

# FIEC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## **Who runs Faith International English Classes?**

Faith Church at 9125 N College Avenue in Indianapolis, IN supports and encourages our volunteer-staffed program. Our Director and Administrator are employees of Faith Church and the FIEC volunteer staff are members of Faith Church or other local churches.

## **Is this a religious program?**

FIEC does not use a religious curriculum. A Bible verse is shared and explained in each class (adults and children) each evening. This takes about 5 minutes. Each person who works or volunteers in the program must love Christ and is asked to sign a document of beliefs and share their faith story.

## **How long have you had an English program?**

Faith started teaching immigrants and refugees English in 2005.

## **When do you hold classes?**

Classes are every Tuesday night 7-9pm, September through May, with several weeks off at Christmas. There are 30 two-hour classes during the school year. [Calendar](#)

## **Do you accept students throughout the school year?**

Yes, but registration normally closes when classes are full. After that students may be put on a waiting list until spots are available. Students joining mid-year are evaluated and placed in classes appropriate to their proficiency. Books are started in September and are studied consecutively throughout the school year. Students starting in the middle of the year will be starting in the middle of the book.

## **What is your current enrollment?**

In an average year, we have about 150 adult students and 75 children.

## **What is the class size?**

Classes have about 10-20 students and 2-5 instructors.

## **Do I have to wear a mask to class?**

No, masks are optional at this time. This policy is subject to change as local mask requirements change.

**What is the cost?**

A one-time fee of \$40 is due at registration. This covers the cost of books and materials. There is currently no cost for FIEC Kids. Students are encouraged to pay for two reasons: to take ownership of their studies and to “pay it forward” to enable more students to participate. Because the fee pays for books and materials and not class time, students joining mid-year will still be charged \$40.

**Do you give refunds?**

Students who register and pay but do not get a book and do not attend any classes are eligible for a complete refund. Students who receive a text book and attend at least one class will not be given refunds because the registration money covers the cost of their text book.

**Do you offer childcare?**

Yes, we offer free childcare for children (6 weeks to 8th grade / 13 years old) of students and staff ONLY. Younger children will follow a curriculum, have stories read, and play while those in school will have homework help, play educational games, and have help with literacy. Children are placed in a class based on their age. Children’s classes are led by experienced adults and may be assisted by teens or young adults. Toys, tables, and other surfaces are cleaned with a germ killing solution regularly.

**Do children have to wear a mask?**

Babies and toddlers under age 2 do not need to wear a mask. Children age 2 and older need to wear a mask to enter the building and in their classrooms. This policy is subject to change as local mask requirements change.

**What is your sickness policy?**

We ask that if you or a member of your household has been exposed to COVID-19 that you not attend classes for 14 days (2 weeks). If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please do not come to class until you have remained in isolation for at least 10 days and been fever-free without fever-reducing medication for at least 72 hours. If you or any members of your household have any of the following symptoms, please keep your entire family at home:

- Fever within 72 hours
- Vomiting or diarrhea within 24 hours
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- On antibiotics for less than 48 hours
- Rash
- Nasal discharge that is yellow or green (not clear)
- Head lice

### **What classes are you offering and what curriculum do you use?**

Our conversation-based classes offered each Tuesday evening use the Stand Out! Books and Picture Dictionary. Levels include:

- **Basic** – a men’s class and a women’s class – for those with no or very little English
- **Level 1** – focus on building simple vocabulary, using present tense, and learning the “be” verbs
- **Level 2** – focus on building a larger vocabulary, using present and past tenses, and forming simple sentences
- **Level 3** – focus on learning all the past, present, and future tenses, forming more advanced sentences, and telling a short story
- **Level 4** – focus on forming and understanding complex sentences in any tense
- **Level 5** – conversation and pronunciation practice for experienced English speakers

### **How do students know what level class to attend?**

A new student must fill out a registration form (can be with the help of a translator) and then take a short oral test. This test is curriculum-specific and tells us where the student should be placed.

### **What and when are your special events?**

As a part of our classes, we host several special activity nights and celebrations:

- **Christmas Program** - Most years we have a large Christmas celebration, but we will not have one this year. Smaller parties may be held.
- **Emergencies Night** - hosted in conjunction with the local police and fire departments to learn about using 9-1-1, interacting with the police and firefighters, what to do after a car wreck or during a fire, and what to expect in emergency situations.
- **End of Year Celebration**

### **What is your bad weather policy?**

If Faith International English Classes are cancelled due to bad weather, instructors will attempt to contact all of their students by text or phone. Closures will also be listed on our [Facebook page](#) and on the [Faith Church website](#).

### **How can I get in contact with someone regarding Faith International English Classes?**

Currently Amy Mitchell is the Director of FIEC. Feel free to contact her with any additional questions or comments at [amy@faithliveitout.org](mailto:amy@faithliveitout.org) (can translate from most languages) or 317-848-1541 ext. 244 (English and Spanish spoken).