

Radyr Comprehensive School

Ysgol Gyfun Radur

Respect ♦ Commitment ♦ Success

Welsh Ethos Policy



Rationale

The Curriculum for Wales aims to allow all students to form their own *cynefin*, their own sense of belonging in Wales and the world. One of its core four purposes is to develop ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world. At Radyr Comprehensive School, we believe that developing the Welsh dimension and bilingualism will help pupils to understand and celebrate the distinctive quality of living and learning in Wales in the twenty-first century.

Pupils will have opportunities to communicate effectively in Welsh in different forms and settings, both inside and outside of the classroom. We aim to help them to identify and share their own sense of Welshness, feel a heightened sense of belonging to their local community and country, and understand the position of Wales in the World. Students should be grounded in an understanding of their identities, landscapes and histories that come together to form their own *cynefin*.

To be successful, we will provide appropriate pathways for learning Welsh to enable students to develop the confidence to use it in everyday life. Our schemes of work will reflect Wales, its cultural heritage and diversity, its languages and values, histories and traditions of its communities and people; this will also be integrated across all aspects of school life. It will provide a valuable opportunity to extend the educational experience of all students giving them knowledge of their heritage, language and culture as well as of contemporary Wales and its place in the world.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- ensure that the Welsh language is visible through display and audible consistently as a relevant and natural means of communication throughout the school;
- ensure that pupils are aware of the advantages of learning Welsh and becoming increasingly bilingual;
- 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;
- promote a sense of Welshness and ensure pupils feel a sense of belonging, *cynefin*, to the local community and to Wales as a nation;
- ensure that a curriculum in Wales and for Wales is evident, inspiring and integrated into the learning and teaching at Radyr Comprehensive School.

Radyr Comprehensive School will promote Welshness and bilingualism by:

- involving head of bilingualism development in the CfW working group;
- ensuring that a sense of Welshness, local community & bilingualism is implicit and integral to learning and teaching in all AoLEs and provides an awareness of the Welsh dimension in curriculum provision and extra-curricular activities;
- using review weeks and the QA processes in place to monitor the provision offered by departments;
- teaching linguistic links between Welsh, English and international languages through the use of triple literacy activities and displaying triple literacy labels and posters in AoLE classes;
- holding an annual KS3 St. David's Day Eisteddfod and an Eisteddfod evening with our partner primary schools with whole school responsibility for its preparation in form time;
- holding an extended assembly for KS4 to celebrate St David's Day;
- celebrate 'Shwmae Day' to raise awareness of Welshness;
- holding assemblies containing elements of Welsh for each Key Stage whenever possible with Welsh language greetings at the start of all assemblies;
- delivering the statutory LLC AoLE to all students from years 7 through to year 11, paying close attention to the Descriptions of Learning for Welsh in English medium schools, with every pupil in KS4 studying for a full course GCSE;
- integrating Welsh themes, such as Wales, Europe and the World, within the Welsh Baccalaureate at both KS4 and KS5;
- all AoLEs to regularly send pupils on courses to Welsh locations such as Llangrannog, Glan Llyn and the Urdd Centre in Cardiff Bay;
- all AoLEs to offer local and further afield Welsh trips to increase cultural capital and provide opportunities for experiential learning;
- provide bilingual information on the school website and more actively advertise the ability to translate the page to Welsh;
- ensure any Welsh Government/County guidance is provided bilingually;
- increase visibility of Welsh on the school's newsletter 'Heads Up';
- maximize opportunities to offer staff Welsh language courses, either via funded CSC provision or in-house;
- arranging visits to concerts/drama productions with the emphasis on the medium of Welsh;
- offering opportunities for all students to study literature through the medium of Welsh;
- arranging visits of guests, especially in Business Studies, WBQ and Economics, to promote the Welsh language and emphasise its importance in the world of work;
- ensuring that all signage throughout the school is bilingual;
- monitoring bilingualism and delivery of Curriculum for Wales as part of the school review process and the observation of lessons;
- ensuring bilingual letterheads are used and that correspondence is offered through the medium of Welsh;
- having bilingual headings displayed around the school classroom;
- learning from best practice in other schools, both secondary and primary, including Welsh medium schools, both in Cardiff and in our "family of schools", through consortium led Inset, meetings with colleagues and Welsh consultants and correspondence between schools;
- providing planners for pupils with bilingual headings;
- having a link governor who can contribute to the promotion of Welshness and the formation of *cynefin*.