

Language Policy

Core of the School Language Policy

Supporting all languages while giving attention to Russian as a national language and a world cultural object.

Language Environment of our children

Perm Region is a multi-national territory (according to the 2002 census at least 25 nationalities live here).

The prevailing ethnic group is Russians (87.57%) who speak Russian as their mother tongue. 9% of people living in Perm Region considering Russian to be their mother tongue have difficulty using the language in different functional spheres. The language environment of our children in their daily life is constituted by the Russian language and, more seldom, by Turk languages but normally includes none of the IBO working languages.

The role of the mother tongue in the Language Policy

In Russia, the Russian language is the main condition for communication. Russian is our children's discursive environment. The teaching of the Russian language promotes national self-identification and the building of school graduates' successful behaviour patterns enabling them to cope with the colossal speech load of information society.

Other Languages in Education

MYP students in our school have different language bases and not all of them have Russian as their mother tongue. The school supports the developing of the mother tongue(not Russian) of such students.

A special role in promoting students in the MYP belongs to the language of instructions. Russian (Language A) or English (Language B) are used as the language of instructions.

Mastering the instruction language and other languages is an important intercultural factor which guarantees a student's academic success.

The curriculum also presupposes that the children should master such universal languages as graphics, mathematics and programming.

Language Policy Realization

- The national language (Russian) is taught to all children beginning with year 1 (for 1st year MYP students this will be the fifth year they have been studying Russian 170 hours a year).

- School Pushkinian traditions (research work in this field, participation in volunteer work in Pushkin Estate, Pushkinian Ball, Tsarskoye Selo Lyceum day, school wall newspapers, educational trips to literature-related places in Russia, etc.) encourage the children to deepen their understanding of their mother tongue.

- Beginning with year 2, the children deal with the new language environment of the Internet.

- The second language (English) is taught to all children beginning with PYP year 2 (64 hours a year), for MYP year 1 students this will be the fourth year they have been studying English.

- In MYP year 1 the number of hours of English is increased to 136 a year.

- In MYP classes the children will have the opportunity to choose the 2nd foreign language (German or French – up to 68 hours a year).

- Students study slang samples for their research papers.

- The Library and Information Centre has 2,508 titles of books, 196 titles of DVD/Video & CD-ROMs, 131 titles of audio cassettes in 6 languages.

- An artificial English language environment is built: Holiday English schools, debates, meetings with visiting professors, a video club, educational trips to English-speaking countries or other countries which use English as vernacular).

- For children whose first language is not Russian the school, having made an agreement, concerning the cooperation with national regional associations, provides an opportunity to use their resources and to take part in their activities. The main goal of these associations is preserving national cultures and languages.