

# Mount Street Nursery & Infants School



## Whole School Policy for Welsh

Date	June 2023
Review Date	June 2026

**Mount Street Nursery and Infant School**  
**Ysgol Feithrin a Babanod Mount Street**

**Whole school Policy for Welsh**  
**Polisi Cymreig yr Ysgol Gyfan**

In drawing up the whole school policy, consideration has been given to the following points from the Welsh in Education Action Plan and the LLC guidance in The Curriculum for Wales.

- The main aim of the policy is to give young people in Powys equal opportunity to be confidently bilingual in Welsh and English in order that they can be full members of the bilingual society in Wales.
- To promote collaborative attitudes and raise pupils, parents, staff, governors and community awareness of the advantages of bilingualism.
- To ensure that every pupil receives opportunities to use Welsh in education and community situations.
- All pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs, will have equal access to Welsh Second Language provision at the school.

Mount Street Infant School receives support from Debbie Cornelius 'Swyddog y Gymraeg/Welsh language Officer' as the 'Athrawes Bro/Peripatetic Teacher' role no longer exists in Powys.

The Co-ordinator successfully completed two terms of the Sabbatical Course for Teachers to develop her own knowledge and fluency of the language and also to up-skill her teaching of a second language. Skills developed have been shared with all teaching staff and the coordinator provides a supportive role.

Siarter Iaith

Aim: To increase the use of Welsh in our school

At Mount Street Infants we are developing our Siarter Iaith ethos and progressing to gain our Silver award. Welsh has a high profile in the school and we believe it is an integral part of who we are. In developing our Siarter Iaith we have created a 'Cryw Cymraeg' with the aim of promoting Welsh in the school. We aim to continue this positive practice in moving forward with our development of Siarter Iaith.

## Creating a Welsh Ethos

The school aims to: -

- Ensure that all pupils are made aware that Wales has its own language and culture through addressing 'Welsh Dimension' and drawing attention to national and local cultural events e.g. St. David's Day celebrations, with an Eisteddfod held annually ensuring that incidental Welsh/bilingualism is at the heart of the life of the school.
- Establish Welsh as the living, working second language in school life through initial telephone responses e.g. Bore Da, Ysgol Mount Street etc, responding in Welsh during registration and using incidental Welsh as much as possible throughout the school day including at lunchtime in the dinner hall and on the school yard where Welsh yard games are played.
- Give prominence to Welsh in school activities e.g. whole school Welsh singing, concerts, assemblies etc. We also invite in visitors with a distinct link to Wales and its culture e.g. a local singer and songwriter, a local harpist and national and local theatre companies which perform traditional Welsh tales.
- Give Welsh a visual, prominent place in the school through bilingual signs, notices, curriculum displays, the school website etc. A distinct Welsh ethos is prominent to guests as soon as they enter the school
- We have a 'Cryw Cymraeg' who are a team of Year 2 pupils who act as ambassadors for the language and assist the co-ordinator in her role in promoting the language. They meet on a weekly basis to discuss issues and look for new ways to promote and improve the language skills across the school.
- In October 2018 we successfully achieved the 'Cymraeg Campus' Bronze Award. We are currently working towards the Silver Award.

## Links with Parents and the Community

The school aims to: -

- Look for practical opportunities to give Welsh an equal status to English e.g. in correspondence (bilingual headed note paper) posters etc.
- Invite bilingual visitors/volunteers into the school whenever possible.
- Raise Parental awareness of the school ethos in respect of the Welsh language.

- Seek the support and co-operation of parents in the respect of teaching Welsh.

### **Staffing**

In appointing staff, the school will recognise the value of the ability to speak Welsh. The school will take account of the administrative and staffing guidelines outlined in the Powys Welsh Education Scheme.

### **Governing Body**

There will be a regular item on the agenda of Governing Body meetings to discuss the implications of the Welsh Education Scheme with regards to the School Development Plan. The Governing Body will support the Head Teacher and staff in the promotion and development of the Welsh ethos and language. A governor will be nominated to oversee the implementation of the school's action plan in relation to the Whole School Policy.

**Signed:** ..... (Chair of Governors)

**Date:** .....

**Date of Review:** .....