

Developing the Welsh Language and Culture

Preamble

“The Welsh Government believes that the Welsh language is an integral part of our national identity. The Welsh language is an essential and enduring component in the history, culture and social fabric of our nation. We must respect that inheritance and work to ensure that it is not lost for future generations.” (Iaith Pawb 2003).

A number of documents, providing legislation, advice and guidance have been used in producing this policy including:

The Welsh Medium Education Strategy (2010)

This Strategy is a historic milestone in Welsh-medium education and sets the Welsh Government’s national strategic direction. It also sets the direction for making improvements in the teaching and learning of Welsh as a language, including, in particular, Welsh second language. An aim of this strategy is to see all learners in English-medium settings like Porthcawl benefiting from opportunities to develop language skills which enrich their experience of living in a bilingual country

The Welsh Education Scheme 2007-2012.

Bridgend County Borough Council's document prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Act 1993.

Policy

- To ensure that Welsh is taught as a second language in accordance with the National Curriculum’s statutory requirements.
- To provide opportunities for staff and pupils to improve their Welsh language skills
- To provide opportunities for pupils to improve their knowledge and understanding of the cultural, economic, environmental, historical and linguistic ethos of Wales via the Cwricwlwm Cymreig.
- To promote the development of pupils’ Welsh language skills by means of specific projects and activities such as Urdd Gobaith Cymru
- To further improve transition in Welsh as a Second Language from KS2 to KS3

Process

The Governing Body will:

- oversee, endorse and review the Welsh Language and Culture policy document.

The Headteacher will:

- liaise with the Governing Body to oversee, endorse and review the Welsh Language and Culture policy document
- ensure that suitable teaching time is given on the timetable for Welsh as a second language, in line with the National Curriculum, to include the opportunity for all pupils to sit an externally accredited examination at the end of Key Stage 4.
- ensure all pupils are taught Welsh second language at key stage 3 in no less time than that allowed for Modern Foreign Languages (French or German).
- provide Welsh as a second language as a compulsory subject at KS4
- ensure that there is sixth form provision for Welsh at AS and A2 (within the 14-19 partnership)
- provide the opportunity for students to follow the Welsh Bacallaureate
- provide staff with opportunities to improve their Welsh language e.g. by providing inservice training time
- promote the use of the Welsh language by staff and pupils
- promote Cwricwlwm Cymreig (the Welsh dimension in the curriculum)
- support Welsh language projects e.g. Urdd, Eisteddfod

The Deputy Headteachers and Assistant Headteachers will:

- ensure that Porthcawl Comprehensive creates a Welsh ethos, including Welsh signage and promotes the use of the Welsh language during the day wherever possible
- encourage extracurricular activities that raise pupils' awareness of the Cwricwlwm Cymreig
- be responsible for organising the necessary inservice training on the Welsh language for staff
- construct the timetable in accordance with the Headteacher's instructions
- co-ordinate all aspects of the Welsh transition activities from KS2 to KS3
- ensure accreditation

Teachers will:

- promote the Cwricwlwm Cymreig in lessons, as it is a common requirement in the National Curriculum
- use and encourage the use of the Welsh language in their classrooms where appropriate

- engage in opportunities to develop their skills in the Welsh language as appropriate

Form teachers will:

- raise awareness and encourage the use of the Welsh language on the daily bulletin
- support the Head of Year in the promotion of Welsh culture and language in assemblies

Heads of Year will:

- work in partnership with pupils and Form teachers to promote Welsh culture and language in assemblies.

Welsh Department will:

- teach the Welsh lessons as part of the school curriculum
- provide the relevant accreditation
- offer advice via the school's Welsh development Group
- support elements of Welsh development

School Welsh Development Group will:

- discuss ideas for Welsh language and the promotion of Welsh culture. Sharing this across all faculties in the school and with colleagues in neighbouring schools via the Bilingual Strategy Forum Group.

Procedures

Who	What and how
Welsh Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching of the Welsh Language and Welsh culture in the timetabled Welsh lessons • School Eisteddfod – leading the annual Eisteddfod held at the Pavilion • Welsh Transition KS2 to KS3 • Carol Service – planning the Welsh dimension of the annual service • School assemblies e.g. identifying Welsh festivals suitable as material for assemblies by Form classes or Head of Year. • Clwb Cymraeg – extra curricular • Urdd
Whole School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Welsh language by ensuring that signs are bilingual and publications and the website has adequate Welsh language • Further extra curricular activities with a Welsh dimension e.g. Humanities club – The Heritage Project. Media Club. PE and Sports. • School Eisteddfod – support for this event, including offstage and onstage

	<p>competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition – various departments have Cwricwlwm Cymreig in their transition projects e.g. History, Drama, English
Year Group and House System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh assemblies including singing Welsh hymns and singing the Welsh National Anthem • House activities – the Eisteddfod
Departmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All subjects • Contribute towards the Cwricwlwm Cymreig, identifying opportunities in the schemes of work • Promoting the Welsh language in the classroom where appropriate • Include a number of Welsh displays in the corridors and classrooms