



# **Welsh Language Policy**

**Adopted by the Governing Body  
Autumn Term 2025**

## Welsh Language Policy

### 1. Introduction

Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi VA is committed to promoting and supporting the Welsh language in accordance with the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers strategy. Our goal is to foster a bilingual environment where Welsh is seen, heard, and used naturally every day. This policy sets out how we promote the Welsh language, support pupils' development, and embed Welsh in the life of the school.

### 2. Legal and Strategic Context

This policy is guided by:

- The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- The Curriculum for Wales 2022
- The Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy
- Estyn inspection requirements regarding the Welsh language
- The **Siarter Iaith** (Welsh Language Charter)

### 3. Vision and Aims

At Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi VA, we aim to:

- Promote positive attitudes towards the Welsh language and Welsh culture.
- Enable all pupils to become confident and enthusiastic Welsh speakers.
- Increase the everyday use of Welsh across the school community.
- Embed Welsh within teaching, learning, and the school's social and cultural life.
- Actively implement and develop the Siarter Iaith to support long-term engagement with the language.

### 4. The Siarter Iaith (Welsh Language Charter)

Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi VA actively participates in the **Siarter Iaith**, which encourages schools to promote the use of Welsh across all areas of school life. Through this initiative:

- Pupils are given a voice and an active role in promoting Welsh through language ambassadors (e.g., Criw Cymraeg).
- Aiden and Non Campus have achieved the Siarter Gold Award and use Welsh as a matter of course in all areas.
- Having achieved the Siarter Iaith Bronze award on Dewi Campus, we are actively working towards the silver and gold awards, setting measurable targets to increase the use of Welsh.
- We work collaboratively with staff, pupils, parents/carers, and the wider community to foster a whole-school Welsh language ethos.
- Welsh language use is promoted in lessons, assemblies, breaktimes, clubs, and events through targeted initiatives.

### 5. Curriculum Provision

#### 5.1 Aiden Campus

- Welsh is embedded in daily routines and interactions.
- Pupils learn Welsh through play, stories, music, and conversation.



## 5.2 Non Campus

- Pupils develop their Welsh reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.
- Cross-curricular opportunities to use Welsh are maximised, with lessons in a range of subjects including key Welsh vocabulary as part of their programme of learning.
- Welsh is used socially and encouraged in informal situations as part of the Siarter Iaith goals. Criw Cymraeg take an active role in assemblies.

## 5.3 Dewi Campus

- A clear, structured progression in language skills is provided and pupils new to learning Welsh are encouraged and supported in order to catch up. All pupils follow a programme of study for Welsh in English medium settings.
- Emphasis is placed on oracy and everyday use of Welsh to build students' confidence in all areas of school life and in their communities through studying a wide range of topics, in-line with Cwricwlwm i Gymru and the GCSE specifications.
- Confidence with oracy is backed up with attention to grammar and correct written language to ready students for the world of work.

## 6. Whole-School Ethos and Environment

- The school environment is bilingual, with Welsh used in signage, displays, and communications. Displays on walls promote Welsh language events and extra-curricular opportunities.
- Staff model the use of Welsh throughout the school day.
- Welsh is incorporated into assemblies, celebrations, and wider school events, including our services at the cathedral.
- Initiatives such as Shwmae Su'mae Day, Dydd Miwsig Cymru, and Dydd Gwyl Dewi are celebrated.
- The **Criw Cymraeg** lead activities, promote Welsh use among peers, and monitor language targets set through the Siarter Iaith. Pupils have assigned roles and responsibilities as part of the Cirw Cymraeg.

## 7. Staff Development

- All staff are encouraged and supported to use Welsh appropriate to their skill level. Skills are audited and staff signposted to appropriate training where required.
- CPD opportunities, including Welsh language training and support from external advisors, are offered regularly.
- Non-Welsh-speaking staff are supported in developing key Welsh phrases and classroom commands.

## 8. Communication with Parents/Carers and the Community

- Bilingual communication is prioritised where possible in letters, digital media, and meetings.
- We work with families to promote the value of bilingualism and support Welsh at home by organising awareness raising events and encouraging pupils to be involved in extra-curricular activities.
- Community partners and local Welsh-speaking organisations are invited to collaborate with the school, such as the Urdd, local businesses and our contacts at the cathedral.

## 9. Monitoring and Evaluation



- Welsh language provision and progress toward Siarter Iaith targets are regularly reviewed by school leadership, the county Siarter Iaith advisor and the Criw Cymraeg.
- Pupil voice plays a key role in evaluating the impact of Welsh language initiatives, including pupil questionnaires at least once each academic year.
- Progress is shared with governors, the wider school community, and Estyn during inspections.

### 10. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, or in line with statutory guidance. It will be updated to reflect the school's progress on the Siarter Iaith and evolving Welsh Government priorities.

**Signed:**

Headteacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of Governors: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

