

# NEXUS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



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SCHOOL STAMP

Date of Adoption by SGB \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Verification by Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **NEXUS PRIMARY SCHOOL LANGUAGE POLICY**

### **1. Preamble.**

1.1. The NEXUS School's Language Policy is developed based on requirements and recommendations of the Department of Basic Education's "Language in Education Policy," the National Education Policy Act, the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

1.2. We affirm that multilingualism and equitable language rights are protected in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and that the promotion of multilingualism demonstrates our commitment to nurturing respect for diversity amongst our learners.

1.3 This policy informs the language planning and language management at NEXUS Primary School in the context of classroom teaching and learning to fulfil our mission to create global citizens.

### **2. Definitions of Acronyms.**

#### **2.1 Definitions-**

For the purpose of this policy, except where clearly indicated otherwise, the words and expressions set out below have the following meaning:

<b>Assessment</b>	The action of assessing someone or something
<b>Constitution</b>	Means <u>the constitution</u> of the Republic of South Africa, 1996
<b>DAAR</b>	Drop All And Read
<b>Language Policy</b>	A body of ideas, laws regulations, rules and practices intended to achieve the planned language change in the societies, group or system.
<b>LoLT</b>	Language of Learning and Teaching
<b>Multilingualism</b>	The use of several or all official languages
<b>Official Language</b>	Any of the 11 official languages as prescribed in Section 6(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996
<b>Previously marginalised languages</b>	isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Siswati, Sesotho, Setswana, Sepedi, Tshivenda and Xitsonga
<b>Sign Language</b>	South African Sign Language
<b>Teacher</b>	A teacher is a professional educator who facilitates learning, growth and development by instructing learners in academic subjects' skills and values
<b>The Act</b>	Use of Official Languages Act, 2012 (Act 12 of 2012)

### 3. Legislative Framework.

The policy is based on the following legal frameworks:

- 3.1. Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996;
- 3.2. Basic Education Laws Amendment of 2024;
- 3.3. Language in Education Policy of 1997;
- 3.4. National Communication Strategy Framework – 2014-2019.
- 3.5. Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act 2 of 2000);
- 3.6. South African Schools Act 84 of 1996;
- 3.7. The National Language Policy Framework, 2003;
- 3.8. Use of Official Languages Act 12 of 2012;

### 4. Aim/ Purpose and objectives of the policy.

The purpose of this policy is to comply with the legislative and constitutional mandate. It also seeks to promote multilingualism to ensure effective and efficient communication between stakeholders and the public in accordance with the objectives of the Act and the Constitution. This policy is binding to all employees of Nexus Primary School.

### 5. Language of Instruction.

5.1 In consultation with **The Language in Education Policy (LiEP) of 1997** that was created to maintain the use of home language as the LoLT (especially in the early years of learning), while providing access to an additional language, in our case English First Additional Language (EFAL).

**This language policy put forward the following requirements:**

5.2 **ALL learners in the foundation phase** shall be offered at least one approved language (IsiZulu or Sesotho) as a subject in Grades 1-2.

5.3 From Grade 3 onwards, all learners shall be offered their LoLT and at least one additional approved language as a subject

5.4 In consultation with **Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education policy** that seeks to use African languages as Language of Learning, Teaching and Assessment (LoLTA) of non-language subjects beyond grade 3.

**This language policy put forward the following requirements:**

5.3.1 **From 2025**, grade 4 learners will be taught in their home language in the following subjects: **Mathematics and Natural Sciences and Technology**,

## **6. Languages as Subjects.**

6.1 Nexus Primary School serves as a multilingualism school offering two (2) Home languages (IsiZulu and Sesotho) and English as a First Additional Language.

6.3. To establish guidelines for teaching and learning as a subject, promoting effective language education and cultural understanding.

6.3 Nexus Primary School adhere to the **LIEP** stating that if at least **40** learners in grades 1 to 6 and **35** in grade 7 class request a certain language different from the languages taught at school, the policy mandate the **School Governing Body** (SGB) to make a request to the department of education, in the Free State (Thabo Mofutsanyana Education District) to have a teacher to teach that particular language.

6.4. Proficiency in the additional language offered may be used as an indicator for promotion or retention in concert with learner's results in literacy and maths, the primary subjects used to determine promotion and retention.

6.5. Where NEXUS learners require additional support to cement their understanding in a topic, a teacher may act as a translator or ask a helpful peer to translate / use online translation tools and language learning apps that can be used to help students understand the lessons. This "scaffolded" instruction is a form of structured bilingual education that supports learners' achievement.

## **7. Availability of teachers to teach in chosen language.**

7.1. The purpose of this is to ensure that the availability of qualified teachers to teach in the chosen language, promoting linguistic diversity and quality education.

7.2 This policy relates to educational institutions government agencies, and organizations involved in language education **e.g., PanSALB**.

7.3. Ensure equal access to quality language education.

7.4. through SGB, the policy seeks like to Recruit and retain qualified language teachers.

7.5. Promote teaching in diverse language.

7.6. Involves local communities in language education.

## **8. Promotion Multilingualism**

8.1. Promoting multilingualism means encouraging and supporting learners to learn and use multiple languages, this is important as it connects cultures and communities and it preserves linguistic diversity and heritage.

8.2. In addition to the school's official language of instruction and learning, namely Sesotho and IsiZulu in the foundation phase, the school promotes multilingualism by offering English as a fully-fledged language subject as first additional language level.

**This occurs as follows:**

1. Sesotho and IsiZulu at home language level
2. English as the other official first additional language.

**9. Rules**

9.1. Discriminatory behaviour on the basis of language, intentional or otherwise, will not be tolerated at School and such behaviour will be dealt with.

9.2. This applies when on the School grounds at any time, but also at other School related events, and also in instances where a learner can reasonably be recognised as a Scholar of the School (even if this is online).

9.3. Breaches of this Policy will be dealt with under the Code of Conduct.