



Language policy

January 2018

1. Introduction

This document is the language policy of **Laerskool Theresapark**, 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 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.

The media of instruction are Afrikaans and English from Grade 1 to Grade 7. Setswana as first additional language for learners in grade 1 and 2 that has English as language of instruction.

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

5. Promotion of multilingualism

The school promotes multilingualism by also presenting Afrikaans and English as fully-fledged language subjects at the school.

This occurs as follows: Parallel-medium school:

- Afrikaans/English as Home Language
- Afrikaans/English as First Additional Language
- Setswana as first additional language for learners in grade 1 and 2 that has English as language of instruction. One class per grade will be implemented.

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

ON THIS

DAY OF

Governing body chair

Language policy revised:

Date	Person
Dec 2017	Mr W. H. Bosman
Dec 2017	Dr L. Scholtz
Dec 2017	Mrs. I. Du Toit

Compiled :W.H. Bosman

Approved: _____

SGB Chairperson

Date