

Appendix 2 – The Immersion Education System item

Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee 13/02/25

Adapted from interview questions for Mainstream School Teachers (O'Duibhir, 2018) – Immersion Education

Learning Materials

1. What teaching and learning materials are available to you to support teaching the curriculum to immersion pupils through the medium of Welsh? How adequate are they in your opinion?
2. Describe how you get to know about the work being completed at the Immersion Centre and any resources that are available to you in supporting the pupils with Welsh in the mainstream?

Proficiency and Attitudes towards learning the language

I would now like to ask you some questions in relation to the children's proficiency in Welsh.

3. How satisfactory do you think the children's proficiency in Welsh is at the end of the 10 weeks immersion programme?
4. How does their language proficiency compare to native speakers of a similar age? There is room to ask follow-up questions if necessary, e.g. Is it a concern?
5. What strategies, if any, do you use to encourage the children to speak Welsh?
6. What guidance do you give to other pupils to support the new speakers at the mainstream school?
7. Can you describe to the best of your ability the contact/exposure the children attending the immersion centre get to Welsh outside of school?
8. How would you describe these children's attitudes towards learning Welsh?

Curriculum and Communication Consistency

9. Can you describe the kind of discussions that take place in your staff team meetings within your school in relation to supporting pupils in Welsh for returning to the mainstream school on Fridays?

10. How do you communicate and work with the immersion centre to support pupils with their work in the mainstream school on Fridays to ensure they can return, contribute and follow the curriculum and their classwork in the mainstream?

11. How do you know about the language work and the level of work being completed at the Immersion Centre in order to refer to it on Fridays?

12. What do you think are the challenges you face in trying to support the pupils when returning from the centre on Fridays to learn in your school/classroom?

Professional Learning

13. Can you identify any professional learning opportunities that are available to you and the school staff in terms of supporting the well-being and development of the pupils attending the immersion provision upon returning to the mainstream school?

14. Can you identify any professional learning opportunities that are available to you and the school staff in terms of developing your teaching methods to support the immersion pupils with the language?

The Immersion Model

15. Describe the strengths of the model for the 10-week immersion provision?

16. And can you describe any weaknesses to the 10-week model from your experience?

17. What are your thoughts around the model in terms of supporting the well-being of pupils who are part of the immersion provision (10 weeks and Fridays)?

Do you have any further comments you'd like to share that would be relevant to our research?

Thank you very much!