

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Action plan

Outcome 1

1. Use the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment data analysis when working with partners in the development of category 3 Welsh language childcare provision and keep under review annually. Work with Mudiad Meithrin officers to develop new provision under the Set up And Succeed scheme.
2. Continue to work collaboratively across partners to maximise capital investment funding particularly focussed on category 3 Welsh language provision.
3. Develop a 10year communication plan with annual promotional milestones/tasks, which will be supported by the regional publicity officer post. The plan will include capturing lived experiences to change the cultural conversation with communities, and development of Welsh language parent champions, children story books from Petra and learning materials, and timed to target the areas of the capital programme implementation. The promotional plan needs to look at how we use different tools or information for targeting different groups including late entry or transfers from English medium, children with emerging developmental needs or disabilities, and new births.
4. Work with parents and carers to understand what information they need to inform their choices of language provision for education, including resources, web presence, activities, etc. building this into our communication plan.
5. Work with Mudiad Meithrin, Cymraeg I Blant, Parent Network and Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations to support community-based peer support groups to be developed and run by volunteers.
6. Work with the admissions team to consider the parent journey when applying for school places, ensuring parents have information about Welsh language education throughout the online process including benefits of bilingualism / multilingualism and the latecomers' policy.
7. Support the Road to Bilingualism for English language childcare settings to progress through the continuum towards category 3 Welsh language childcare provision.
8. The above actions will link with the Welsh language 5year strategy targets.

Outcome 2

9. Meeting the minimum target 26% to 30% of children in Welsh medium education by 2032 is a challenging ambition. We will need to apply for funding to Welsh Government as it becomes available and maximise funding for school and childcare places in order to meet the target number required to be available. This will necessitate 2 classes per year group and will require a new Primary School to be developed.

10. We will formalise the latecomers' policy and publish this online alongside information on Welsh medium education and the application for school places to admissions. There is also a need to explore and develop specific provision to support latecomer immersion to enable children and young people to enter the appropriate cohort at a suitable linguistic stage.
11. Ensure the 466 places are taken up or admissions monitored towards the take up of 466 places. If showing concerns in take up, we need to use the communication plan to support specific promotional work.

Outcome 3

12. We will monitor transition rates for all Welsh language childcare provision on school site to understand where parents do not wish to continue Welsh language education for their child.
13. We will monitor transition rates where possible for those settings who are not members of Mudiad Meithrin to complete the picture of transition to Welsh language education. We will work with colleagues in other local authority areas with better transition rates to develop possible Caerphilly solutions.
14. We will work with families to understand the impact of coronavirus on transition rates and application rates and keep this under review over the coming years.
15. We will work with Welsh Government and the 21st century schools' team to plan childcare provision alongside primary school development as well as plan for secondary school places expansion to continue the 100% transition rate through statutory education.
16. Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni will continue to work with the 11 Primary schools in the cluster to continue its 100% transition rate.

Outcome 4

17. Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni will continue their partnership with Coleg y Cymoedd and strengthen the relationship with Coleg Gwent to ensure all learners have a broad range of Welsh language qualifications available to them.
18. Education Other Than At School teams will consider how the alternative education opportunities will continue to offer support for Welsh language to ensure young people can continue using Welsh language and access qualifications through Welsh language if they choose, for example, recruiting a Welsh speaking tutor or developing an innovative solution with the Welsh schools' cluster.
19. School planning team will monitor take up of secondary places and plan for the expansion of secondary provision before the maximum capacity is reached in order to increase the number of pupils studying qualifications through Welsh language.
20. Develop appropriate promotional materials in a range of media to encourage more young people to consider studying Welsh as a subject including taking Welsh at A level. This will link with the Welsh language 5year strategy targets.

Outcome 5

21. Continue to work in partnership with Yr Urdd, Menter Iaith, Youth Service and Sports Caerphilly to deliver Welsh language social extra-curricular opportunities within and outside of school and during school holidays.
22. Continue to work with members of the Welsh language Strategy forum to ensure promotional work and targets are coordinated efficiently and effectively.
23. Develop an action plan in response to the young people engagement project to ensure wider Welsh language opportunities for children and young people. There is likely to be a need to increase the Welsh language provision for young people aged 11years upwards. This will be taken forward in the partnership between Urdd, Menter Iaith and Youth Service.
24. Work with Welsh Government and partners to identify ongoing funding streams for Welsh language opportunities outside of school moving from reactive or responsive grants to more strategically planned funded projects for consistency in delivery.
25. Youth Service to work with Menter Iaith, Urdd and wider partners to map the percentage of youth provision delivered through Welsh language and work collaboratively to increase the offer to 26% target by 2032.
26. The Education Achievement Service will work with all Primary Schools to get 100% of English language Primary Schools involved and progressing through the award stages by 2032.

Outcome 6

27. Audit all early intervention to identify and address any gaps in support for Welsh speaking families.
28. Develop appropriate accessible information for families to promote support available through Welsh language to remove concerns or perceived barriers.
29. Work with the PETRA team to develop or use children's books and learning materials to support parents in making choices for their child's language of Education.
30. Develop case studies and lived experiences of families with children with Additional learning needs who have thrived in Welsh language provision.
31. Audit the capacity of the Welsh speaking workforce to identify and address any gaps in Additional Learning Needs support and develop sustainability within the model of support.
32. Work across the region to share relevant resources that have been developed.

Outcome 7

33. We will use our school places planning alongside our school workforce census data to plan the need for staff in new or expanded Welsh medium schools.

34. We will work with the Education Achievement Service, National Academy of Educational Leadership, and initial teacher education providers to support the development of the education workforce.
35. We will continue to work with our schools to explore opportunities for collaboration and federation as opportunities arise.
36. We will work with our young people in secondary school and Careers Wales to promote careers in childcare, education, and wider workforce opportunities for Welsh speakers.
37. We will work as an early years' team with Mudiad Meithrin and Menter Iaith along with secondary schools across the region, Coleg y Cymoedd and Coleg Gwent to develop our childcare workforce.
38. We will raise our concerns for new entrants to the childcare workforce of sessional providers not being able to employ unqualified staff on 16 hours to be able to access the qualification course.