

# **Clyro Church in Wales Primary School – Welsh Second Language Policy**



**Clyro Church in Wales  
Primary School**

## **Ysgol Cleirwy – Policy Cymraeg Ail Iaith**

## **Background**

As a school on the England/Wales border, we as staff and governors feel that we should develop and promote Welsh Second Language in a pro-active manner, by stimulating pupils' interests and motivating them to work in a positive and purposeful environment.

We feel it is our responsibility to transmit our Welsh heritage to our children and make them aware of belonging to a country that has its own language and tradition. It is important to give all pupils the awareness of bilingualism and to promote a whole school approach on the use of Welsh as a medium of communication as part of everyday life in the school. This will enable the pupils to develop their fluency and confidence in using the language.

The curriculum is delivered through the medium of English. Welsh is a foundation subject and appears on the timetable as such; each class receives ten minute sessions for four days of the week with an additional one hour session per week. It is also used incidentally in all classes.

This policy deals with the acquisition of Welsh Second Language and its delivery as a foundation subject.

## **Subject Aims**

- To promote the use of the Welsh Language and bilingualism throughout the school and to foster a positive attitude towards the language.
- To develop the skills of children in listening to and speaking Welsh.
- To extend pupils' reading skills and experiences as a means of improving and enhancing their language resources and give them enjoyment and information.
- To develop writing skills through writing for different purposes using patterns, vocabulary and structure practised orally.
- To create a favourable environment and atmosphere for the use of the Welsh language and increase awareness of the Welsh dimension.
- Provide challenging activities to ensure progress in line with National Curriculum expectations.

## **Time Allocation/ Planning**

It is recommended that 1½ hours of Welsh is taught as a second language during the week in both Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. This can be a mixture of language lessons and bilingual lessons. The classroom teachers are responsible for planning and delivering Welsh lessons with the support of the Athrawes Fro, who visits once a term.

Key Stage 2 teachers follow the KS2 Powys Welsh Second Language scheme of work.

In the Foundation Phase, teachers follow the Powys Welsh Second Language units of work, often linked to the class topic / theme.

## **Methodology**

The teaching approaches used for introducing and developing confidence and enjoyment in Welsh are:

- Incorporate the Welsh skills framework and DCF into the teaching and learning of Welsh Second Language.
- Use visual, auditory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching and learning.
- Employ a variety of strategies to teach Welsh Second Language e.g. use of ICT, apps, games, reading activities, role-play, use of outdoor classroom, and sharing staff expertise.
- Aim to provide continuity and progression in the subject.
- Provide a balance between child-centred creativity and teacher controlled activity.
- Differentiation – pupils will generally be expected to work at their (appropriate) level and pace and will be given appropriate support where necessary.
- AFL strategies to enhance learning of skills.
- Marking of Welsh will be in line with our school's own marking policy.

## **Literacy and Numeracy across the Curriculum (LNF)**

LNF is planned for in the Foundation Phase scheme of work, but not the key stage 2 scheme. At key stage 2 the literacy targets are too advanced for Welsh as a 2<sup>nd</sup> language. We have a small amount of provision for numeracy at key stage 2 with work on telling the time and money.

## **Additional Learning Needs**

All children, irrespective of ability, will be given equal opportunity to learn Welsh. Provision is made in both Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 for all pupils through differentiation of work. Extension exercises will be provided for those who demonstrate aptitude for learning Welsh, as will support be given to those pupils with ALN.

## **Assessment of Welsh Second Language**

Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Welsh Second language is assessed by on-going continuous assessment based on the Programmes of Study.

A record of the child's attitude and achievements in Welsh Second Language will be made during the year through books/files, formative comments and annual reports to parents.

A school portfolio contains examples of oracy, reading and writing that have been standardised and pupil profiles that have been moderated.

Pupils in year 6 are levelled in Welsh in oracy, reading and writing.

Moderation of pupils' work takes place annually with the cluster primary schools and the High School.

The Welsh Second language co-ordinator is responsible for the management and development of education in Welsh as a second language throughout the school.

## **Resources**

The school aims to supply adequate resources for delivering Welsh as a second language, i.e. by the training of staff to improve their Welsh language skills, having suitable reading material in each classroom, installing suitable apps on class iPads, providing the resources for language displays on the wall, and providing materials for practical activities.

## **Role of Staff**

The school aims to ensure a clearly defined role for all members of staff:

- Class teachers - to promote a positive attitude towards the language and establish a status for Welsh within the classroom, work with and use the support of the Athrawes Fro, use as much incidental Welsh as possible, encourage the pupils to use Welsh in the everyday life of the school, use Welsh across the curriculum.
- TAs - to support class teachers in the Welsh lessons and also encourage the pupils to use Welsh in everyday life.
- Welsh Co-ordinator - to catalogue and review resources, encourage and support others in the teaching of Welsh, keep abreast with current developments, disseminate information, encourage colleagues to attend appropriate courses, liaise with Athrawes Fro, ensure continuity in the teaching of the language throughout the school, keep a close eye on assessment and moderation and keep portfolios of the pupils' work.
- Athrawes Fro - to offer leadership, support and advice on delivering Welsh in accordance with the National Curriculum and to actively promote the Welsh language and culture

## **Incidental Welsh**

As well as the more formal timetabled lessons, we encourage the use of the Welsh language where it can occur naturally during the course of the school day.

We will use it during registration time, assembly, entering/leaving rooms, general greetings and use Welsh commands when directing activities in classes, e.g. "eisteddwch", "sefwch".

We encourage the practice of pupils speaking to each other/teachers/adults in Welsh e.g. when asking to borrow something, or asking for items from the school tuck shop. In addition, we aim to use Welsh in other curriculum areas.

## **Creating a Welsh Ethos in the school**

We aim to create a Welsh ethos through:

- Use of incidental Welsh in the daily life of our school
- Use of Welsh songs, hymns and carols in whole school assemblies, church and chapel services, carol concerts, harvest services, Christmas concerts and other public performances.
- The establishment of 'Cryw Cymraeg'
- A weekly Welsh assembly which is led by members of 'Cryw Cymraeg'.

- Ensuring that Welsh is prominent visually through bilingual signs and labels throughout the school and the inclusion of Welsh on displays where appropriate.
- The use of 'Patrwm y pythefnos' (Phrase of the fortnight)
- Welsh activity days to foster creativity and enjoyment- St David's Day Eisteddfod, Prynawn Cymraeg
- Members of staff seen to be communicating with each other in Welsh

**Cymraeg Campus – The Welsh Language Charter**

The school achieved the bronze award of Cymraeg Campus, the Welsh Second Language Charter set up by ERW, in January 2020 and is now working towards achieving the silver award. Elected representatives from each class (from year 2 upwards) form the Criw Cymraeg. The Criw Cymraeg work with staff to promote the use of Welsh in school by choosing a fortnightly 'Ymadrodd y Pythefnos' (phrase of the fortnight), rewarding others for the use of Welsh, taking a leading role in the weekly Welsh assembly, and meeting on a regular basis to discuss progress with Cymraeg Campus. A special display in the school street shows the progress that has been made in each target.

Policy agreed

Policy to be reviewed  
**June 2021**

Signed.....  
(Head teacher)

Signed .....  
(Chair of Governing Body)