



Newcomer Program

Program Description: The Newcomer Program is a short term program that teaches English and acculturation to U.S. schools, as well academic subjects. The Newcomer Program is for students who are recent immigrants to the United States, with limited English proficiency and limited education in their native countries. Students attend special classes separate from native English-speaking students for a limited period of time.

Instructional Goals: To develop English language competence and academic skills, and prepare students to succeed in U.S. schools.

Program Components: Your child will receive instruction in the areas checked:

- Reading and writing in English
- Specialized instruction in English as a second language (ESL)
- Mathematics in English

Exit Procedures

- The decision to transition a student out of the newcomer program is made on a case by case basis considering literacy progress monitoring data, a portfolio of a student's work, observations monitoring social and academic performance, and progress reports. The assessments we use to determine exit status cover a range of skills and knowledge bases for school policies and procedures, cultural adjustments to the U.S., study habits and skills. The requirements for meeting this criteria include the following:
 - A score of 2.5 or higher on the WIDA MODEL assessment
 - A Fountas and Pinnell literacy score two grade levels below the student's current grade level
 - A math interim assessment score two grade levels below student's current grade level
- Upon meeting the exit criteria, the student transitions into his or her grade level classes with continued language support from ESL staff.
- A student may remain in the Newcomer Program for 35 weeks from his or her start date at Banaadir Academy.
- If the student is unable to meet the exit criteria within 35 weeks, he or she will be exited from the program.

Special Education Services

For disabled students requiring specialized services, language instruction meets the objectives of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).