

“Working, Praying, Sharing and Learning Together”
“Gweithio, Gweddiwn, Rhannu a Dysgu gyda’n gilydd”



Ysgol Gynradd Santes Fair
St Mary’s RC Primary School, Brynmawr

Polisi Cymraeg / Welsh Language Policy

This document is a statement of the principles, aims and strategies for the teaching of Welsh Second Language at St Mary’s RC Primary School, Brynmawr/Ysgol Gynradd Santes Fair.

Prepared by: Kylie Flynn, Subject Leader

Date: 29th February 2015

Approved by Governing Body: _____

Date: _____

To be reviewed: _____

Date: _____

English is the main language of communication, teaching, learning and assessment at St Mary's RC Primary School / Ysgol Gynradd Santes Fair.

However, the school is committed, as is Blaenau Gwent's Local Authority Welsh Education Scheme and its Welsh Education Strategic plan to promote the aims and aspirations of the Welsh Government by:

- recognising the key contribution that our school makes to achieving the goal of *"increasing the number of people who both speak and use the language"* (A Living Language: a Language for Living 2012)
- making sure the school ethos reflects an *"awareness of the value of Welsh, both as part of our national heritage and as a useful skill in modern life"* (A Living Language: a Language for Living 2012)
- ensuring *"that all learners develop their Welsh language skills to their full potential and encourage sound linguistic progression"* (Welsh-medium Education Strategy 2010) from Foundation phase to Key Stage 2 and to KS3
- raising *"standards in the teaching and learning of Welsh Second language"* (Welsh-medium Education Strategy 2010)

We will seek to inform all stakeholders in our school of the benefits of the Welsh language and will provide appropriate opportunities for all pupils to achieve their full potential in relation to their Welsh language skills.

Ysgol Santes Fair is situated in a predominately English speaking area and all the pupils come from English speaking homes. In planning for the Welsh language we will consider all pupils' Welsh Second language starting points and will monitor progress throughout the Foundation phase and Key Stage 2.

All of the teaching staff are non-Welsh speaking (First Language). The school's policy is to ensure that all staff have sufficient training to be able to deliver Welsh Second language both in and beyond the classroom.

Both English and Welsh will be functional languages in the school.

We will use the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF) to identify and provide opportunities for learners to apply their literacy and numeracy skills in Welsh.

We therefore aim to:

- Self-evaluate and set targets for improvement in Welsh Second Language
- Provide appropriate time allocation to enable pupils to make and sustain good progress in Welsh

- Ensure that all pupils receive regular high quality structured Welsh Second Language teaching
- Plan challenging, relevant and interesting activities for all pupils to achieve good standards and make good progress in their knowledge, understanding and skills in Welsh Second Language
- Give all pupils, irrespective of ability equal opportunity to learn Welsh
- Foster positive attitudes in all stakeholders towards the Welsh Language and make them aware of the advantages of learning Welsh and becoming increasingly bilingual
- Motivate and secure the active engagement of pupils in Welsh Second Language through using a range of suitable teaching and training methods and resources
- Promote an ethos that promotes the Welsh language and culture and positive attitudes towards them
- Ensure that Welsh is given an audible place in all area of school life e.g. on the playground, classroom routines, school assemblies, concerts, outdoor activities and school visits
- Ensure Welsh has a visual place in and around the school e.g. signage, displays, newsletters and websites
- Ensure pupils in the Foundation Phase hear and use Welsh in all the areas of learning
- Provide opportunities for pupils to develop their use of Welsh in a range of situations beyond their Welsh lessons e.g. playground games, tuck shop, the implementation of an awards system for initiating the use of Welsh
- Provide pupils opportunities to use familiar language in a range of new situations, to become active as well as passive users of Welsh
- Provide learning experiences across the curriculum to enhance the development of learners' knowledge and understanding of the Welsh language, via School initiatives of the Criw Cymraeg, help from outside agencies such as The Urdd.
- Ensure that the Key Skills are integral to the development of Welsh Second language
- Provide opportunities to build on the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired in the Foundation Phase

- Participate in the Welsh Second Language transition projects between and across phases to ensure continuity and progression
- Ensure attainment in Welsh Second Language, according to teacher assessment, at Key Stage 2 compares favourably with that in similar schools and are in line with the Local Authority Welsh Education Strategic Plan 2015 targets Blaenau Gwent 72%
- Make rigorous use of assessment for learning by enabling pupils to evaluate their own work, the work of others and set targets for improvement to meet their individual overall needs
- Meet regularly as a school and cluster to standardise and moderate pupils' work in order to have a common understanding of standards
- Carry out continuous teacher assessment and report pupil levels to parents at the end of Key Stage 2
- Set pupil targets and review annually
- Provide sufficient and appropriate teaching and learning resources to enhance standards, including suitably trained staff, reading materials and materials to promote ICT in Welsh Second Language
- Share good practice within and outside the school to raise standards
- Identify training needs and work in partnership with the Welsh Language Support Team to improve linguistic skills and raise standards of teaching and learning