The Synod of the Methodist Church in Wales

Language Policy (Final)

This policy relates to the Synod.

Please note that this policy does not in any way restrict, limit or suppress the right of the individual circuits and churches of the Methodist Church in Wales to conduct their work and worship, mission and ministry through the medium of whichever language they determine.

The Synod, in its calling to support the circuits and churches of the Methodist Church in Wales, adopts the principle that the Welsh and English languages will be treated on the basis of equality so far as is appropriate in the circumstances, reasonably practical and sustainable.

In seeking to enact this policy, the Synod will ensure that:

1. At least one of the Synod Co-Chairs will be a fluent Welsh speaker or a proven linguist

committed to learning and working through the medium of the Welsh language.

1. The annual Synod handbook and directory will be published as a bilingual document in both

Welsh and English with regard to Synod Officers and committees, with information about circuits in English, Welsh or bilingual as appropriate.

1. Standard information concerning the Synod’s identity, including logo, headed paper,

compliment slips and email signatures will be bilingual.

1. The main pages of the Synod website will be bilingual, in Welsh and English. Additional materials will be in the original language and/or as appropriate to the purpose.
2. All meetings of the Synod in Representative and Presbyteral sessions and meetings of the Consultative Group will be conducted bilingually with simultaneous translation facilities provided. Reports will be available and distributed in their original language with English translation of Welsh reports and all discussion papers available in both Welsh and English.
3. Committees of the Synod which engage with ministry matters such as Candidates and

Probationers will work through the medium of Welsh or English as appropriate to the

language of those involved.

1. Other committees of the Synod will normally work through the medium of English, as being the practical and sustainable way of working within the current membership and resources of the Synod. Reports will be distributed in their original language with English translation of Welsh reports. This will not preclude someone addressing the meeting in Welsh but will rely on that person, or another, translating for the benefit of the other members.
2. The Synod will encourage and support the staff team of the Cymru Wales Learning Network

in the enactment of its own Welsh Language Guidance.

1. The Synod will ensure a review of this policy occurs every three years and revise it as necessary.

December 2021