

HIGH SCHOOL DIE WILGE



LANGUAGE POLICY

1. Introduction

This document is the language policy of **Die Wilge High school**, as approved by the school governing body on **16/08/2019**. The language policy has been drafted in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996; the South African Schools Act, Act 84 of 1996 ('SASA'); the National Education Policy Act, Act 27 of 1996; applicable provincial legislation on school education; judgements of the South African courts; the International Convention on the Rights of the Child; the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of Children; the Norms and Standards for Language Policy in Public Schools, 1997 (GN 1701 dated 19 December 1997) and the guidelines of the Pan South African Language Board.

2. Factors considered

In drafting this policy, the following factors have been considered:

- The interests of the learners
- The interests of the school community
- The interests of the community in which the school is located
- The capacity of the school
- The resources and staff available to the school
- International best practice with regard to class sizes and language in education, with specific reference to the importance of mother tongue education
- Whether or not the student really belongs in a special school (LSEN)
- The learner must be language competent. He/she to some extent must be able to master either English or Afrikaans to such a degree that learning can take place. Bear in mind that the learner is somewhat intellectually disadvantaged which can have a major impact on the quality of his/her understanding. Some questions will be asked both in English and Afrikaans to the learner, thus determining whether or not the learner is able to cope. If it is found that the learner is not proficient in either language, it will then be recommended that the learner should be referred to a school which will better cater to his/her language needs. However, the parent's decision is final and if the parent decides that the learner should still attend our school, a full report on the learner's progress as well as recommendations must be given to the parent each term.

3. Teaching and examination

All teaching and the taking of tests and examinations shall occur in the school's medium/media of instruction.

4. Policy on medium of instruction

The school is a parallel-medium institution.

Upon applying for admission to the school, learners shall be required to choose a medium of instruction.

The media of instruction are Afrikaans & English from Grade O1 to Year 4.

5. Promotion of multilingualism

The school promotes multilingualism by also presenting Afrikaans & English and ***** as fully-fledged language subjects at the school besides the medium/media of instruction.

This occurs as follows:

Parallel-medium school:

Afrikaans/English as Home Language

Afrikaans/English as First Additional Language

Learners will be divided into separate classes, according to language preference of the learner's parent/guardian.

Every educator at the school takes reasonable steps to inform learners on the importance of multilingualism, and to promote respect for other languages besides the home language and/or medium of instruction.

SIGNED AT **POTCHEFSTROOM** ON THIS **16th** DAY OF **August 2019**

MR. L.W. MOJAPELE

SGB Chairperson

MNR. A.B. RUDD

Principal