



**New Start Centre**

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Powys pupil referral service

Welsh Language Policy

# Welsh Language at Powys Pupil Referral Service

The Powys Pupil Referral Service (PRS) ensures that the Welsh and English languages are treated equally. The PRS is fully committed to working with Powys County Council in ensuring implementation of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

# Legislation

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 states the Welsh language has official status in Wales. The key principle of the Measure is that the Welsh language should not be treated less favourably than the English language. The Measure created a Standards system which imposes duties on bodies and institutions in relation to service delivery, policy making and the exercise of functions through the medium of Welsh. The Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner is responsible for overseeing compliance with these Standards and investigating breaches of the Standards.

The Welsh Government’s Welsh medium education strategy includes objectives for increasing Welsh-medium provision, including Welsh-medium assessment. The PRS will work exams boards and qualification providers to ensure that the linguistic profile of learners is recognised.

In addition to Powys County Council WESP, the PRS supports and is committed to the Welsh Government’s national strategy for the Welsh language, Cymraeg 2050: a million Welsh speakers.

# Welsh Language and the Curriculum for Wales

The Curriculum for Wales, introduced in schools from 2022, places particular emphasis on improving the language skills of all pupils in Wales by establishing a language continuum that will lead to raising expectations in acquiring and using the Welsh language in English-medium schools, and in turn, increasing the number of people using Welsh daily.

Where a learner undertakes an assessment through the medium of Welsh, the PRS will ensure that they are not advantaged or disadvantaged compared to learners completing the equivalent assessment through the medium of English.

The PRS is committed to facilitating and encouraging the use of the Welsh language by all learners and staff using incidental Welsh, as a minimum, daily.

Through robust self-evaluation processes, the PRS will:

* Identify any gaps in its Welsh language offer and increase opportunities for future provision
* Provide policies and other materials in both Welsh and English
* Conduct regular internal audits to identify opportunities to develop Welsh Language skills for both learners and staff
* Ensure accurate collection of learner language preferences upon admission

This policy will be reviewed every 12 months.