



**GROW, LEARN, SUCCEED TOGETHER!**

**LLANRHIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
BILINGUALISM POLICY  
ENDORSED BY GOVERNING BODY**



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is at the heart of our school's planning, policies, practice and ethos. As a rights-respecting school we not only teach about children's rights but also model rights and respect in all relationships. Our belief in "restorative approaches" ensures that every child is listened to.



can be the best they can be!"

Within all teaching and learning, numeracy, literacy and digital competency is promoted. Teachers are expected to plan and deliver objectives pitched appropriately to the learners. Lessons have success criteria which include numeracy, literacy and/or digital competency objectives to ensure the learners are aware of the particular skills they are looking to develop within that lesson. Every opportunity is used to promote the ethos of "every child

## **DEFINITION OF BILINGUALISM**

Bilingualism is the ability to communicate accurately and effectively in two languages. The fluency and accuracy of the communication will depend on the age, ability, background and linguistic experiences of each individual.



The school aims to encourage positive attitudes towards the Welsh Language and to allow pupils to develop and use their bilingual skills in everyday situations. The use of Welsh will be promoted outside designated Welsh lessons.

At Llanrhidian we offer the opportunity to learn Welsh as well as English. While learning another language, pupils need to understand its basic grammar and improve vocabulary. Being bilingual offers greater sensitivity to language, more flexibility in thinking and a better ear for listening. It also improves a person's understanding for the native language and opens the door to other cultures.

A bilingual pupil can develop creative thinking and an ability to think more flexibly. Being bilingual has a positive effect on intellectual growth. It enhances and enriches our pupils' mental development. One of the advantages of being bilingual is having access to two cultures - two different worlds of experience. With a language come idioms and sayings, folk stories and history, poetry, literature and music, both traditional and contemporary.

Reading and writing in two languages means a bilingual person can enjoy literature in both original languages. This can create a deeper understanding of different traditions and ways of thinking and behaving. The pleasures of reading novels, poetry and magazines and the enjoyment of writing to friends and family are all doubled for bilingual people. Two languages give people wider cultural experiences; they often have a greater tolerance of differences in cultures, creeds and customs beyond their own experience.



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The Welsh language is one of the few things that differentiate Wales from the rest of the UK, and it can be a powerful link between Welsh people everywhere.

A person with two languages will have a wider choice of jobs, as Welsh speakers are increasingly needed in the retail sector, tourism, transport, public relations, banking and accountancy, administration, translation, secretarial work, marketing and sales, the law and teaching.

Bilingualism in Welsh and English is important for children in Wales: it will affect the rest of their lives, and those of their parents. Being bilingual, multilingual or monolingual can affect a child's identity, networks of friends and acquaintances, schooling, employment, marriage, preferred area of residence, travel and thinking. This is why Llanrhidian promotes bilingualism as a key ingredient to a child's recipe for future success.

## **AIMS**

At Llanrhidian, we do our best to promote bilingualism in all aspects of school life. We aim to encourage pupils to communicate effectively in English and Welsh at a level appropriate to their age and ability. We want pupils to make good progress in their ability to use Welsh or English in a range of contexts and situations outside a familiar framework and beyond the classroom

e.g.

- extra-curricular activities;
- using the languages in new contexts;
- regular use of Welsh as an incidental language e.g. in assemblies.



## **STAFF TRAINING**

In order to succeed in our aims staff need to be confident with the language. At Llanrhidian, we are committed to staff development. Staff are encouraged to attend Welsh courses regularly. These courses are held in conjunction with the Welsh centre based at St. Helen's.

## **CURRICULUM PLANNING**

Throughout the Foundation Phase, speaking and listening of Welsh is vital in promoting bilingualism. Teaching is through regular Welsh lessons, as set out in the schools scheme of work, incidental Welsh, songs and rhymes. In key stage 2, children's communication skills are further developed. They are encouraged to use Welsh whenever appropriate.

Throughout the school bilingualism is continually promoted. 'Helpwr y Dydd'/'Helpwr Heddiw' forms part of the daily routine. Children talk about the school day using 'Mae hi'n amser...'. Pupils are encouraged to greet other pupils and visitors to the school using the Welsh Language.



Displays are bilingual wherever appropriate, using language familiar to the children. Welsh labels are also placed around the school creating a positive Welsh ethos. Pupils are encouraged to greet other



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pupils and visitors to the school using the Welsh language. They are also encouraged to use Welsh in role play situations in class.

The school provides sufficient opportunities for the pupils to use Welsh other than in their Welsh lessons - signs, displays, use of Welsh by staff around the school assemblies; visits, after school clubs and the Urdd. Sentence patterns are integrated into school activities wherever possible.

## **RESOURCES**

The school ensures that there are sufficient and appropriate resources to promote all language skills. The Welsh Advisory Service supports the school by supplying resources and advice about reading, Curricwlwm Cymreig and IT resources.

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

At Llanrhidian, the children's bilingual skills are promoted through a range of extra activities such as:

- St. David's day activities
- Slot Ddrilio
- Signs, displays around the school
- Portfolio of activities undertaken by classes throughout the school.
- Visits and visitors to school
- Twitter Portfolio #Llancym

## **COMMUNITY LINKS**



Our school recognises the importance of involving and encouraging parents to support the issues involved in bilingualism. We rely on their help to promote positive attitudes. Our school website parents can find suitable sentence patterns and appropriate vocabulary to practise with their children at home.

The community is involved in children's performances and Welsh learning whenever possible. We have strong links with our cluster of schools and regularly participate in Welsh culture projects such as the Mari Lwyd or

Tales from the Mabinogion.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Effective use is made of both formal and informal assessments to plan next steps for pupils' development in both English and Welsh. Parents are informed of pupil progress through consultation evenings and annual reports.



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**SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

Provision for SEN pupils takes account of children's linguistic background. Wherever possible they are included in all classroom activities.



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