

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

National Context

Welsh Assembly Government documentation and directives such as Iaith Pawb (2003) state the right of every child in Wales to be a Welsh speaker.

Ceredigion context

The Single Education Plan of Ceredigion states the priority given to bilingualism. This priority is reflected in the corporate document Ceredigion 2020 as well as the corporate Welsh Language Policy.

The Ceredigion Language Strategy is based upon these principles.

1. The aim of this strategy is to develop our pupils' skills to enable them to use both Welsh and English fluently and with confidence. This will enable them to become full members of the bilingual society in which they live and will nurture pride in the language, heritage and culture of both Wales and Ceredigion
2. Ceredigion Local Education Authority believes strongly in the educational value of all pupils having the ability to communicate fluently in both Welsh and English. The Education Authority states clearly its objective that pupils will be confidently bilingual in all primary and secondary schools within the county.
3. A clear Language Strategy is the key to the success of bilingual education. The main objective is to ensure the bilingual skills of pupils in Welsh and English in both curricular and social contexts. Setting realistic targets will develop bilingualism on every level. The Language Strategy should be clearly communicated by:
 - including the Language Strategy in county documentation and websites
 - including the Language Strategy, and the individual school policy in developing bilingualism, in the School Prospectus and other relevant school documentation.

In accordance with Welsh Assembly Government documentation, 'Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision' (October 2007) schools will have to state which subjects, or units of subjects will be taught through the medium of Welsh or English in the school prospectus. Opportunities for developing the dual literacy skills of our pupils also need to be identified. This information will show clearly the percentage of the learning experience that is through the medium of Welsh.

4. A Welsh ethos in each school is central to the Language Strategy.
5. The strategy will be monitored annually using evidence from a variety of sources including the School Prospectus, schools' Welsh Medium Education Actions Plans, pupil data, School Improvement Team visits, visits by Athrawon Bro, and ESTYN inspections.

LANGUAGE STRATEGY FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN CEREDIGION

IMPLEMENTING THE LANGUAGE STRATEGY IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Strategy aims to address the objectives in the following ways in every Primary school in Ceredigion.

Every school, in discussion with the LEA, will place itself on a language continuum.

Schools previously defined as 'Category A' schools will define themselves within the Consolidation Stage of the continuum.

The aim of the continuum is to be of assistance to schools in identifying the current Welsh language provision and, by doing so, to further develop this provision.

1. Welsh will be the medium of education and day-to-day interactions in the **Nursery and Infant** departments.
2. Welsh will be the medium of education and day-to-day interactions in the **Junior Departments** and English language skills will be formally developed.
3. Pupils will be assessed in accordance with **Welsh First Language** criteria of the National Curriculum. Action plans will be created to achieve this aim within an agreed period of time in the small proportion of schools where this is not already the case
4. The LEA will provide a Framework for the **Welsh Medium Education Action Plan**. Individual schools will set specific targets to be met within an agreed time scale. The LEA will regularly monitor the implementation of these Action Plans and review them with schools.
5. Welsh should be the main medium of everyday life and administration in schools.
 - Welsh should be used as the only or main medium of communication in assembly and announcements.
 - Welsh should be encouraged as a natural language of communication between staff and pupils.
 - Social activities and extra-curricular activities will encourage the use of Welsh.
 - All signs, correspondence and documentation will be in Welsh or bilingual.

Schools at the Developmental Stage of the Welsh Medium Education continuum will use the Welsh language as an effective means to promote and develop the Welsh ethos of the school.

6. Latecomers to primary education in Ceredigion will spend a period of time in a Language Centre. This provision will be assessed annually depending on the number of pupils involved.
7. Pupils who are officially assessed to have Specific Learning Needs will receive appropriate language support within the wider provision offered in school. Specific attention will also be given to those pupils who do not speak either Welsh or English at home.
8. Staff appointed to schools should either be bilingual or agree to learn Welsh.
9. Staff in schools who are unable to speak Welsh at the present time should be encouraged and supported to develop their bilingual skills.
10. The Transition Plans for each area will note the principle of linguistic continuation and progression between Key Stages. The Language Strategy should be discussed annually in Key Stage 2/3 meetings.
11. Federal schools and any new primary or secondary schools that will be established in future will be defined as 'Welsh Medium' schools, which are schools that provide 100% Welsh medium education at Foundation Phase and at least 70% Welsh medium education at Key Stage 2. The definition of 'Welsh Medium' school is in accordance with Welsh Assembly Government Documentation 'Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision', (October 2007).

2008 – Distribution of Primary schools – Present Situation

Area	Category A schools, Category A streams and Ysgol Gymraeg Aberystwyth		Category B schools
Aberaeron	Aberaeron Caerwedros Cilcennin Ciliau Parc Dihewyd Felinfach Gwenlli Llanarth	Llanllwchaearn Llannon Penlôn Mydroilyn Pennant Talgarreg Trefilan	Cei Newydd / New Quay
Aberystwyth	Craig yr Wylfa Capel Seion Llanafan Llangynfelyn Llanfarian Llanfihangel-y- Creuddyn Llangwryfon Llanilar	Myfenydd Mynach Penllwyn Penrhyncoch Syr John Rhys Rhydypennau Talybont Yr Ysgol Gymraeg	Plascrug Comins Coch Cwmpadarn Llwyn yr Eos Padarn Sant
Aberteifi / Cardigan	Aberporth Beulah Blaenporth Cenarth Llechryd	Penmorfa Penparc Pontgarreg Welsh stream Ysgol Babanod Welsh stream Ysgol Iau	Bilingual Stream Ysgol Babanod Aberteifi Bilingual Stream Ysgol Iau Aberteifi

Llanbedr Pont Steffan / Lampeter	Cribyn Cwrtnewydd Llanwenog Llanwnnen	Ysgol y Dderi Welsh stream Ffynnonbedr	Bilingual Stream Ffynnonbedr
Llandysul	Aberbanc Capel Cynon Capel Dewi Coed-y-bryn Glynarthen	Llandysul Pontsian Rhydlewis Trewen	
Tregaron	Bronnant Llanddewi Brefi Llangeitho Lledrod Penuwch Pontrhydfendigaid Tregaron Ysbyty Ystwyth		

IMPLEMENTING THE LANGUAGE STRATEGY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Primary schools set specific aims regarding the bilingualism of their pupils. Secondary schools have a responsibility to affirm and further develop the bilingualism of each pupil. It is also the responsibility of these schools to provide the necessary support to enable this development.

Every secondary school within the LEA will ensure the relevant linguistic continuation and progression of each pupil.

1. The Transition Plans for each area will note the principle of linguistic continuation and progression between Key Stages. The Language Strategy should be discussed annually in Key Stage 2/3 meetings.
2. Pupils who have been assessed at the end of Key Stage 2 in accordance with Welsh First Language National Curriculum criteria **will continue to study Welsh as a First Language in the secondary school**. Linguistic continuation should also be provided in other curricular areas when transferring from Key Stage 2 to 3.
3. Every secondary school will place groups of pupils on different stages of the continuum in accordance with their linguistic development. The medium of the education provided should reflect these needs. Schools should also provide informal education activities through the medium of Welsh to further enrich the pupils' language experience.
4. The LEA will provide a Framework for the **Welsh Medium Education Action Plan**. Individual schools will set specific targets to be met within an agreed time scale. The LEA will regularly monitor the implementation of these Action Plans and revise and re-evaluate them with the schools accordingly.
5. From September 2008, latecomers to secondary education in Ceredigion will receive linguistic support on the school site for a specific period of time. The provision will be assessed annually depending on pupil numbers.
6. Pupils who are officially assessed to have Specific Learning Needs will receive appropriate language support within the wider provision offered in schools. Specific attention will also be given to those pupils who do not speak either Welsh or English at home.
7. Staff appointed to schools should either be bilingual or agree to learn Welsh in accordance with their needs.
It is acknowledged that schools are at different stages of the Welsh Medium Education continuum. In Schools at the Developmental Stage will appoint bilingual staff, where appropriate, according to curricular need.

8. Present staff who are unable to speak Welsh should be encouraged and supported to develop their bilingual skills.
9. Welsh should be the main medium of everyday life and administration in schools.
 - Welsh should be used as the only or main medium of communication in assembly and announcements.
 - Welsh should be encouraged as a natural language of communication between staff and pupils.
 - Social activities and extra-curricular activities will encourage the use of Welsh.
 - All signs, correspondence and documentation will be in Welsh or bilingual.

Schools at the Developmental Stage of the Welsh Medium Education continuum will use the Welsh language as an effective means to promote and develop the Welsh ethos of the school.

WELSH LANGUAGE STRATEGY 2008 – 2015

CONTINUUM FOR WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS				
In consultation with the LEA, schools will use the ‘Support and Challenge’ framework to place themselves on the continuum. The present provision should be identified and targets set to move forwards on the continuum.				
Key Stage 1 / Foundation Phase: To aim for 100% education through the medium of Welsh. Schools at the Developmental Stage of the continuum will develop pupils’ bilingual skills which will form strong basis for Welsh Medium education at KS2.				
Assessment at Key Stage 1 and 2: Pupils at Key Stages 1 and 2 should be assessed in accordance with Welsh First Language National Curriculum criteria.				
Medium of Education in Key Stage 2				
Consolidation Stage			Developmental Stage	
Pupils experience 80% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh.	Pupils experience 70 - 80% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh.	Pupils experience at least 70% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh.	Pupils experience at least 50% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh.	Pupils experience at least 40% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh.
Areas of the curriculum should be provided by studying some units in Welsh and other units in English so as to achieve the agreed percentage through the medium of Welsh. The school ‘Welsh Medium Education Action Plan’ will reflect this by providing detail as to which subjects are taught through the medium of Welsh and for what period of time. These details will also be provided in the School Prospectus, SDP and subject schemes of work. The LEA will be responsible for supporting and monitoring this plan.			The development of Welsh Medium Education in the Foundation Phase will lead to a natural progression in KS2. Other units and subject areas should be gradually introduced through the medium of Welsh to reach the targets set in the ‘Welsh Medium Education Action Plan’. The LEA will be responsible for supporting and monitoring this plan.	
Latecomers to primary education in Ceredigion will spend a period of time at a Language Centre.				

Step 2
At least **30%** through the medium of Welsh

Step 1
At least **20%** through the medium of Welsh

Welsh Medium Education at Key Stage 3 and 4			
Pupils experience at least 80% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh at Penweddig and Dyffryn Teifi and in the Welsh streams of every other secondary school.	Pupils experience at least 50% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh in every secondary school excluding Penweddig and Dyffryn Teifi.	Pupils experience at least 30% of Curriculum through the medium of Welsh in every secondary school excluding Penweddig and Dyffryn Teifi. Latecomers to secondary education in Ceredigion will receive relevant language support on site.	<p><u>Step 2</u> At least 20% through the medium of Welsh</p> <p><u>Step 1</u> At least 10% through the medium of Welsh</p>
Deliver and assess Welsh as a First Language and ensure progression in pupils' language skills and experiences.	Deliver and assess Welsh as a First Language and ensure progression in pupils' language skills and experiences.	Deliver and assess Welsh as a Second Language and ensure progression in pupils' language skills and experiences.	
<p>Areas of the curriculum should be provided by studying some units in Welsh and other units in English as to achieve the agreed percentage through the medium of Welsh. The school 'Welsh Medium Education Action Plan' will reflect this by providing detail as to which subjects are taught through the medium of Welsh and for what period of time. These details will also be provided in the School Prospectus, SDP and subject schemes of work. The LEA will be responsible for supporting and monitoring this plan.</p>			