



Madras V A School Penley

'Every child will succeed in a caring and supportive environment'

Bilingualism Policy

Introduction

Madras VA Primary School is in the Village Of Penley on the English Border.

Most of the children who attend the school are of Welsh origin but none are from Welsh speaking homes. Most of the staff have their roots in Wales.

The school is conscious of the important role that it plays in the life of the community. We aim to create a Welsh ethos within our school, which will foster a positive attitude and stimulate and encourage pupils' awareness and use the Welsh language.

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.

Aim

We aim to promote bilingualism across the curriculum within the context of the linguistic background of the school and its community, to enable pupils to communicate effectively in English and Welsh, at a level appropriate to their age and ability.

Staff Training

As a school we are committed to staff development and training. We aim to provide pupils with a good quality role model. All staff have Welsh language training to broaden the use of Welsh as a medium for teaching and learning. All staff are encouraged to speak Welsh phrases, greetings and commands both with adults and children throughout the day.

Curriculum Planning

Pupil's experience of Welsh begins in Foundation Phase where teachers provide role-play opportunity through the medium of Welsh as well as a range of relevant activities such as songs, rhymes, games, stories, DVDs, ICT CD-ROMS and everyday Welsh.

At KS2 pupils continue this approach alongside a more formal scheme of work.

Promoting Bilingualism through extra curriculum activities and outside the classroom.

Pupil's bilingual skills are promoted through a wide range of extra curricula activities such as:

- St. David's day activities, concerts
- Tocyn Iaithe linked to school house point system
- Using Welsh in playground, dinner hall, etc.

- Educational visits - residential courses
- After school Urdd Club activities
- Participating in the Urdd Eisteddfod competitions

Community Links

- Bilingual visitors are welcome to the school which promotes pupils' bilingual skills
- The use of Welsh is pointed out to the children when on local walks or educational trips e.g. bilingual signs
- Bilingual signs are displayed around the school.
- Urdd

Monitoring and Evaluation

Teachers regularly gather information on pupil's progress in speaking, listening, reading and writing in both English and Welsh from a range of sources across the curriculum

Assessment

Effective use is made of assessments to plan next steps for pupil's development in both English and Welsh.

SEN

Provisions for SEN pupils take account of their linguistic background and wherever possible they are included in all classroom activities.

Inclusion

The school makes appropriate arrangements for pupils who have no previous experience of learning Welsh as a first or second language.

It is our aim that all pupils fulfil their potential across the curriculum. To this end, we will endeavour to ensure that all children are given the necessary support to access learning in line with our Equal opportunities Policy, SEN policy, Inclusion policy, Accessibility Plan and Disability Equality Scheme.

Information for Parents

The school prospectus contains information about the school's policy for teaching Welsh to make parents aware of the benefits of bilingualism.

A Kempster October 2015

This policy was adopted in October 2015

Signed _____ Chair of Governors

This policy will be reviewed in October 2016