

ST. DAVID'S HIGH SCHOOL

BILINGUALISM POLICY

Reviewed by Governors

October 2025



ST. DAVID'S HIGH SCHOOL - BILINGUALISAA POLICY POLESI DWYIEITHO6 - YSSOL UWCHRADD DEWI SANT

"The Welsh Assembly 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."

In order to support this vision, the school aims to expose our pupils to the Welsh language and culture through a variety of ways including displays, signage, formal and informal use of Welsh.

Aim of this policy:

- To create awareness of Bilingualism in Wales for both pupils and teachers
- To provide individuals with the right to communicate in their preferred language
- To ensure that pupils continue to build on bilingual skills from Key Stage 2
- To develop an enriching Welsh culture within the school
- To promote an ethos within the school which supports, augments and celebrates the Welsh language
- To promote positive attitudes towards the Welsh language and culture and to create equal opportunities for all our pupils
- To develop in every learner a sense of personal and cultural identity that is receptive and respectful towards others
- To ensure that pupils are able to undertake certain vocations in Wales where the use of both Welsh and English are a requirement

Under the Welsh Assembly Government strategy document *Rights to Action*, pupils are exposed to elements of the Welsh language to help develop their personality and talents to the full
Pupils at S.D.H.S. have the opportunity to access the Welsh language in each classroom through their own and the teachers' experiences

Each member of staff will have a bank of resources that can be used in each classroom according to the fluency of the staff member

All pupil exercise books have the subject bilingually displayed on the front cover

Pupils will be provided with opportunities to answer the register in Welsh

Each member of staff will have a "Iaith y Dosbarth" language guide displayed in their classrooms

The S.D.H.S. promotes Bilingualism by displaying school notices bilingually.

The curriculum supports the teaching of Welsh as a second language throughout all key stages

TLC pupils attend both Welsh and English lessons to help extend their language development and cultural awareness

Parents and members of the public are greeted bilingually at the school reception and on the telephone

The school promotes Bilingualism through school based events such as Eisteddfodau, Santes Dwynwen and St. David's Day celebrations. Opportunities are also provided for pupils to use Welsh outside of school

Welsh is used in whole school services

Word/phrase of the week is used

At S.D.H.S. each child will have equal exposure to the Welsh language and culture, regardless of their gender, ability, social & economic background, culture, ethnicity or race. We believe all pupils should enjoy and achieve, and make a positive contribution.

S.D.H.S. also believes in the importance of supporting the Welsh language and culture in our modern society as both a first and second language. We are dedicated to ensuring that our pupils have the necessary knowledge of the language so as not to be excluded from any facet of Welsh life and culture.

FLINTSHIRE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Arfer Dda Good Practice

- Support from Head and SLT
- Bilingual policy in place
- School marking policy bilingual
- Staff audit/questionnaire about their level/confidence in Welsh and what their subjects cover regarding the Cwricwlwm Cymreig
- School website bilingual

- Establishing reasons to learn Welsh - nurture a feeling of belonging, raise awareness and profile of Wales and Welsh, create Welsh ethos, Cwricwlwm Cymreig / old Welsh Studies. What do pupils perceive as Welshness? Can be addressed in PSE policy along with diversity and other equal opportunity issues
- Maps of Wales displayed across the school - making sure the pupils know the country and where they live
- Highlight bilingualism / multilingualism as a skill
- KS2 - KS3 Transition - building on bilingual skills from KS2
- Time allocation for Welsh important. Full course Welsh *offered* as well as AS/A2

- Welsh displayed in every classroom - Iaith y Dosbarth (classroom language) and key subject vocabulary
- Signage - bilingual
- Staff language booklet/help displayed in the staff room and personal copies for staff
- Help cards to support the use of the language for pupils and staff
- Administration staff greet visitors / answer phone with a Welsh greeting

- Staff training days - using Welsh speakers to help/teach incidental Welsh to non Welsh speaking staff. Boost their confidence and increase support for staff. Willingness of staff vital.
- Staff input important
- Welsh used in assemblies
- All staff use the same incidental Welsh - consistently

- Register answered in Welsh - yma, bore da, pawns da
- Pupils rewarded for use of incidental Welsh in classrooms and around school (not just bore da) and building positive attitudes towards the language
- Information on the front of pupils' exercise books for all subjects written in Welsh
- Pupil planners bilingual
- Gwaith Dosbarth (Classwork) and the date displayed in Welsh in every classroom and written in pupils books every lesson
- Positive role models - Pupils know who the bilingual/multilingual staff are within the school. Also pupils aware of famous and local role models who speak other languages
- School canteen - bilingual menu
- Sing national anthem on special occasions
- Opportunities are provided for pupils to use Welsh outside of Welsh lessons - Llan Llŷn. visits to Cardiff, involvement in Urdd Eisteddfod

Annual school eisteddfod held

Writing to parents - incorporate some Welsh into newsletters and correspondence - initial greeting/ending, some paragraphs/headings, school address - shows readers "living bilingualism"

Governing Body support bilingualism

Links with Bwrdd yr Iaith, Careers Wales, Menter Iaith re: importance of Welsh in the workplace

Links with the Urdd - eisteddfod, sport competitions, residential courses

Dolenni Links

- Urdd Gobaith Cymru

Urdd membership, eisteddfod, sport competitions, residential courses, trips, will visit schools

Website: www.urdd.org

Flintshire development Officer: Darren Williams

Telephone number: 01352 744047

E-mail: DarrenM@urdd.org

- Welsh Language Board

Free translation service, posters badges etc for Welsh speakers, information about learning Welsh, Sound of Welsh cd (eg's of conversations and how Welsh sounds - good for pronunciation, not for absolute beginners) Website: www.bviq-wlb.org.uk

- Careers Wales

Provides information on the importance of

Welsh/languages/bilingualism/multilingualism in the workplace Website:

www.careerswales.com

- University of Wales Lampeter

On-line Welsh dictionary. Instant translation of individual words Website:

www.geiriadur.net

- Acen

Welsh learners website. Resources and courses. Website:

www.acen.co.uk

- Mentrau Iaith

Links to Welsh language initiatives across Wales Website:

www.mentrau-iaith.com

- Upson Downs

Signage. Schools can create their own (bilingual) signs Website:

www.upsondowns.co.uk