



LANGUAGE and BILINGUALISM

Last Review Date	November 2015	Next Review Date	November 2016
Leader of Policy Review	Mrs. J. Cooper		
Associated Policies	Curriculum Cymreig, Literacy Across the Curriculum		

Language

The following principles underpin our policy on language:

- Language is central to a person's sense of identity and belonging, and is an empowering tool that can motivate all students to learn
- Language through speaking, listening, reading and writing occurs across the curriculum and is an integral part of all subjects, pastoral work and activities
- An understanding of the richness, variety and value of language within the class, school, community, region, nation and world is important for all students
- The language skills of students from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds are valued, and a student's awareness of the origins and characteristics of his/her own language is encouraged
- Knowledge and skills are transferable between languages and a student's first language acts as a cognitive tool to learn a second or subsequent language
- The language development of each student requires monitoring and appropriate support, and opportunities to support a student's first language are both welcomed and pursued
- Students for whom English is an additional language are provided with appropriate support
- The school promotes common practices between English, Welsh and the Modern Foreign Languages departments to improve students' understanding of language concepts

Bilingualism

The School is committed to:

- Creating an environment within the school in which the Welsh language can grow and flourish, thereby reflecting our bilingual community and heritage
- Promoting awareness of, and respect for, the Welsh language amongst all staff, students and governors
- Promoting and valuing the language abilities of all students and providing regular opportunities for them to use the Welsh language throughout the school
- Ensuring that students gain the educational stimulus afforded by bilingual education, and the preparation essential for success in employment or academic life
- Ensuring the teaching of both Welsh and English in accordance with National Curriculum requirements
- Encouraging in students an awareness of the importance of language and literature in the history and life of Wales, as part of Curriculum Cymreig
- Developing an understanding of bilingualism and biculturalism in the wider world

This is supported by our whole-school strategy 'Iaith Pawb yn Ysgol Alun', a five-point plan for:

1. Promoting the use of the Welsh language by students, including 'Siarad Cymraeg' achievement cards
2. Promoting the use of the Welsh language by staff, including 'Siarad/Geiriau Cymraeg' training
3. Promoting the use of written Welsh by students, including use of the School Diary
4. Ensuring the appropriate use of Welsh in documentation, communication and signage
5. Reflecting Welsh cultural events within the school calendar eg. Eisteddfod, Urdd, Glan Llyn etc.

Welsh in the Curriculum

- In KS3 all students study Welsh as a second language.
- In KS4 all students study Welsh as a second language and enter for either the full course Welsh Second Language GCSE, the short course Welsh Second Language GCSE or an NVQ in Second Language Welsh.
- At Post-16 all students have the opportunity to study Welsh Second Language at Advanced Level.