



<b>Policy Name:</b>	<b>Language</b>
<b>Date Received:</b>	<b>September 2015</b>
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<b>Cluster or School Policy:</b>	Ysgol Glan Clwyd Policy
<b>Statutory or non-statutory Policy:</b>	Non-Statutory

### 1.0 Aim - A Welsh School

Ysgol Glan Clwyd was established in order to provide secondary education through the medium of Welsh in a Welsh environment by giving the pupils an opportunity to develop fluency in both languages. We presume that every parent who sends their child to this school accepts and maintains this and supports every effort made by the school to extend the educational provision through the medium of Welsh.

Welsh is the official language of the school and the language used to speak to every pupil at every occasion (except during English lessons). Therefore, Welsh is the language that every pupil should be using regularly, for the benefit of the pupil’s education.

As there are so many variations within our catchment area and many of these areas Anglicised the school must make every effort to create and sustain a Welsh environment in order to ensure success within Welsh education. We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activity which enhances the opportunities for pupils to use their Welsh socially. Some of the activities are organised through Menter Iaith, Yr Urdd and the 5x60 scheme.

### 2.0 Developing bilingualism

- Ysgol Glan Clwyd is a school which Welsh is at the forefront of teaching and learning in a way which ensures the growth of confident bilingual pupils.
- By developing such skill there are obvious benefits, such as better understanding of ideas, and offer better future career opportunities.
- Pupils come from Welsh, English or mixed backgrounds to benefit from these certain opportunities.

### 3.0 How does the school develop these skills?

- Welsh is the official and natural language of communication in the school. Linked to it is a Welsh ethos.
- The school’s objective is to ensure that every pupil, through the medium of Welsh, develops their skills in both Welsh and English equally and to the highest standard and are able to move naturally and effectively from one language to another.

- Ysgol Glan Clwyd was established in order to create these circumstances. The provision is a natural progression from the work seen at primary schools in the catchment area, and the aim is to ensure that pupils from both Welsh and non-speaking Welsh homes develop their use of Welsh and English to the best possible standard.
- Each subject (except for English) is taught and assessed through the medium of Welsh, but a number of methods are used to protect the pupil's skillfulness in both languages through giving appropriate attention to the English language.
- All staff at this school are professionally skilled in both Welsh and English.
- In all subjects the teaching method will reflect this basic aim of safeguarding the Welsh language and try to encourage bilingualism.
- All pupils will study Welsh and English until the end of year 11 and sit relevant exams in these subjects.
- Pupils will sit exams and tests through the medium of Welsh.
- Pupils are given every support and guidance to build upon their bilingualism, especially those who lack confidence in the Welsh language.

#### **4.0 Immersion Scheme**

- Ysgol Glan Clwyd welcomes Welsh learners. About 70% of our pupils come from families which there is no Welsh spoken in the home.
- There is a pilot scheme in the area which offers a second chance for 11 year old pupils transferring to Ysgol Glan Clwyd from English medium primary schools to learn and work through the medium of Welsh.
- If there is a class of learners, they will spend the two last months of year 6 at Ysgol Glan Clwyd. They will be taught by the school's teachers.
- Before deciding to join the scheme, parents of the "learners" are invited to meet the Head teacher and the scheme's Coordinator to discuss what is expected of them and their child.
- The "learners" timetable will be especially adapted to develop their language and their ability/understanding of the work.

#### **5.0 Y GYMRAEG – Guidelines for staff**

- Welsh comprehensive school is the school which receives a small number of pupils who do not speak Welsh at 11 years of age.
- All subjects (except English) are taught through the medium of Welsh.
- All members of staff must speak Welsh with all pupils at every occasion. The exception is during English lessons.
- At the start you must speak using both languages with the learners. Use less and less English. All to be aware of the learners' vocabulary and sentence patterns.
- The Head teacher abides to ensure as much additional resources – teachers, equipment, money, assistants, county/national support.
- All to accept the importance of extra-curricular activities.
- All should benefit from every opportunity to speak Welsh during formal and informal situations.

- All departments must include a developing literacy policy within their work program which integrates the whole school policy.
- Awareness of pupils' language levels and reading age by creating tasks and worksheets. You must indicate the target age of the work when contacting the translator.
- Challenging Lessons, BAC and tutorial periods are being used effectively to encourage pupils to speak Welsh and to be proud of this.
- Benefit from extra-curricular activities and informal situations with pupils; do our best to develop awareness of Welshness.
- All to interrupt every English conversation at every occasion. No one is avoiding the problem.
- The only way forward is to follow the same guidelines. It is a challenge that we can't avoid. We must be united in our thoughts in order to achieve this aim. The improvement is clear; - however much more can be done.
- All to follow the guidelines of the behaviour policy if a pupil persistently speaks English.