



NORTHERN PARK PRIMARY

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LANGUAGE POLICY 2022

1. Introduction

This document is the language policy of NORTHERN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL and as approved by the School Governing Body. 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.

3. Teaching and examination

All teaching, assessments, examinations and tests, except for specific languages such as Afrikaans and/or isiZulu, will be conducted in the school's official medium of instruction, namely English.

4. Policy on medium of instruction

The school is a single-medium institution.

The medium of instruction is English from Grade R to Grade 7.

5. Promotion of multilingualism

In addition to the school's official Language of Instruction and Learning, namely English, the school promotes multilingualism by offering Afrikaans and isiZulu as fully-fledged language subjects at First Additional Language level.

This occurs as follows:

Languages offered as fully-fledged subjects:

1. English at Home Language level.
2. Afrikaans and/or isiZulu as the other official languages at First Additional Language levels.

6. First Additional Language choices:

In 2021, the school compiled a parent survey, conducted a survey regarding First Additional Languages offered at the major high schools in Pietermaritzburg and met with the educators of both Afrikaans and isiZulu. Upon this investigation being completed, it was found that the majority of the major high schools in Pietermaritzburg that are taught in the English medium, offered a choice between either Afrikaans or isiZulu at First Additional Language level (a copy of the survey is attached).

The School Governing Body took a decision to offer the learners of Northern Park Primary School the following:

- Grade 1 – 3: Both Afrikaans and isiZulu at First Additional Language level in conjunction with English at Home Language level.
- Grade 4 – 7: A choice between either Afrikaans or isiZulu at First Additional Language level in conjunction with English at Home Language level.

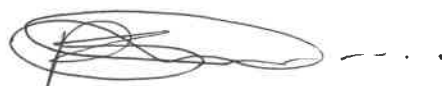
The decision to offer both Afrikaans and isiZulu at First Additional language to the Foundation Phase learners was agreed upon by the School Governing Body, so that that the learners could be exposed to both languages in order to make an informed decision once reaching Grade 4.

Every educator at the school shall take reasonable steps to inform learners of the importance of multilingualism, as well as promote a genuine respect for other languages besides the home language of the various inhabitants in South Africa and/or the Language of Teaching and Learning, (Medium of instruction).

Signed at PIETERMARITZBURG on this 29th day of November 2021.



B MPANZA – CHAIRPERSON



P SMITH – VICE-CHAIRPERSON



A ADAMS – TREASURER



A RAJPAUL - ACTING PRINCIPAL



C MPUNDU – PARENT MEMBER



M PHOSWA - MEMBER



L BRITZ – EDUCATOR MEMBER



P ZULU – EDUCATOR MEMBER



A YOUNIE – NON-EDUCATOR MEMBER