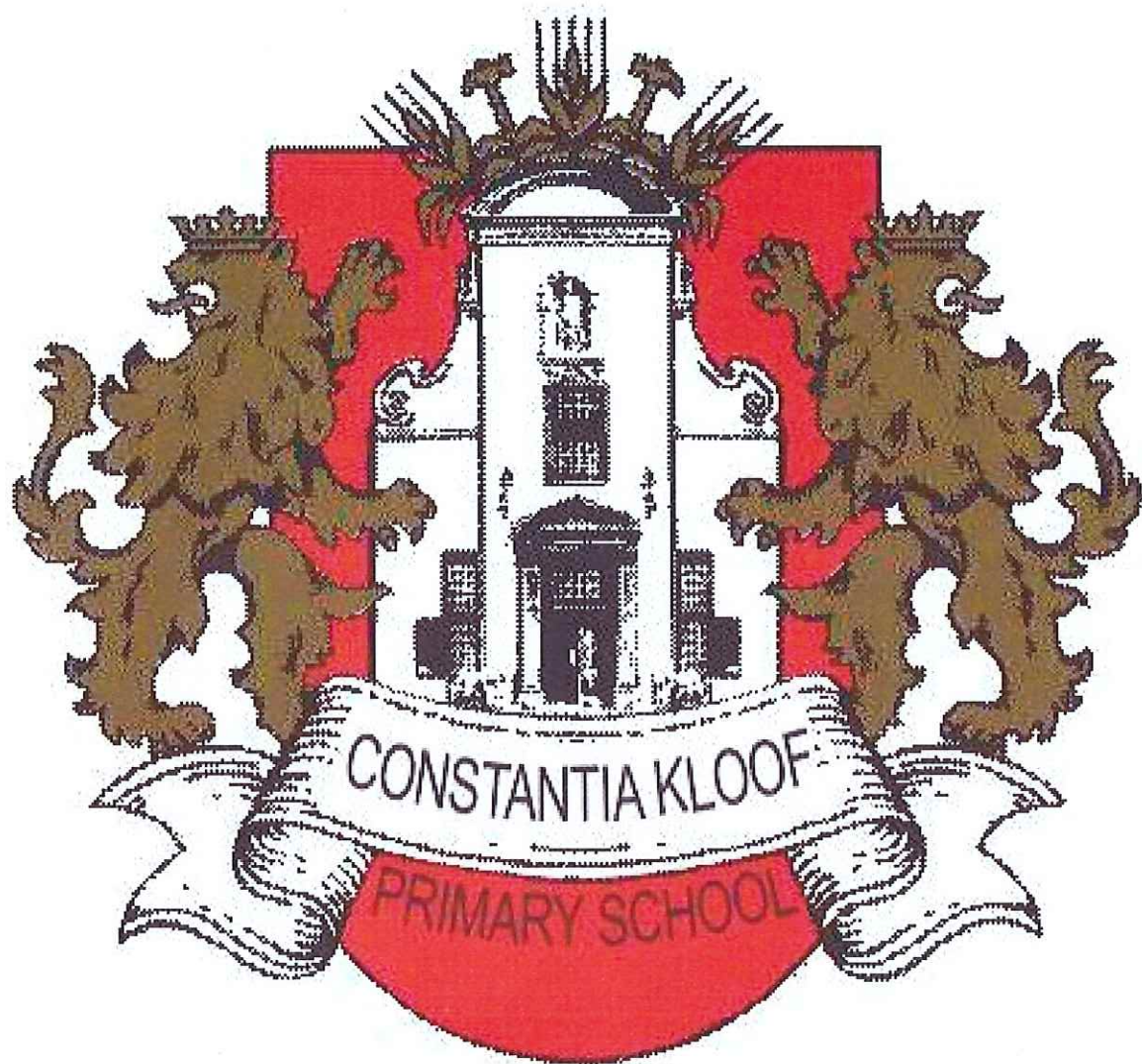




LANGUAGE POLICY



Language Policy

Date approved:	6 June 2024	Date policy will take effect:	7 June 2024	Date of next review:	2025
Developed by:	School Governing Body (SGB)				
Approved by:	School Governing Body				
Responsible Body:	School Governing Body				
Supporting documents, procedures and forms for this policy:	Legislation (see below)				
References and legislation:	The South African Schools Act (1996) as amended The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996) National Education Policy Act (Act 27 of 1996) Language in Education Policy in terms of Section 3(4)(m) of the National Education Policy Act (Act 27 of 1996) Language Policy for Public Schools - Government Notice 1701 in Government Gazette No. 18546 on 19 December 1997				
Scope:	SGB, School Management Team (SMT), Educator Staff, Learners				
Expiry date of the policy:	This policy remains in force until replaced by a policy revised and approved by the SGB				

Contents

1.	Purpose of the Language Policy	3
2.	Application and Scope of the Policy	3
3.	Principles of the Language Policy	3
4.	Official Language of Learning and Teaching	4
5.	Aspects of the School's Language Policy	5
6.	Roles and Responsibilities	6
7.	Conclusion	7

1. Purpose of the Language Policy

The main purpose is to ensure that learners are not disadvantaged by being forced to learn in a language not spoken or understood by the majority. This policy will ensure that the school makes the right language choices to ensure the best possible development of learners in the school.

Further, this policy:

- recognises our language and cultural diversity, and therefore promotes multilingualism;
- promotes non-racialism and makes possible, communication across communities irrespective of their race, colour, language or religion;
- promotes respect for different cultural backgrounds and languages other than one's own;
- redresses the neglect of languages disadvantaged before democracy in school education
- raises the dignity and status of formerly disadvantaged languages;
- minimizes the gap between home language and the language of learning and teaching (LOLT).

As such, the policy assumes that the learning of more than one language should be a general practice and principle in our society. Being multilingual should be an important characteristic of being South African.

2. Application and Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to the entire Constantia Kloof Primary School community (Learners, SGB, SMT, educators, admin & support staff).

3. Principles of the Language Policy

- 3.1 No form of racial discrimination may be practised in applying the language policy arrived at in accordance with all legal procedures.
- 3.2 Sign Language is recognised and enjoys the status of an official language for purposes of learning at a public school.

- 3.3 A learner in a public school shall have the right to instruction in the language of his or her choice where this is reasonably practicable.
- 3.4 Language ability tests may not be used as an admission requirement to learners at any public school.
- 3.5 No learner may be punished for expressing himself/herself in a language that is not the official language of the school. Within the practical restrictions, a learner has the right to instruction in a language of his/her choice.

4. Official Language of Learning and Teaching at Constantia Kloof Primary School

The decision regarding the implementation of the official language, and other languages offered by the school, is made by the parent body of the school, in keeping with the legal instructions of the country and in consideration of what is "practicable".

"Practicable" takes into consideration issues like:

- the demographics of the school (the school population);
- the profile of the learners and their language needs;
- the choice of languages made by the School Governing Body as the language policy of the school;
- the number of learners who choose to be taught in a particular language;
- the resources that the school has to offer for the languages that have been selected.

The SGB, together with the parent body, decide the following:

- That the Language of Learning and Teaching (LOLT) in our school will be **English**.
- That the Language of Learning and Teaching (LOLT) for all Learning Areas will be **English** except for Afrikaans and isiZulu.
- That **English** will be provided as the school's Home Language (HL).
- Currently **Afrikaans** is the choice in terms of the **First** Additional Language (FAL).

- Currently **isiZulu** is the choice in terms of the **Second** Additional Language (SAL).
- Teaching of isiZulu SAL will take place in the Foundation Phase (Gr 1 – 3) only.

5. Aspects of the School's Language Policy

5.1 Spoken Communication

- All meetings in the school will be conducted in **English**. However, where a translator is required, the school and the parent can work together to arrange for the services of a translator.
- All verbal feedback to parents regarding their children's progress will be conducted in **English**.

5.2 Written Communication

- All correspondence will be through the medium of **English** namely, school brochures, bulletins on bulletin boards, timetables, letters, newspaper articles (except when the other approved languages **Afrikaans and isiZulu** are being taught).

5.3 Future Planning

- Where there are at least 40 learners in Grades 1 to 7 and 35 require to be taught in a language not offered at the school, an application can be made to the HOD for the provision of a suitable educator.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

6.1 The School Governing Body

- The SGB is mandated to develop the Language Policy of the school in accordance with legislative framework. The SGB approves and adopts the policy and monitors the implementation of the policy in school.

6.2 School Management Team (SMT)

- The SMT sees to the actual implementation of the policy.
- The SMT reports to the SGB regarding implementation and any challenges or unforeseen events relating thereto.

6.3 Educators

- Educators will adopt the role of facilitators – guiding, allowing and encouraging the learners to discover the world of language and communication for themselves.
- Educators will strive to apply the integrated communicative approach which involves, among others, using diverse teaching/facilitation methods to inspire the minds of their learners, the presentation of genuine source material to make the study of language relevant and meaningful, and to assist learners to develop their communication skills.
- Educators will use the LOLT in class, except when **Afrikaans and isiZulu** are being taught. Learners must be expected to respond in the LOLT to improve their command of the LOLT.

6.4 Learners

- Learners are to commit themselves to the multilingual culture of the country and do their best to achieve proficiency in the languages offered

- Learners are to commit themselves to the multilingual culture of the country and do their best to achieve proficiency in the languages offered by the school, especially in the classroom, on the sports field and in social situations at school.
- Learners are to use every opportunity to improve language skills in the LOLT.
- Learners are to use and socialise in the LOLT to enhance their LOLT skills inside and outside the classroom.
- To be sensitive to the diverse lingual abilities of learners in a classroom, and to prevent exclusion in any way, it is preferred that classroom discussions are always conducted in the LOLT.

7. Conclusion

- The school will always endeavour to ensure that its systems cater for the requirements necessary to implement the policy.
- LTSM will be continually budgeted for and acquired to meet the needs of the school and the implementation of this policy.
- The school will always endeavour to appoint suitably qualified educators to implement this policy.

APPROVED BY	NAME & SURNAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
SGB Chairperson:	Karen Gush		06/06/2024
SGB Secretary:	Joline Smuts		06/06/2024
Principal:	KAREN BERGSMAN		2024-06-06

RATIFIED BY GDE	NAME & SURNAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
District Official:			

GAUTENG DEPT. OF EDUCATION CONSTANTIA KLOOF PRIMARY SCHOOL 2024-06-06 SCHOOL STAMP TEL: 011 475-1330 FAX: 011 475-5298 P.O. BOX 50, FLORIDA 1710 DISTRICT D12

2024-06-06 P.O. BOX 1005 FLORIDA 1710 ISIBE LEZENFUNDU LASE GAUTENG LEFAPHA LA THUTO LA GAUTENG
--

