

## Bryntirion Comprehensive School Bilingualism Policy

### Polisi Dwyieithrwydd Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion

#### Introduction

At Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion, we are committed to supporting the Welsh Government's ambitious *Cymraeg 2050* strategy, which seeks to achieve one million Welsh speakers by 2050. As an English-medium secondary school in Wales, we recognise our crucial role in promoting and preserving the Welsh language. Our vision is to ensure that **Cymraeg is visible and audible in all areas of school life**, where staff and pupils actively engage with the language and embrace its cultural significance.

This policy outlines our commitment to fostering bilingualism within the school community, ensuring that every member of our school feels encouraged and empowered to participate in the revitalisation of Cymraeg, regardless of their current proficiency.

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#### School Vision

In support of *Cymraeg 2050*, our vision at Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion is:

- That **Cymraeg is visible and audible** in all areas of the school.
- That **staff and pupils are seen and heard using the language** in all aspects of school life.
- That **staff and pupils understand the importance of preserving Cymraeg** and feel a collective sense of camaraderie and teamwork in working towards this mutual goal.
- That **opportunities to promote Cymraeg and Welsh culture** are actively sought and recognised.
- That there is **respect and recognition** of the language's contributions to the culture, society, and economy of Wales.

- That even among those who do not speak Cymraeg, or lack confidence in their ability, there is **goodwill and a sense of ownership towards the language**.
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## **Aims of the Policy**

### **1. To Promote Cymraeg Usage in Everyday School Life**

- Ensure that Cymraeg is present in all aspects of school life, both formal and informal.
- Create a supportive environment where the use of Cymraeg is valued and celebrated by staff, pupils, and the wider school community.
- Foster confidence in staff and pupils to use Cymraeg, irrespective of their proficiency level.

### **2. To Support the Development of Welsh Language Skills**

- Provide high-quality Welsh language instruction to all pupils, enabling them to progress in their skills and fluency.
- Equip staff with opportunities for continuous professional development (CPD) in Cymraeg.
- Recognise and celebrate achievements in Welsh language learning and use.

### **3. To Promote Welsh Culture and Identity**

- Celebrate Welsh heritage, culture, and traditions through school events, curriculum content, and extracurricular activities.
- Encourage participation in national and local Welsh cultural events, such as the Eisteddfodau, Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen, and Calan Gaeaf celebrations.
- Create connections with Welsh-speaking communities, businesses, and organisations to enrich pupils' experiences.

### **4. To Encourage a Sense of Ownership and Goodwill Toward Cymraeg**

- Promote inclusivity so that non-Welsh speakers feel encouraged to engage with the language.
- Emphasise the importance of bilingualism as an economic, cultural, and societal asset for Wales.

- Encourage all members of the school community to view Cymraeg as part of their shared identity.
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## **Implementation Strategies**

To achieve our aims, we will implement the following measures:

### **1. Curriculum and Teaching**

- Deliver engaging and progressive Welsh language lessons across Key Stages 3 and 4.
- Integrate opportunities to use Cymraeg into other subjects where appropriate.
- Use bilingual signage and Welsh vocabulary in classrooms to reinforce language learning.

### **2. Staff Training and Development**

- Provide CPD opportunities for staff to improve their Welsh language skills and teaching strategies.
- Support non-Welsh-speaking staff in developing conversational Welsh for everyday use.
- Recognise and celebrate staff contributions to promoting Cymraeg.

### **3. Daily School Life**

- Encourage informal use of Cymraeg in corridors, assemblies, form time, and extracurricular activities.
- Incorporate Welsh greetings, instructions, and phrases into everyday school interactions.
- Encourage staff and pupils to take pride in using Cymraeg, regardless of fluency.

### **4. Community Engagement and Cultural Events**

- Collaborate with local organisations and businesses to promote the use of Cymraeg beyond the school gates.
- Encourage parental involvement in promoting Cymraeg at home.

### **5. Recognition and Celebration**

- Establish awards or recognition systems to celebrate the efforts of staff and pupils in promoting the Welsh language.
  - Display student work in Cymraeg prominently around the school.
  - Celebrate key dates in the Welsh cultural calendar with enthusiasm and creativity.
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### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

To ensure the successful implementation of this policy, we will:

- Regularly review progress toward our goals, including pupil proficiency, staff engagement, and visibility of Cymraeg within the school.
  - Conduct surveys and gather feedback from staff, pupils, and parents on their experiences with Cymraeg in school life.
  - Maintain records of participation in Welsh cultural events and initiatives.
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### **Conclusion**

At Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion, we are united in our dedication to ensuring that Cymraeg flourishes within our school community. By embedding the Welsh language into every aspect of school life, we contribute to the shared goal of a bilingual Wales and play our part in the Welsh Assembly Government's *Cymraeg 2050* vision.

This policy is a reflection of our pride in Wales' linguistic and cultural heritage and our commitment to nurturing a new generation of confident, bilingual citizens.