

FALESIZWE SEC SCHOOL

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SCHOOL POLICY

Language

EFFECTIVE DATE: 22 May 2021

REVISION HISTORY:

As amended on: 22 May 2021

- (South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act No. 84 of 1996)
- (South African Schools Act 15 of 2011) - revised

LANGUAGE POLICY OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Subject to the Constitution and this Act, the Minister may, by notice in the Government Gazette, after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, determine norms and standards for language policy in public schools.

The Governing Body of a public school may determine the language policy of the school subject to the Constitution, this Act and any applicable provincial law.

No form of racial discrimination may be practised in implementing policy determined under this section.

A recognised Sign Language has the status of an official language for purposes of learning at a public school.

PURPOSE

Mother tongue Education within our capacity.

Acquisition of at least One Additional Official Language.

Treating other Cultural and Language Groups with Sensitivity.

MISSION

- The development of Isizulu and/or Sesotho as Home Language.

- The teaching of ENGLISH as First Additional Language.

LANGUAGE OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

- The language of teaching in our school will ENGLISH.
- Learners who speak other languages as Home Language will be accommodated as far as possible within our capacity.

LANGUAGE OFFERED AS SUBJECT

- In addition to IsiZulu & Sesotho Home Language, ENGLISH as First Additional Language will be offered as a subject.
- The time allocated will be 4, 5 hours per week, according to the guidelines of the Education Department for iSizulu, Sesotho and ENGLISH.

REVISION OF THE POLICY

- The school's language policy should be reviewed annually at a meeting of parents and educators.
- The language rights of registered learners should be protected and any changes should be phased in after thorough consultation with those involved.
- The following aspects should receive attention immediately:
 - Medium of communication: ENGLISH should be extended as medium of teaching.
 - The school should be developed further as a school with parallel medium teaching in all the phases.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

The language of communication with parents should be ENGLISH or Sesotho or IsiZulu.

ALL OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Parents and educators should be sensitised regularly regarding the promotion of all South African languages, in order to make positive progress towards multilingualism and to help with nation building and the fostering of good citizenship.

IMPLEMENTATION

Staff Provision

- If vacancies occur, prospective applicants will be expected to comply with the school's current language policy.
- With the school's vision regarding multilingualism, candidates who have command of more than one language should be given preference, depending on the school's needs, i.e. such a person should be able to contribute towards achieving this ideal.

Feeder Schools

- Discussions should take place continuously with feeder schools to stay informed of language needs and developments at those schools, but also in the whole district.
- The school should measure itself constantly to determine whether its language curriculum and language provision is still in line with those of the feeder schools. This measurement can be done annually before the annual parent/teacher meeting so that changes can be made at the review meeting if needed.

Learning and Teaching Support Material

- Where ENGLISH is the language of learning and teaching, most of the material used for these activities should also be English. However, in the annual budget provision should also be made for the purchase of LTSM that can provide for the needs of non-English speaking learners and educators.

Language Requests

- Role players (parents, educators, learners, and community members) should be given an opportunity to submit requests for another language of teaching, which should then be discussed at the annual revision meeting.
- Record should be kept of requests for languages from learners that the school cannot comply with and these requests should be forwarded to the EMDS regularly.

Management, Monitoring and Quality Assurance

- The principal, the SMT and the SGB are responsible for the management, monitoring and implementation of the language policy.

- Management should ensure that, as the need for a second additional language increases, there is provision for implementation.

Conclusion

- The school's language policy should be made available to parents who plan to register their children and should form part of the signed admission agreement included in the registration process.
- The school's language policy and its implementation plan should be provided annually by the Education Department.
- In the case of problems or tension regarding the language policy issue the Education Department, or its appointed agents, should respond to an invitation to play a supportive role until negotiations are concluded to the satisfaction of all the parties involved.

Adopted by the SGB on the 22nd May 2021.

Secretary

Chairperson

Principal