

Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision Information document No: 023/2007 Date of issue: October 2007

Definitions of Schools: Primary school categories

1. Welsh-Medium Primary School

Curriculum - all Pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning through the medium of Welsh. Welsh is the main teaching medium at KS2 with at least 70% of the teaching through the medium of Welsh. English is introduced formally as a subject at Key Stage 2 and is taught through the medium of English, and English may occasionally be used for some aspects of some subjects.

Language of the School - Welsh is the language of the day to day business of the school. Welsh is used as the language of communication with the pupils and for the school's administration. The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Outcomes - The normal expectation is that pupils, regardless of home language, will be able to transfer easily to Welsh medium secondary provision and by the end of Key Stage 2 will have reached a standard in English equivalent to that reached by pupils in predominantly English medium schools.

2. Dual Stream Primary School

Curriculum - Two types of provision exist side-by-side in these schools. Parents/pupils opt either for the mainly Welsh-medium or mainly English-medium provision which is usually delivered as in categories 1 and 5 respectively.

Language of the School - Both Welsh and English are used in the day to day business of the school. The language of communication with the pupils is determined by the nature of the curricular provision, but in some schools high priority is given to creating a Welsh-language ethos throughout the school. The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Outcomes - for pupils in the Welsh stream, normal expectations areas for category 1. For pupils in the English medium stream, normal expectations are as for category 5.

3. Transitional primary school: Welsh medium with significant use of English

Curriculum - Pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning mainly through the medium of Welsh. Both languages are used in teaching at Key Stage 2 but with greater emphasis on Welsh, so that Welsh is used as the medium of instruction for over half and up to 70% of the curriculum. (Schools would usually only be in this category on a temporary basis)

Language of the School - Welsh is the language of the day to day business of the school. A high priority is given to creating a Welsh ethos. The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Outcomes - The normal expectation is that some pupils, particularly from Welsh speaking homes may be able to transfer to Welsh medium secondary provision and by the end of Key Stage 2 all pupils will have reached a standard in English equivalent to that reached by pupils in predominantly English medium schools.

4. Predominantly English Medium primary school but with significant use of Welsh

Curriculum - Pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning in both languages but with greater emphasis on English. In Key Stage 2, both Welsh and English is used in teaching but there is greater emphasis on English. Welsh is used as the medium of teaching or learning for between 20% and 50% of the primary curriculum overall.

Language of the School - The day to day language or languages of the school are determined by the school's linguistic context. Both languages are used as languages of communication with the pupils and for the school's administration. A high priority is given to creating a Welsh ethos. The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Outcomes - The normal expectation is that pupils will transfer to English medium secondary provision, but will have attained enhanced Welsh second language skills. Some pupils may be able to pursue a limited number of subjects through the medium of Welsh at secondary level where these are offered.

5. Predominantly English medium primary school

Curriculum - All pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning mainly through the medium of English. English is the main teaching medium at KS2. Welsh is taught as a second language in KS2, and some aspects of some subjects may be taught in Welsh. Less than 20% of the teaching is through the medium of Welsh.

Language of the School - English is the language of the day to day business of the school, but some Welsh is also used as a language of communication with the pupils with the aim of improving their capacity to use every day Welsh. The school communicates with parents either in English or in both languages.

Outcomes - The normal expectation is that pupils will transfer to English medium secondary provision and continue to learn predominantly through the medium of English, learning Welsh as a second language.

Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision: Secondary School Categories

1. Welsh-Medium Secondary School

Curriculum - All subjects (including RE and PSE) apart from English are taught through the medium of Welsh to all pupils, although some schools may introduce English terminology in one or two subjects.

Language of the School - Welsh is the day to day language of the school. Welsh is used as the language of communication with the pupils and for the school's administration. The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Outcomes - For all pupils the normal expectation is that assessment at KS3 and KS4 will be through the medium of Welsh in all subjects apart from English or other languages, and that pupils will be able to progress easily to Welsh medium Post 6 provision.

2. Bilingual Secondary School

Curriculum - This category has 4 sub-divisions according to the percentage of subjects taught through the medium of Welsh and whether there is parallel provision in English. The categories and definitions do not reflect the number or proportion of pupils taking advantage of provision in Welsh in a school. Governing bodies will be expected to provide information in the school prospectus on the extent to which choice of provision is available and whether access to Welsh medium provision is conditional on the level of competence the pupil has in Welsh. The prospectus should also indicate the number of pupils taking up choices of provision.

Category 2A - At least 80% of subjects apart from English and Welsh are taught only through the medium of Welsh to all pupils. One or two subjects are taught to some pupils in English or in both languages.

Category 2B - At least 80% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) are taught through the medium of Welsh but are also taught through the medium of English.

Category 2C - 50 - 79% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) are taught through the medium of Welsh but are also taught through the medium of English.

Category 2CH - All subjects, except Welsh and English taught to all pupils using both languages.

Language of the School - The day to day language or languages of the school will be determined by its linguistic context. Both languages are used to communicate with pupils and for the school's administration. A high priority is given to creating a Welsh ethos. The school communicates with parents in both languages.

Outcomes - For pupils in 2A, 2B and 2C following the maximum number of courses through the medium of Welsh, the normal expectation is that assessment at KS3 and KS4 would be through the medium of Welsh in those subjects and that they would be able to progress easily to post 6 provision through the medium of Welsh in chosen

subjects. For pupils in Category 2Ch the normal expectation is that assessment at KS3 and KS4 would be through the medium of Welsh in all subjects except English and that they would normally be able to progress easily to study at post 16 through the medium of Welsh in chosen subjects.

3. Predominantly English medium secondary school with significant use of Welsh

Curriculum - Both languages are used in teaching with 20 - 49% of subjects taught through the medium of Welsh. All subjects would normally also be taught through the medium of English.

Language of the School - The day to day language or languages of the school will be determined by its linguistic context. Both languages are used for communication with the pupils and for the school's administration. A high priority is given to creating a Welsh ethos. The school communicates with parents either in both languages or in English.

Outcomes - The normal expectation is that pupils choosing Welsh medium options could be assessed through the medium of Welsh in those subjects at all levels and may be capable of progressing to study at post 6 through the medium of Welsh for those subjects.

4. Predominantly English Medium secondary school

Curriculum - Pupils are mainly taught through the medium of English. Welsh is taught as a second language up to KS4. One or two subjects (which would include Welsh first language) may be taught as an option through the medium of Welsh or using both languages.

Language of the School - English is the day to day language of the school, but some Welsh is also used as a language of communication with the pupils, with the aim of improving their capacity to use every day Welsh. The school communicates with parents either in English or in both languages.

Outcomes - The normal expectation is that any pupils choosing Welsh medium options could be assessed through the medium of Welsh in those subjects at all levels and may be capable of progression to study at post 6 through the medium of Welsh for those subjects. Most pupils would be assessed in English in most subjects and would progress to English medium post 16 study.