

## WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY

A quotation from 'National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales – Iaith Pawb'

*"It is the right of the individual to use the language of their choice and the responsibility of organisations within Welsh society to acknowledge and facilitate the individual's right to do so. The Assembly Government is committed to Wales becoming a truly bilingual country and our policies will continue to encourage individuals to learn Welsh and empower them to use the language.*

*Iaith Pawb is the strategic framework, which the Assembly Government will implement with local government, the Welsh Language Board and others.*

*It focuses on:*

- *Encouraging individuals to learn and use the Welsh language*
- *Extending access to Welsh medium education with initial emphasis on Early Years and post-16 sectors*
- *Actively promoting the benefits of bilingualism*

*The teaching of Welsh as a subject is firmly embedded into the National Curriculum for all pupils of statutory school age so that all pupils in maintained schools, whether they study Welsh as a first or as a second language, have the opportunity to become bilingual."*

In accordance with the 'Iaith Pawb' document namely National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales we at Ysgol Swn Y Don are committed to promoting the Welsh language as an integrated part of school life.

This policy underlines both the teaching and learning of Welsh within the school. It is the responsibility of every member of staff to implement the policy.

### **General Aims**

1. To help pupils achieve reasonable proficiency in oracy, reading and writing in Welsh through regular and frequent instruction.
2. To instil respect and tolerance towards the second language and the culture with which it is associated.

### **Specific Aims**

1. To create a Welsh Ethos in the school by making pupils aware that Wales has its own language and culture.
2. To use a progression of skills that is relevant in terms of enabling the child to communicate on a day-to-day basis.
3. To use structures, materials and linguistically uncomplicated situations so that all pupils attain a measure of success.
4. To link second language work with other subjects in the curriculum whenever this is possible and appropriate.
5. To encourage the use of 'Everyday Welsh'.
6. To nurture a healthy attitude towards the second language, through activities which include games, songs and role-play.
7. To transfer information regarding areas of work covered from one-year group to another.

## **Curriculum Organisation and Planning**

This is done by means of

- encouraging enthusiasm in the language by adhering to Welsh schemes of work, Fflic a Fflac, Pod Antur and Symud Ymlaen to help plan inspiring sessions / activities which use suitable methodology for second language development e.g. play / active learning, role play, drama, songs, rap, language games, pair work, group work and making use of aural and visual aids or resources so that pupils can communicate confidently in different situations and for different purposes
- introducing imaginative and authentic literature in order to promote the enjoyment of listening to Welsh stories and the desire to read them independently. Learners' written work will reflect the language which has been introduced orally and through reading
- sufficient allocated provision for language development in order to meet the requirements of the Skills and Range sections of the National Curriculum programmes of study
- regular and effective use of Everyday Welsh, the Helpwr Heddiw and Cymraeg Cwl
- ensure continuity and progression and effective liaison between the Key Stages in Oracy, Reading and Writing
- provide opportunities for pupils to develop skills and learning across the curriculum whilst studying Welsh e.g. developing ICT skills, thinking, communication, number, PSE
- arranging methods of effective monitoring and setting aside a specific time for the subject leader to visit classes and to consult with staff

## **Ethos**

We aim to create a Welsh ethos within Ysgol Swn Y Don by displaying the language in evident places around the building and by displaying the language which accompanies a particular theme / skill in the classroom, in order to promote bilingualism. (See separate bilingualism policy)

We take advantage of every opportunity to promote the ethos through

- extra-curricular activities e.g. Glan-llyn
- county ventures e.g. Jamboree
- school concerts e.g. Christmas and St David's Day
- weekly school assemblies
- links with the community e.g. guest speakers from the area
- encourage pride in their heritage and Culture (Cwricwlwm Cymreig)
- we make effective use of the Welsh Advisory Team

## **The Role of the Welsh Advisory Team**

To support as advisors

- in formulating a policy and a scheme of work with the co-ordinator
- to provide guidance on assessment and monitoring
- to give exemplar lessons
- to introduce new resources and ideas
- to encourage staff to attend courses when needed

## **The Role of the Leader of Learning**

The Leader of Learning is responsible for

- formulating and updating the Welsh language policy and schemes of work with the help of the Welsh Advisory Team
- encouraging staff to attend relevant INSET courses
- monitoring the teaching of Welsh throughout the school and pupils' progress (along with the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body)
- monitoring assessment and recording
- resource management

- ensuring a Welsh ethos in the school
- shared responsibility in promoting bilingualism

## **Marking, Assessment and Recording**

Marking, assessment and recording falls in line with school policy

## **Skills / Learning Across The Curriculum**

Opportunities are given to pupils, where appropriate, to develop and adapt their thinking, communicative, number and ICT skills, Cwricwlwm Cymreig and personal and social education.

## **Pupil Entitlement**

Allow all children / pupils to access relevant skills, knowledge and understanding at an appropriate level.

## **Equal Opportunities**

We ensure that every pupil has equal access to the Welsh Development curriculum regardless of ability, sex and cultural background by following the whole school policy on Equal Opportunities.

## **INSET**

Teachers are encouraged to attend relevant training courses.

The above policy was approved by the School Governors on \_\_\_\_\_

This policy will be revised in \_\_\_\_\_ in keeping with the School Action and Development Plans.