



ARCHBISHOP
MCGRATH CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

POLISI DWYIEITHRWYDD / BILINGUALISM POLICY

OUR VISION

‘Christ at the Centre’

Our core purpose is to ensure that all pupils reach or exceed their potential by using their God-given talents to develop as healthy, ambitious, capable, life-long learners ready to live as valued members of our local community, Wales and the world.

We aim for all our pupils to leave our school as:
Empowered, Virtuous and Employable individuals.



Date	Amendment	Staff	Review Date
7-11-24	Production of New Policy to be ratified by Governors	N. Lewis	Every 2 years
13-11-24	Policy Approved by Governor Panel	N. Lewis	

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Archesgob McGrath

Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School



Polisi Dwyieithrwydd / Bilingualism policy 2024 (Draft)

Guidelines

The Curriculum for Wales seeks to enable every student to create a personal sense of perthyn (belonging) in Wales and globally. One of its primary objectives is to cultivate ethical, informed citizens both within Wales and worldwide. We believe that fostering the Welsh dimension and bilingualism will aid pupils in appreciating and celebrating the unique experience of living and learning in Wales instilling a sense of balchder (pride) and angerdd (passion) towards Wales and our language.

Students will have opportunities to communicate effectively in Welsh across various formats and environments, both inside and outside the classroom, in all subjects and environments. Our goal is to help them identify and express their own sense of cymreictod, fostering a deeper connection to their local community and country, while also understanding Wales' place in the world.

To achieve success, we will offer suitable pathways for learning Welsh, empowering students to confidently use the language in daily life. Our curriculum will encompass Wales' cultural heritage and diversity, its languages and values, and the histories and traditions of its communities and people, integrating these elements throughout all aspects of school life. This approach will enrich the educational experience for all students, making them empowered, virtuous, and employable individuals with knowledge of their heritage, language, and culture, as well as an understanding of contemporary Wales and its global significance.

Purpose:

Amcan 1 / Aim 1

- pupils' experience is enriched by events which are an integral part of daily school life;

Amcan 2 / Aim 2

- the Welsh language is consistently visible and audible as a relevant and natural means of communication throughout the school, empowering students in their use of the language

Amcan 3

- ensure that all pupils are aware of the advantages of learning Welsh and its advantages in the world of work supporting employability
- reflect Welsh Government policy, objectives and guidelines as identified in documents such as 'Curriculum for Wales Guidance, 'Welsh in education', The Siarter Iaith, The Wellbeing Act and The Cymraeg 2050 strategy
- ensure that the curriculum for Wales is evident, inspiring and integrated into the teaching and learning throughout the school at Archbishop McGrath

Welsh Language Provision

Pupils at Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School are provided with high quality Welsh language teaching, which is provided by an experienced and enthusiastic department. Pupils are provided with a range of teaching strategies and have access to contemporary and skills based curriculum.

The Curriculum

- Welsh 2nd language is taught as a core subject in years 7 to 11.
- All Schemes of Work encourage pupils to take an active part in language and develop these skills as well as a sense of belonging to Wales and looking towards the target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050

Pupils are provided with:

- Four one hour lessons a fortnight studying towards a Welsh GCSE at KS4
- Four one hour lessons a fortnight for pupils in years 8 and 9
- Three one hour lessons a fortnight for pupils in year 7
- An opportunity to study Welsh at A level
- Additional opportunities for career focussed Welsh courses

Staff Training

Archbishop McGrath recognises the need for all staff to contribute to the Welsh language development of the school. Support for everyday Welsh and developing bilingual and multilingual approaches are available from the Languages department. Audio clips to help with pronunciation and words written phonetically are available on the public drive. Requests should be made to the HOD. Resources with classroom phrases are provided for every member of staff. An informal Welsh language support group has also been formed within the school. Staff within the Welsh department are on hand to help.

Monitoring

The head teacher and SLT will monitor the use of Welsh when conducting lesson observations, learning walks as per the calendar and as part of general school life, evidenced in updated lesson observation form (2024)

The SLT, HOD and Welsh department will monitor everyday Welsh used in the school and will also monitor levels of Welsh on displays, in classrooms and around the school.

Promotion of the Policy:

- A member of the school's leadership team has responsibility for the monitoring Welsh and bilingualism.
- All stakeholders strive for bilingualism for all, engaging in the Siarter Iaith initiative.
- Significant parts of the school website are bilingual.
- All pupils study an appropriate Welsh language Course at KS4.
- Staff greet pupils in Welsh and use incidental Welsh in lessons.
- There is a Welsh element in assemblies.
- Bilingual signs and posters are displayed prominently around the school, e.g. canteen, main entrance, hall, library etc.
- Welsh content is shared via information screens around the school
- Visitors to the school greeted in Welsh by office staff.
- Welsh Phrase of the Week shared in the weekly bulletin.
- Welsh phrase of the week shared via social media.
- Registers in all lessons, apart from modern languages, to be answered in Welsh.
- Welsh music and culture is promoted via school Instagram account along with phrase of the week
- Staff ensure the use of Welsh across the curriculum.
- Enrichment activities and experiences offered in order to develop learners' use and enjoyment of Welsh.
- The school community encourages the use of Welsh outside the classroom.
- Welsh language champions encourage their peers to use more Welsh in and around school.
- The school improvement plan includes a clear commitment to developing bilingualism and working towards the Siarter iaith and Cymraeg 2050
- All staff demonstrate a clear commitment to the development of the Welsh language and culture.
- Use of incidental Welsh when observing colleagues' lessons.
- The school community understands and promotes the benefits of bilingualism in all subject areas.
- All staff and all departments show a commitment to working towards and achieving the standard classroom language in Welsh
- St. David's Day is celebrated by holding a Welsh assembly and Eisteddfod in the spring term.
- Annual visit by various guest speakers.
- Extra-curricular links with the Urdd which promote the Welsh language
- Development of staff Welsh language skills through various courses including the 'Learn Welsh' in education course and celebration of successes with 'Seren Iaith' termly in the weekly bulletin
- Celebration of the Su'mae / Dydd Miwsig Cymru / Dydd Santes Dwynwen

Catholic ethos and Religious life

- Pupils pray always through the medium of Welsh in form classes once a week and in Mass and assemblies
- All members of staff use the sign of the cross in Welsh
- Bidding prayers are offered in Mass bilingually
- Tannoy announcements for morning prayer are made through the medium of Welsh

Roles and responsibilities

- **Role of the Headteacher and SLT**

- To create and nurture a Welsh ethos in the school.
- To support and encourage the Welsh department in their teaching of Welsh as a second language, ensuring the provision of teaching time and funding of quality resources.
- To encourage attendance on suitable courses as appropriate.
- To discuss future developments with the Head of Welsh and the advisory services.
- To promote and use Welsh in school, including during assemblies.
- To greet and praise pupils in Welsh.
- To greet staff appropriately in Welsh.
- To monitor everyday Welsh throughout the school.
- To provide training opportunities for all members of staff.

- **Role of the Welsh Department**

- To teach Welsh in accordance with the Curriculum for Wales and be aware of the requirements of good practice
- To use and encourage everyday Welsh whenever appropriate.
- To attend suitable courses.
- To provide pupils with a progressive and interesting curriculum.
- To ensure pupils receive high quality teaching and language experiences
- To support all colleagues in the development of everyday Welsh.

- **Role of the Head of Welsh**

- To encourage and support members of the department.
- To liaise with the advisory service.
- To attend HOD courses and keep abreast of current developments within and outside of the county.
- To ensure continuity and progression.
- To ensure classes are suitably resourced with Welsh materials.
- To monitor the teaching of Welsh throughout the department and assist the SLT with the monitoring of everyday Welsh throughout the school.

- **Role of all HODs**

- Consider a suitable coverage of the Welsh dimension within departmental schemes of work.
- Identify areas within SOW which lend themselves to the use of everyday Welsh.
- To monitor the use of everyday Welsh used by departmental members.
- To ensure that all departmental resources contain elements of Welsh.
- To liaise with the Welsh department to develop lists of appropriate and suitable vocabulary.
- To audit training needs for members of the department.

- **Role of all teachers**

- To learn and use a range of language patterns and vocabulary.
- To greet pupils using Welsh and prepare them for the subject lesson in Welsh.
- To form dates in Welsh.
- To use Welsh comments in marking.
- To identify suitable vocabulary to display around the classroom.
- To ensure all classroom resources contain elements of Welsh.
- To ensure classroom doors are signed in Welsh.
- To use positive praise in Welsh.
- To encourage the use of Welsh by pupils in lessons.

- **Roles of all associate staff and office staff**

- To learn and use a range of language patterns and vocabulary.
- To greet pupils using Welsh.
- To greet visitors (including phone calls) in Welsh.