

## **THE LANGUAGE POLICY AT YSGOL GLAN Y MÔR, PWLLHELI**

The school's aim is to promote the bilingual development of all pupils, as much as possible, to enable them to become well-rounded members of the community. The school is classed as a Category 2A school in line with the Welsh Assembly Government guidelines.

As well as the emphasis on developing the bilingualism of Welsh learners, the school also aims to reinforce the bilingualism of pupils from Welsh speaking homes.

### **THE LINGUISTIC ETHOS OF THE SCHOOL**

In order to maintain the general balance between both languages, the school has a Welsh ethos. The natural language of communication in school is Welsh, and the morning assemblies and school activities are held mainly in Welsh. Similarly, the school's administration language is Welsh. Pupils are encouraged to consider the Welsh language as a natural language in the classroom and outside.

### **PASTORAL PERIODS**

These are mixed linguistic groups. Pastoral periods and class assemblies etc. are conducted through the medium of Welsh. Welsh is also used with basic learners / latecomers in these classes and they are encouraged to make increasing use of the language as their proficiency and their ability to communicate in Welsh improves.

### **WELSH AS A SUBJECT**

Welsh and English are both taught as subjects to all pupils up to year 11. In years 7 to 9, the vast majority of the pupils, both native Welsh speakers and good learners, follow the first language programme of study.

In years 10 and 11, pupils whose first language is Welsh and second language pupils who have mastered the Welsh language, follow a Welsh First Language GCSE course. Latecomers follow the Basic Welsh GCSE course. Similarly, the school provides Welsh First Language and Welsh Second Language ELC courses as required.

### **THE MEDIUM OF TEACHING – KS3**

The school aims to ensure that both languages are used as the medium of teaching for all pupils to various extents and that this provision is an appropriate progression from the bilingual education in the primary schools.

**Cohort A** pupils (pupils with equal age-related proficiency in Welsh and English), **cohort B** pupils (pupils with appropriate proficiency in Welsh but with a need to reinforce some aspects of their language skills in English) and **cohort C1** pupils (pupils with appropriate proficiency in English but with a need to reinforce some aspects of their language skills in Welsh) will study at least 70% of the curriculum through the medium of Welsh. The following subjects will be taught through the medium of Welsh to these cohorts.

History, Geography, Religious Education, Art, Technology, Maths, Physical Education and French. Cohort B pupils will follow Personal Education through the medium of English while cohort C1 pupils will follow it through the medium of Welsh. Science and IT will be taught bilingually to the cohorts listed above.

Cohort C1 pupils will receive an English copy of exam paper questions / notes upon request in subjects such as Geography and will be allowed to use them to help them with their work.

Cohort C2 pupils (pupils with appropriate proficiency in English but without the age-related skills in Welsh) will undertake their work through the medium of English.

The school responds to individual needs with cohort CH pupils (pupils with low age-related proficiency in both languages).

#### **KS4**

Maths is taught through the medium of Welsh to all pupils with the exception of Cohort C2 pupils. All chosen subjects are offered through the medium of English and Welsh. The aim is to ensure progression from KS3 and to continue to promote age-related proficiency in both languages. The Language Co-ordinator will discuss the language of the chosen subjects with the pupils to ensure that this happens.

**Adopted: November 2015**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ *W. Bryn Williams*

Chair