

"Bilingual education has been pivotal in my development as a person and for my career as a broadcaster. It meant that I had twice as many opportunities. My ability to learn other languages has increased and the important capability to communicate and make friends is greater.



**Alex Jones**

It has given me a special strong sense of belonging and of heritage. Starting out as a broadcaster in Welsh gave me the vast experience to move forward to my dream job."

**"Without a bilingual education I'd be in a very different place"**

Think about language like this...



You can go places on one wheel (language)



And also with one large and one small wheel



But if you have two equal wheels in good condition you will go much further



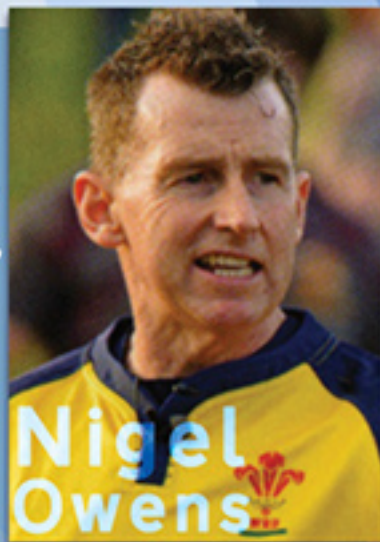
**Rhys Ifans**

"I see the world from two perspectives. The Welsh language has opened doors for me and given me an extra pair of wings"

**"I'm proud of the Welsh language"**

"Without my Welsh education... I would not have had all the opportunities..."

"I'm lucky enough to have two languages and Welsh is an important part of who I am."



**Nigel Owens**

**"I carry Welsh with me..."**



**Two languages  
...twice  
the choice**

The aim of The Welsh Language Charter is to support children to make full use of their Welsh in their everyday lives

**...benefit educationally**

**benefit socially**

**benefit culturally**

**and benefit economically**



Siarter Iaith Gymraeg



@siarteriaith



## 'What are the advantages of having two languages?'



### Educational advantage

Academic research confirms that bilingual children can think more creatively and flexibly and tend to achieve higher scores in IQ tests than children who speak only one language.

### Social advantage

Speaking two languages opens the door to a far more varied community, world of work and social life.  
**Two languages, double the choice.**

### Cultural advantage

From history to music, literature and television, a bilingual child has far more choice.  
**Two languages, two windows on the world.**

### Economic advantage

Bilingual people in Wales earn between 8% and 10% more annually compared to people who speak only one language.

- ### Encourage your children to speak Welsh...
- at home ■ at play
  - with friends ■ with family
  - in the shop and on the street

### GWYNEDD, EUROPE AND THE WORLD

**65%** of Gwynedd's people speak both Welsh and English  
of Europeans speak at least two languages

More than **2/3** of the world's population speak two or more languages

It's easier for those who speak two languages to learn new languages

"Overwhelming evidence shows that bilingual children are better at understanding concepts and at focusing their attention"  
BBC News website



"Bilingual children are far more likely to get top grade passes in exams in all subjects"  
Richard Gartner - The Independent

**Gwynedd's Promise:**  
All Gwynedd's children will be fully bilingual by the time they leave primary school

## Common questions...

Will learning another language affect my child's English?

No! If you play football it won't have a negative effect on your ability to swim - it's the same with languages.

Wouldn't it be better to learn a more 'useful' language rather than Welsh?

More employers than ever in Wales are asking for bilingual skills. Therefore, the Welsh language is a valuable tool.

On average, English exam and test results for bilingual children are higher than those who only speak one language.

Research shows that children who are fluent in two languages tend to do better in other school subjects too.

