



WELSH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE POLICY

While we are an English medium setting, we do recognise and understand the need for the children to develop their Welsh language skills. This is to not only value the language and pass it on to future generations, but also to prepare them for Primary school where they may be expected to communicate through the medium of Welsh.

We will encourage the development of Welsh language skills and cultural awareness by:

- Planning a Welsh Development focus each month that is centred around specific skills such as counting, the date, greetings, colours and instructions in a school environment.
- The Welsh Development focus will be embedded into practice throughout the day and also in specific activities.
- Sing Welsh songs throughout the day as well as having a dedicated Welsh Song Time large group activity each week where the children will learn the words to well-known Welsh Nursery rhymes.
- Read some stories in Welsh as well as having Welsh language and bilingual books out for child choice activities in the home corner.
- Have bilingual labels for set up play provocations.
- Use opportunities during the day to use Welsh phrases or words to speak to the children bilingually to allow them to hear both languages and begin to make the links between the English and the Welsh words.
- All staff will be encouraged to develop their own Welsh language skills by accessing Welsh courses and refresher sessions.
- Welsh cultural celebrations/festivals such as St David's Day and St. Dwynwen's Day/Dydd Santes Dwynwen will be celebrated in a sensitive way that is both relevant to the children and does not perpetuate stereotypes.
- We will work with the Primary Schools that our children will be moving up to to establish the Welsh skills they would like the children to develop before they transition to Reception.
- We work to the guidance from the Foundation Phase for Welsh Language Development to influence how we develop the children's skills.

The above list is not exhaustive of how we develop Welsh language skills as an English medium setting and we constantly review this and improve our practice.