



CRADOCK HIGH SCHOOL

POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

LANGUAGE POLICY

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1. INTRODUCTION

Cradock High School is a **dual-medium educational school**. The languages of instruction are **Afrikaans and English**, offered from **Grades 8 to 12**. This policy outlines the framework and principles governing language use at the school in alignment with applicable legislation and the educational needs of the learners.

2. AUTHORITY OF THE LANGUAGE POLICY

This policy is adopted by the **Governing Body** of Cradock High School in terms of **Section 6(2)** of the **South African Schools Act (Act 84 of 1996)**.

3. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise indicated, the following terms apply as defined by the **South African Schools Act**:

- **"Governing Body"**: The school's governing body as per Section 16 of the Act.
- **"Constitution"**: The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996).
- **"Principal"**: The principal of the school, including any educator acting on the principal's behalf with the approval of the governing body.
- **"School"**: Cradock High School.
- **"Language Policy"**: This document, as officially adopted and amended from time to time.

4. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy is informed by the following laws and policy documents:

- South African Schools Act (Act 84 of 1996)
- Eastern Cape School Education Act (Act 12 of 1997)
- National Language-in-Education Policy (1997)
- Language Transformation Plan (Eastern Cape Circular 0004/2007)
- National Language Policy Framework (2003)
- National Education Policy Act (Act 27 of 1996)
- Norms and Standards for Language Policy (Section 6(1))
- Sections 6 and 9 of the Constitution of South Africa
- PAN South African Language Board Act (Act 59 of 1995)
- Eastern Cape Language Act (Act 14 of 1998)



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The policy is implemented in accordance with these legislative frameworks and is designed to align with broader educational goals and constitutional rights.

The guiding principle is that the policy must serve the **best educational interests** of all learners and must not result in **unfair discrimination**.

5. CONTEXT OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The school is situated in **Cradock**, a linguistically diverse town where **Afrikaans, English, and isiXhosa** are widely spoken.

The following factors were considered in formulating the policy:

- Learner interests
- The interests of the school and surrounding community
- Institutional capacity and resources
- Staff availability
- International best practices, particularly the value of mother-tongue instruction and appropriate class sizes

6. FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

The language policy aims to give full effect to learners' rights under **Section 29(2)** of the Constitution, affirming the right to receive education in the language of their choice where reasonably practicable.

7. LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION AND ADMINISTRATION

Cradock High School is a **dual-medium school** (Afrikaans and English), consistent with Section 29(2) of the Constitution.

Instruction is delivered in **Afrikaans and English**, based on subject and class grouping.

The school's administrative language is **Afrikaans and English**. Communication with external parties may occur in other languages as circumstances reasonably require.



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8. LANGUAGES OFFERED AS SUBJECTS

The following language subjects are offered:

- Afrikaans Home Language
- Afrikaans First Additional Language
- English Home Language
- English First Additional Language

In the dual-medium model, both languages are used interchangeably in instruction, and learners are taught in integrated classes where educators alternate between Afrikaans and English during lessons.

Learners are only permitted to speak Afrikaans or English in the classroom.

9. POLICY REVIEW PROCESS

This policy is subject to **periodic review**. Revisions will involve consultation with **learners, parents, educators** and other stakeholders to ensure ongoing relevance and responsiveness.