

The English Inspectorate site is where English teachers can find all the official documents and most updated information. It is important that all English teachers at all levels are familiar with the site and the information available. We recommend visiting the site regularly. 

New on our site:




- [Links to past conferences including recordings](#)
- [SEL](#) – Social Emotional Learning

FACEBOOK ENGLISH TEACHING COMMUNITY


Our Facebook group - English Teaching Community in Israel - has over 15000 members from all over the world sharing ideas, asking questions, and getting answers! If you have a Facebook account and haven't yet joined, now is the time! 

WHATSAPP GROUPS

Do you want to receive updates in real time? Join the relevant WhatsApp announcement groups:

-  [Elementary School WhatsApp community](#)
-  [Junior High School WhatsApp community](#)
-  [High School WhatsApp community](#)

INSPECTORS' CONTACT INFORMATION 2023-2024

Find the contact info for your regional English inspector. 



CURRICULUM

HOT OFF THE PRESS:


IMPLEMENTING A LOCALIZED VERSION OF A CEFR-BASED CURRICULUM – TZIONA LEVI AND SIMONE DUVAL




This research addresses the implementation of the new Israeli English curriculum based on the CEFR and its introduction to lead-teachers, teacher-mentors and teacher-educators defined as ‘expert’ according to Israel’s Professional Standards Document (Ministry of Education 2019).

THE NATIONAL ENGLISH CURRICULUM

The unique and significant CEFR aligned curriculum for teaching EFL in Israel is now available in its final version including updated can-do’s, lexical and grammar bands.


The English curriculum serves as a powerful means to promote English proficiency among learners of all ages and groups. The document provides a detailed description of its various components and principles guiding teaching practice. 

LITERATURE


Literature in A1 and A2 levels in the curriculum 2020 document is referred to as “creative texts”. These texts should be used in the elementary and junior high classroom as a vehicle to language acquisition. The term “creative texts” relates to a wide range of imaginative works, their use of language and other effects, possibilities of responses and interpretations. More info and ideas 

Visit the portal page to access the updated Literature handbooks for High School 

TEXTBOOKS

All teachers use a wide variety of materials and approaches in their classrooms. Read more about the approval process for textbooks published in Israel. 

ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING

Visit the *Assessment for Learning* page on the portal. Learn about assessment characteristics that enhance learning and find all the updated assessments news. 

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT TOOLS 2023 – 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Follow the link to the RAMA site for a detailed explanation of all the internal assessment tools for Elementary and Junior High schools.

These tools can assist you to:

- ✓ enhance teaching
- ✓ get to know your students’ abilities
- ✓ plan teaching accordingly.





DIGITAL

DIG INTO DIGITAL MOODLE COURSES FOR YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS – READ ALL ABOUT IT! READY CONTENT WITHIN A LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) THAT CAN BE ADAPTED AND USED ACCORDING TO YOUR NEEDS.

DIG INTO DIGITAL GRADES 5-6



Independent Learning courses for grades 5 and 6 on Moodle.



DIG INTO DIGITAL GRADES 7- 9



The Let's Talk Moodle site to use with your students.



DIG INTO DIGITAL FOR HIGH SCHOOL



Online independent learning courses for Bagrut preparation – Modules A, B, C, D, E, F, G, COBE & Ladders



Join the Dig into Digital WhatsApp groups:



Announcements only



Discussion group

MONDLY



Mondly is a language learning app for elementary - junior high pupils who play their way to learning English. This past year, many young, eager learners immersed themselves in this wonderful app and teachers were happy to see the progress of their pupils and their content faces.

Mondly is relevant to enhance your pupils' vocabulary and practice spelling at any time and from anywhere. This last year we collaborated with SKILLZ to run two successful, National Virtual Competitions for all Mondly participants.



TEACHING UNITS

Rich teaching units aligned to the specifications of Curriculum 2020 and offer a broad and diverse range of suggested synchronous, asynchronous, online and offline tasks.

Teaching units for elementary school



Teaching units for junior high school



WHATSUP PROJECT



The WhatsUp Project encourages 7th-12th grade students to read a variety of texts via WhatsApp. The texts are accompanied by online tasks and vocabulary practice.

You receive the materials directly to your phone by subscribing to a WhatsApp group and can easily send them on to your students.





ENGLISH FROM HOME WEBSITE

A plethora of ideas and programs for teachers to create and execute successful lessons. The site is divided into different grade levels and is suitable for all the teachers of Israel.



NATIONAL BROADCASTS

550 English lessons for students at all levels, from 3rd-12th grades, from the basics of literacy instruction right through to Bagrut preparation. Can be adapted for classroom teaching with additional interactive tasks.



MAKPETZAH



The מקפיצה is designed for online lessons in groups or individual learning. It is an online tutoring initiative for students in 5th – 12th grade. All students can sign-up and receive private tutoring for free.

GEFFEN PROGRAM

The GEFEN program provides more autonomy to all schools. Make sure English is included in your school's chosen resources – talk to your principal. [Read more in Hebrew.](#) See the English Geffen options.



Teachers that would like to order movies and create unit plans accordingly should follow the link on the portal to register and receive additional info, register and subscribe.







CLIL: CONTENT AND LANGUAGE INTEGRATED LEARNING

GEO ENGLISH



Aligned with the MOE overarching theme of Flexible Pedagogy, the program sets a practical format to be implemented in the classroom. An interdisciplinary in-service course will be offered to teachers introducing basic geography topics, lesson planning workshops and pedagogical support to course participants. 

CARING FOR THE FUTURE


Read all about “Project Drawdown”, the world’s leading resource for climate solutions. 100 teachers are participating in a 30-hour course this summer offering tools and ideas on the topic of sustainability. Watch the portal for information on another course opening in October. 

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT




Financial Management in English is an interdisciplinary program to learn and teach financial management in English for JH and HS students (9th grade and up). 

ARROW TO THE FUTURE

The main goal of these materials is to strengthen the involvement and connection of Junior- High students to school and to improve scholastic achievements by connecting the material studied to the students' future and to various desirable careers. English teachers integrate content on the future career world into the regular curriculum. 

MUN

Model United Nations (MUN) is a diplomacy activity where students work together to solve global issues. Students practice English as they role-play as delegates of countries working together to produce written resolutions that detail how they will solve the problem being discussed. 



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

IN-SERVICE COURSES FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS

Many courses are offered for teachers, both face to face and online via your local pisga, Matach, Lnet and more. For example. Kaveret, micro accreditation, Building Blocks and more.

Visit the Professional Development page for more details of courses for the upcoming school year.



PLC



Professional Learning Communities, PLCs, in Israel started 6 years ago and through these years 70 communities joined the program all over the country. PLCs differ from traditional in-service courses as they offer teachers opportunities to learn one from another, share ideas and analyze dilemmas in the classroom. Teachers collaborate, create, and cooperate with each other in a supporting environment where matters related to English instruction and pedagogy are discussed. English Teachers can join a PLC in their area and take part in a hybrid or online 30-hour course. Contact your regional inspector to find out which PLC is suitable for you.

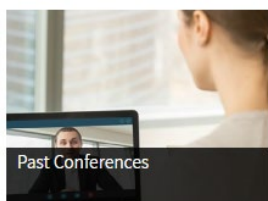
MATZPEN

THE MATZPEN SYSTEM FOR TRACKING IN-SERVICE COURSES IS OPEN –

[READ ALL ABOUT IT](#)

WEBINAR RECORDINGS

Recordings of past conferences are now available on a designated page on the portal:



Past Conferences

- > Zoom In Zoom Out 2023:
 - Program including links to the recordings
 - Recording playlist
 - Presentations
 - Padlets to communicate with the presenters
- > Back to School Webinar 2022
- > STEP UP Conference
- > 8 Booster Shots for Teachers

ETAI

ETAI was founded in 1979 as a grass-roots non-profit teachers' association run on a voluntary basis, by teachers for teachers. Its aim is to provide professional support, advice, teaching ideas and background knowledge to teachers of English in Israel. To learn more, visit the [ETAI](#) site.





ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY ENGLISH PROGRAMS 2023

Click to be instantaneously transported to the poster of Elementary programs by the National English Inspectorate.

All elementary English teachers are invited to join this announcement-only WhatsApp broadcast group. Don't miss out; stay up to date!

LEARN IN TUNE



Experiencing English through music is a great way to learn. It's fun and the students' language fluency grows as they hear the music, sing the songs, move to the beat and engage with new vocabulary. The program is for both elementary and junior high pupils

Geffen number:20143

Geffen name: Learn in Tune

Optional resource:1/8 day of hadracha



E-TALENT



The Talent Show is for elementary and junior high pupils to show off their English speaking / singing / chanting / poetry reading talents. The emphasis is on oral English and the pupil/pupils must film their performance in English. Open to all pupils from all over Israel.

This year we will be collaborating with SKILLS and we will join the Cyber Championships.

Keep a lookout for updates.

Geffen number:20137

Geffen name: E-Talent

Optional resource:1/8 day of hadracha



5 MINUTES OF ENGLISH



Five Minutes of English is a program developed for pupils in elementary schools in grades 1-4. It consists of 25 five-minute clips which focus on auditory and oral skills in an entertaining and experiential manner.



THE ABLE KIT

The ABLE KIT was designed to assess and diagnose basic reading skills and build intervention programs based on the results of mapping student's specific skills. The screening test should be administered to all fifth graders during the first two months of the school year or by the end of the 4th grade.





TURN THE PAGE

Turn the Page is a resource for English teachers at elementary schools. It aims to assist teachers in creating innovative reading programs for their pupils. Teachers who are eager for fresh ideas for their schools' reading programs are encouraged to use it. Included are samples of plans for reading programs, spoken and written activities with which pupils can respond to reading and many other links and resources.

Geffen number: 20153

Geffen name: Reading for Pleasure

Optional resource: 1/8 day hadracha



BUILDING BLOCKS

A program for enhancing literacy acquisition and developing reading intervention programs. Reading is the key to academic success. Being able to read in English is vital for learners of English as a foreign language. In Israel today, far too many elementary and Junior High school students have not yet mastered the basic rudiments of reading in English.



Geffen number: 20094

Geffen name: Building Blocks

Resource required: ¼ day hadracha



WRITING COMPETITION

Writing is often considered to be the most challenging of English language skills, but pupils who can write in English, certainly enjoy the benefits. These include a boost to their reading comprehension skills, improvement of organizational and study skills, enhancement of speaking abilities, enjoyment of production, interaction and mediation opportunities, and perhaps most importantly, increased confidence and academic success.

Each year, we encourage 5th and 6th graders to write creatively on a variety of topics that are close to their daily realities. To date, pupils have been writing about their personal experiences during the Corona times, their dreams for the future, and this last year, about their awareness and personal stories that relate to all kinds of safety issues. Check out for the Teachers' Guide for the Be Safe! Writing Project and 6th grade National Writing Competition.

The topic for next year's writing project is sure to touch the hearts of our young writers and their readers: The Gift of Giving. More information to follow in September '23.

Geffen number: 20149

Geffen name: Creative Writing

Optional resource: 1/8 day hadracha



HI-TECH FOR JUNIOR HIGH

Hi-Tech for Junior High is a new project which aims at introducing students to essential digital tools through real-life skills. It promotes English learning, social interaction, and digital skills through a collection of activities and essential topics that provide opportunities to talk and think creatively in the language classroom.

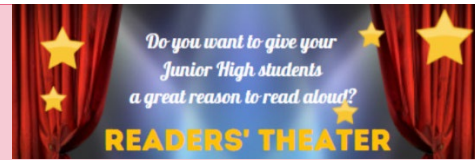




SPEAKUP



Speak UP is an innovative program designed to promote the speaking of English at the Elementary and Pre-foundation levels. It is simple and fun to implement. English teachers nationwide are now using *WhatsApp* to send spoken texts to parents and students, based upon curriculum relevant topics, everyday situations, and relevant expressions.



Readers' Theater is a strategy to combine the joy of developing reading fluency and accuracy with the enhancement of autonomy in learning to speak a foreign language. It involves students in shared reading by reading scripts aloud as part of a meaningful, learning experience. This enjoyable and entertaining teaching strategy helps teachers to differentiate their instruction while engaging their students and exposing them to literature.

Geffen number: 20146

Geffen name: Readers' Theater

Optional resource: 1/8 day hadracha



DEBATE CLUBS

Debate enables students to practice English in an active and effective manner while developing expressive language skills.

Schools that participate in the national debate program will receive an additional taken hour that is allocated to the English teacher leading the program.

Further information about the program and how to register will be sent by your regional inspector.

LET'S TALK



The Let's Talk website, along with the complementary digital courses, promote oral proficiency suitable for the 7th grade and up. The scaffolded resources include vocabulary activities, suggestions for lessons of different levels, clips, games, assessment and so much more in order to help students build confidence in their speaking. Details about additional incentives for working on speaking in class will be coming soon.





HIGH SCHOOL

BAGRUT UPDATES

MODULE E

As of the 2023 – 2024 school year (תשפ"ד), all internal students (including overseas students) at the 4 or 5 point level will take the Vocabulary Module E exam (16471).

In the winter session only of the 2023 – 2024 school year (תשפ"ד), external students at the 4 or 5 point level will be able to take the old E exam (16481). As of summer 2024, external students will only be able to take the Vocabulary Module E exam (16471)

	Internal students	External students
Winter 2024	Only 16471	16481 OR 16471
Summer 2024	Only 16471	Only 16471

Reminder – List C is due to be tested starting winter 2024 and list D as of Summer 2024

LITERATURE

Visit the Literature page on the portal to see the updated literature handbooks, and see all the updates to the literature program.

The Steering Committee is currently aligning the High school literature program with the curriculum 2020 document. A document will be published in August 2023 with clear guidelines for teachers about the revised program and suggested ways to adapt current materials. Teachers can continue to use the list of approved pieces to build their program for the coming year. In addition, updated model units will be shared with teachers, a draft rubric for assessing the post reading tasks and sample summative assessment questions.

BOOST FOR 3 POINTERS - SPEAKING

In summer 2024, 3 pointers (excluding special education (07) students) will begin to be tested orally via the computer. The content of the BOOST exam includes a listening section, a very structured interview on preprepared topics and very simple description of pictures. **We highly recommend that 3-point teachers join one of the 30-hour courses about BOOST.**

COBE

For students in the 11th grade taking the new E (16471) next year (2024), the COBE will include a listening component in the clip - semel sheelon 16586 (5 points COBE) and 16486 (4 points COBE).

As of summer 2024, the 16481 test will be abolished and the listening component will move to the COBE.

A special COBE version is offered for the Haredi sector.



AT PROMISE STUDENTS



Teaching English in Mabar, Etgar, Technical Centers and Miftanim classes creates endless challenges for teachers and students as well. We, at the department for at-risk students in the MOE, aim at offering formal and informal support for our teachers. We believe that as teachers juggle a multitude of different tasks and demands, it is important that they are given practical support so that they can support their students.



KEEP TALKING



The aim of the 'Keep Talking' speaking program for High School students is to raise the level of oral proficiency in English among Israeli students, not only in preparation for the oral component of the Bagrut exam, but more importantly to equip them with life skills that will help them connect with, participate in, and contribute to the expanding global community. The call for applications for Keep Talking will be announced soon.



Ladders



A program to increase the number of pupils taking the 3, 4 & 5 point Bagrut exams. The call for applications will be announced soon.



Geffen number: 20108

Geffen name: Ladders

Optional Resource: ¼ day of hadracha



ESRA Chat Away is part of ESRA's English Tutoring Program (ETP) and offers online enrichment for students from 7th to 12th grades who have little opportunity to improve their English-speaking skills. One-on-one meetings take place on Zoom, with cameras open, after school hours.

ONE2ONE



One2One is a joint venture between the Government of Israel and Enter: The Jewish Peoplehood Alliance.

We invite you to a unique cross-border project that will take place in the coming school year (2023-24).



DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH



The Diplomacy major is now running strong in almost 100 schools. [Click here](#) to read about our activities, and visit the [Diplomacy site](#) to read all about this track and the curriculum.





AIM HIGH



The “Aim High” program is designed to give students in their final years of high school, the belief, motivation and learning tools that are necessary to complete the requirements to reach the three-point Bagrut matriculation. The most recent data reports that 22% of Israeli high school students are not eligible for the three-point matriculation test. With this in mind, the Ministry of Education has allocated a special budget for those specific students who despite attending school, have tremendous gaps in their knowledge in English.

"Aim High's" vision is to create appropriate learning environments adapted to meet the needs of these students and offer an equal opportunity for all students in Israel to reach the minimal requirement of 3 points. Thus, students in Mabar and Etgar classes, or those who go to Technological centers are targeted. Students will now have the opportunity to learn in a small group of 4-10 students, where a learning program will be tailored to their learning needs.

The call for applications will be announced soon.



For more details, please watch the portal for updates.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

In order to ensure that speaking is taught and practiced in the English classroom, at least 20% of the final grade as expressed in the report-card, should be devoted to reflection of teaching oral interaction and oral production activities. This is true for all levels.

It is known that if a certain element of teaching appears in summative assessments, that displays importance and hence elicits class time.

Some speaking programs that we can offer for English students:

Speak Up (elementary school) 

Let's Talk (Junior High school) 

Keep Talking (High School) 



Some examples for assessing speaking:

Report card statements 

ASK Oral Kit 

Let's Talk assessment 