



**Mpumalanga Department of Education**

**Gekombineerde Skool Ogies**

**EMALAHLENI 2**

**NKANGALA**

**The Language Policy**

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# The Language Policy

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## 1. Purpose

The language policy is one of the critical guiding documents Gekombineerde Skool Ogies. It seeks to:

- a. Define the manner in which languages will be used and taught in the school.
- b. Indicate how the school shall recognise the cultural diversity of society and promote multilingualism.
- c. Promote mutual respect for diverse cultures and languages.
- d. Try and raise the status of the previously disadvantaged languages.
- e. Minimise the gap between home languages and learning and teaching languages in the school.

## 2. Preamble

- a. The governing body of a public school may determine the language policy, of the school subject to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, the South African Schools Act (SASA), No. 84 of 1996, and any applicable provincial law(s).
- b. Subject to any law dealing with language in education and the Constitutional rights of learners, in determining the language policy of the school, the governing body must stipulate how the school will promote multilingualism through using more than one language of learning and teaching, and/or by offering additional languages as fully-fledged subjects, and/or applying special immersion or language maintenance programmes, or through other means approved by the head of the provincial education department.

## 3. Language of instruction

- a. The SGB and parents of Gekombineerde Skool Ogies have collectively decided and adopted the following language(s) for instructional purposes at the specified grade levels.
- b. The school adopts the use of the following language(s) as the official school communication language(s):
  - i. Afrikaans
  - ii. English
- c. The school shall apply the following strategies to promote the use of the school's official communication language(s):
  - i. Teaching in Afrikaans (HL and FAL) and English (HL and FAL) in a professional way of the highest standard
  - ii. Access to a fully equipped Afrikaans / English Media Centre

#### **4. Languages as subjects**

- a. The school shall offer the following languages at the specified grade levels:  
Afrikaans HT, Afrikaans FAL, English HL, English FAL
- b. The school shall provide equitable time and resources for all languages offered as subjects in the school.
- c. The school shall, in its endeavour to promote diversity and unity, try to accommodate learners' preferred learning and teaching languages. Where no educator is available for the desired language the SGB shall apply to the Provincial Department of Education for the provision of the said educator post in the school.

#### **5. Languages development**

The school commit itself to the development and promotion of the languages taught at the school. The development of the languages is part of the development of the staff in the school.

#### **6. Policy review**

This policy shall be reviewed every 3 years

#### **7. Policy effective date**

This Policy becomes effective as from the date when it is adopted and signed into effect by the Chairperson of the SGB, Secretary of the SGB and the Principal of the school.

#### **8. Conclusion**

The language policy stipulates clearly the respective directives that the school shall follow and uphold regarding the use of languages in the school. The SGB shall ensure that all the role players in the school observe the decrees stipulated in this policy. The policy shall be made available to all those that it targets, namely, educators, learners and parents.