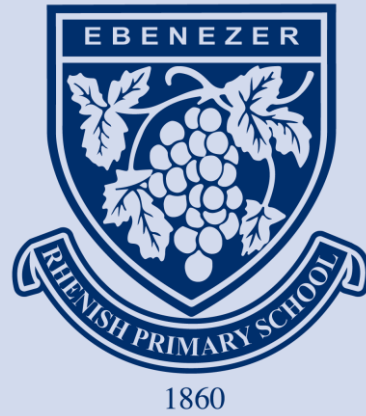




Rhenish Primary School

Language Policy

For Grade RR to 7
(UPDATED: FEBRUARY 2025)





In accordance with the National Education Policy Act (Act 27 of 1996), Norms and Standards - Section 6(2) of the South African Schools Act of 1996 and Sections 6 and 9 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996), the Governing Body of Rhenish Primary School has determined the language policy of this school.

1. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION AND LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:

The Rhenish Primary School language policy is non-racial and non-discriminatory. Respect for all peoples' languages is considered to be a priority. Rhenish Primary School is mindful of the need to redress the neglect of the historically disadvantaged languages in school education.

The Governing Body of Rhenish Primary School has determined that the school will be a single medium school and that the language of instruction will be English as a First/Home Language.

Cognisance must also be taken of the fact that Rhenish Primary School is the only English single medium primary school in the entire area, therefore catering for a definite need amongst English first-language speakers in this area.

2. LANGUAGE(S) OF LEARNING AND TEACHING:

The medium of learning and teaching at Rhenish Primary School is English. This excludes the learning areas of Afrikaans and isiXhosa. The aforementioned is offered as a fully-fledged subject on a 1st Additional language level.

3. LANGUAGES TO BE OFFERED AS EXAMINABLE SUBJECTS AND TIME ALLOCATION:

Primary Language

- English > Grades 1 to 3 (6 hours per week)
- English > Grade 4 (5½ hours per week)
- English > Grades 5 to 7 (5 hours per week)

1st Additional Language

- Afrikaans > Grade 7 (3½ hours per week)
- Afrikaans > Grades 1 to 2 (3 hours per week)
- Afrikaans > Grade 3 (4 hours per week)
- Afrikaans > Grades 4 to 6 (3 hours per week)

4. PROCESS OF REVIEW OF THIS POLICY:

The Governing Body will visit this policy on a regular basis in order to retain its relevance.

5. PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF LEARNERS ALREADY ON THE ROLL – SHOULD THE POLICY CHANGE:

The rights of the English-speaking school population will be the main consideration when considering any changes to this policy.



6. LANGUAGE(S) OF ASSESSMENT:

The legislated promotion requirements for a learner, relating to language subjects, are adhered to at Rhenish Primary School.

Grades 1 to 4: Home Language must be passed - minimum of 50%

Grades 5 to 7: Home Language must be passed - minimum of 50%

7. LANGUAGE(S) OF COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS:

English will be the language of communication with parents in all correspondence, including Progress Reports and Notices.

8. PLANS TO DEVELOP MULTILINGUALISM:

The teaching of a 1st Additional (Afrikaans) language will continue to enjoy full learning area status and various forms of remedial teaching will be offered for all languages (including English) in which learners experience language difficulties. The Western Cape Education Department is currently researching the validity for schools to offer a 2nd Additional (isiXhosa) language. Rhenish Primary School is subjected to the decisions and directives pertaining to this, although isiXhosa is offered on a non-examinable and non-written subject at present.

9. PLANS TO ACCOMMODATE LANGUAGE NEEDS OF MINORITY GROUPS:

Rhenish Primary School continuously caters for the educational needs of non-English speaking foreigners and accommodates them by offering special support in the learning of English as a means of communication and learning.

10. PLANS TO ENHANCE THE STATUS OF OFFICIAL SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGES:

We acknowledge that English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa are the dominant languages of the Western Cape and therefore will continue to promote the teaching and learning of these languages at Rhenish Primary School.