



MICHAELIS PRIVATE SCHOOL

"Moving Forward Courageously" with a proud German Heritage

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGE POLICY

The Michaelis Private School provides an intellectual home to anyone who has the interest and ability to participate in its programmes. The school acknowledges that every learner has a right to excellent education. The school undertakes to develop and use the languages of instruction, English and German, as valuable instruments of science. The language policy of the school has been designed based on the following considerations/principles.

1. Considerations

The Michaelis Private School:

- 1.1 acknowledges that there are eleven official languages, that all official languages have equal status and that they all should be treated equitably;
- 1.2 promotes the development not only of all the official languages but also of other languages used in the South African community;
- 1.3 adopts the principle that a language policy must be affordable.
- 1.4 always keeps in mind the German ethos and character of the school

2. Language Policy

Bearing in mind the above considerations/principles, the following policy is proposed:

- 2.1 In conducting its business, the School shall use two languages, namely English and German.
- 2.2 Medium of instruction will be, in English.
- 2.3 English and German are to be used and developed as academic languages in order to achieve excellence in academic communication.
- 2.4 The School shall promote the development of other languages (official and non-official) by, presenting German, Afrikaans and Zulu as additional languages, provided that there is a demand for such courses and that such courses are academically and economically justifiable.
- 2.5 In respect of administrative and other services, parents will be communicated with in English.

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- 2.6 There is to be no discrimination against any staff member or learner who has command of only German or of only English or of only these two languages.
- 2.7 The School shall support learners by providing tuition in the English language of instruction.
- 2.8 Learners will be encouraged to speak German as often as possible in order to maintain the German ethos of the school.
- 2.9 All learners will take German as a subject. English speakers may take it as (DaF) foreign language and German speaking learners will take it as (DaM) first language.

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