



PONTARDDULAIS COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL YSGOL GYFUN PONTARDDULAIS



Polisi Dwyieithog yr Ysgol Bilingual Policy

Mr. G. Rees
Headteacher

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Review: 2021
Next Review: 2024

Learn to live...
live to learn

Byw I ddysgu...
dysgu byw



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Definition of Bilingualism – Dwyieithrwydd

It is the ability to communicate effectively and accurately in two languages. The fluency and the accuracy of the communication will depend upon the age, ability, background and linguistic experiences of each individual.

The School's Philosophy

At Ysgol Gyfun Pontarddulais we are committed to maintaining a Welsh ethos, reflecting and acknowledging the Welsh language as an integral part of our national identity. The Siarter Iaith Framework [2020] is embedded within the 6 areas of learning across the school [Curriculum for Wales 2020] and likewise the development of the language element across the whole school is a prominent factor in the school's current SER. This Language Charter provides a clear framework to promote and increase the use of Welsh and awareness of Welsh culture by pupils in a whole school context. To date, the school has completed a whole school pupil questionnaire and based on the outcomes a whole school audit will be updated with the aim of achieving a Bronze award.

It is understood by all that the responsibility of developing bilingualism globally across the school lies with every member of the school community – headship team, teaching staff, all supporting staff and the pupils themselves. Together, with a united philosophy regarding the use of the language the school can strive forward to the future with bilingualism safely established within its culture [Welsh in education Action plan 2017-2021, Cymraeg 2050].

The School's Aim

The school aims to encourage positive attitudes towards the Welsh language and to allow pupils to develop and use their bilingual skills in everyday situations. The use of the Welsh language is promoted outside the designated Welsh lessons.

Outcomes

It is believed that providing pupils with bilingual opportunities within the school community enhances pupils' experiences and develops young minds, flexible and tolerant of language and cultural differences. The benefits of promoting bilingualism within our school includes enriching life experiences and improving pupil development and intellect, making our young people well rounded individuals capable of integrating and contributing to the bilingual society of Wales.



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The School's linguistic make-up

All pupils [832 pupils on role end of September 2021] come from English speaking backgrounds, with the exception of 9 pupils who identify themselves as being fluent Welsh speakers [PLASC January 2021]. 1 member of the headship team, 10 members of the teaching staff, 5 member of the support staff, 1 technician, 1 member of the school canteen and 1 caretaker are also fluent Welsh speakers [approx. 100 staff working within the school's community].

The Learning Environment

Bilingualism is prevalent across the school. Evidence is seen:

- Classroom displays, language posters for pupil use of incidental classroom Welsh – in the majority of departments they are subject specific.
- Staff use of incidental Welsh when greeting/calling the register/providing basic classroom instruction.
- Pupil use of Welsh when responding to the register call.
- Pupil use of Welsh when writing the date in all curriculum areas.
- Pupil use of incidental Welsh during their lessons.
- Bilingual marking scheme of key words e.g. ardderchog /da iawn /da/gwaith bendigedig/ymdrech deg.
- Departmental SER / ADP.
- Whole school recognition of achievement - Da iawn! postcards.
- Whole school assemblies.
- Bilingual titles within teaching / learning booklets.
- All signage across the school is bilingual.
- Bilingual food menus in the canteen.
- Callers and visitors are greeted bilingually by the office staff.
- The majority of KS4 study the Full Welsh Second Language GCSE [since Sept. 2012].
- Entry Pathways Welsh Second Language course is studied by a small number of KS4 pupils.
- All pupils in KS4 study for the Welsh Baccalaureate which includes studying Welsh Second Language, and also the politics and culture of Wales and the World.