

Critically explore an historical event that has significantly had an impact on the education of language in Wales.



(GI-1)

(GI-2)





(GI-3)

King Henry VIII

- Act of Union 1536
Use of Welsh language was banned.
- People had to speak English to get work.
- Removal of 'official status of Welsh Language' (P. Jacob, 2017)



(GI-4)



(GI-7)

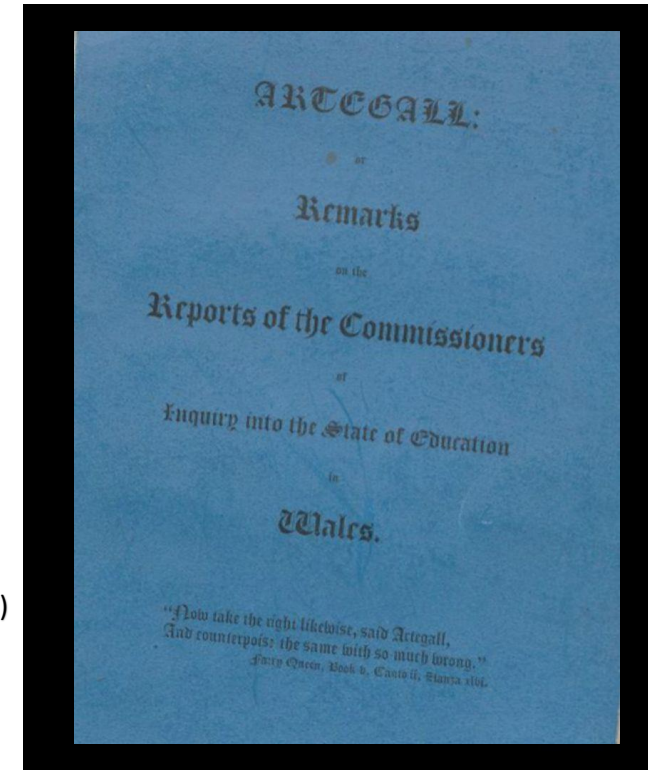
Welsh, as it is known in English and Cymraeg by the Welsh was spoken by 90% of the population during 1850. Since then the language has faced many great challenges through the years. To the point where it has almost become extinct. (P.Jacob, 2017)



(GI-5)

The Welsh Not

- To discourage children from using the Welsh Language this form of punishment was created, during the 19th century.
- Whoever was wearing the Welsh Knot by the end of the week was severely punished.
- (BBC, 2014)



(GI-6)

The Treachery of the Blue Books

During the 19th century a public enquiry was called to look at the state of Welsh education. The findings were published in a book with blue covers. The findings were devastating to the Welsh. Wales was condemned as being a 'backward land, its progress retarded by Welsh itself'. (History, 2020)

What did the Welsh Assembly do for Wales?

Welsh Assembly Timeline

1999 – Welsh Assembly starts work.

01/03/2006 – The Queen officially opens the Welsh Assembly Building

2011 – Welsh voters, vote in favour of giving the assembly more power in creating laws for Wales.



(GI-8)

When the National Assembly opened it gave a voice to the people of Wales. The democratically elected body represents the interests of Wales. The referendum result of 2011 has allowed the Welsh Assembly to create its own laws for Wales without the need to go to Westminster for permission. Since this, Wales has taken its own path away from Scotland and England and have created reforms in policy for education, the health system and many more areas.

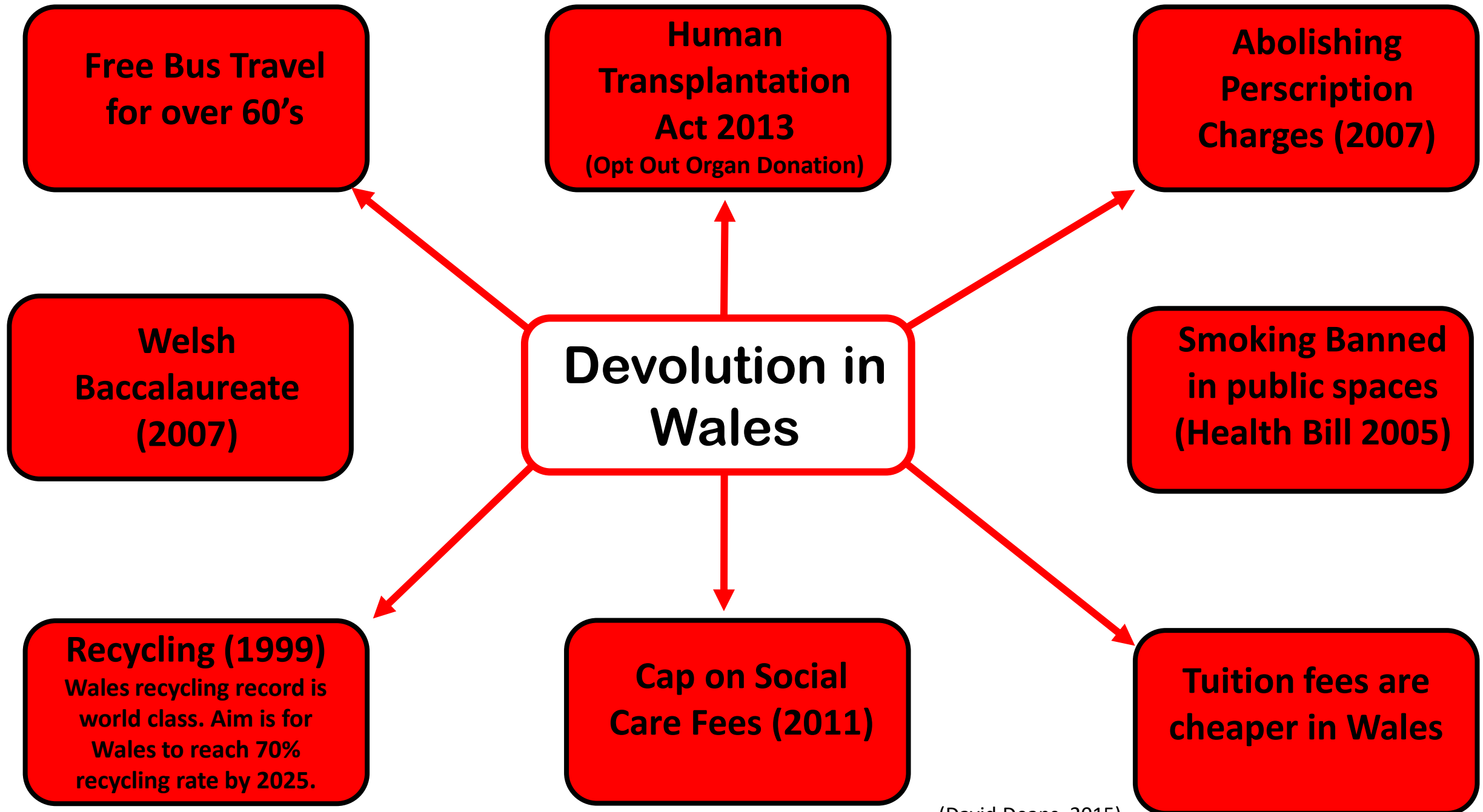
(Senedd Cymru, 2020)



(GI-9)



The National Assembly became the Welsh Parliament on 6th May 2020. It is now known as the 'Senedd'.
(Senedd Cymru, 2020)



(David Deans, 2015)



(GI-10)

16 Year olds Allowed to Vote in Wales



The Senedd (Welsh Assembly) and the Elections Act lowered the age of voting in Wales. From the year 2021, 16-year olds will be able to vote for Senedd elections. This is a huge encouragement to Wales and teenagers that finally feel they have a voice on decisions that are made about their future.



(GI-11)

"It is intended that Votes at 16 and renaming the Assembly will be the first step in a programme of wider reform. These changes will help create a Welsh democracy fit for the future by 2021."

- Elin Jones MS. Llywydd, The National Assembly for Wales

(Welsh Parliament, 2020)

What about the Welsh Language?

How does the Welsh Assembly, promote

The Welsh Language?



In 2011 the Welsh Assembly passed a measure to promote the Welsh language. It was a statutory requirement which related to the Welsh language. The measure was to be developed over 5 years.



(GI-13)

- The Welsh language was given official status, this means that Welsh must not be treated less favourably than English.
- The Welsh Commissioner had a responsibility to promote the Welsh language and improve opportunities to use it.
- Create a procedure to introduce and explain language standards and how organisations are expected to use Welsh language and also create rights for Welsh speakers.
- Increasing the use and encourage the Welsh language in everyday life.
- The Welsh Commissioner has the authority to impose duties to a wide range of organisations to provide services in Welsh. For it to be included in policy development and increasing its use in the workplace.



(GI-14)



(GI-15)

The Welsh Government have a vision to see a million people enjoy speaking Welsh by 2050!

They hope this will be achieved by setting out 3 strategic themes. They are:

1. Increasing the number of Welsh Speakers.
2. Increasing the use of Welsh.
3. Creating favourable conditions – infrastructure and context. (Welsh Government, 2017, p4)



The population survey for the year ending June 2019 showed that 891,100 people over the age of 3 years was able to speak welsh that's equivalent to 29.6% of the population. That is 0,3% higher than the year before. Carmarthenshire had the highest amount of welsh speakers. (Welsh Government, 2020)

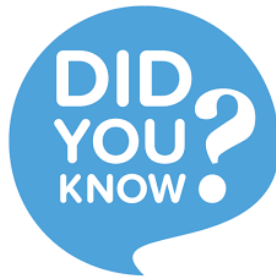


(GI-16)

After a battle, in 1972 Bowen Committee agreed that Welsh could be put onto road signs. Wales is the only region in the UK to have bilingual signs.

Since they were first introduced English was always the first language but now the Welsh is displayed first.

(Gareth, 2019)



In 2017, Wales Online published an article about how Welsh road signs cause road accidents and should be banned!

(Stefan Rhys, 2017)

(GI-17)





(GI-18)

A New Curriculum For Wales a New Future



In 2022 the government will introduce a new Welsh Curriculum, for children aged 3-16 years of age. It will be rolled out in all schools across the country. The vision behind the new curriculum is to have ‘more emphasis on equipping young people for life.’ It also gives teachers more freedom over their teaching styles and how they carry out assessments and those assessments will be used to increase learning. The new six areas of ‘learning and experience’ are:

1. Expressive Arts
2. Health and wellbeing
3. Humanities
4. Languages, literacy and communication (Welsh will remain compulsory until the age of 16)
5. Mathematics and numeracy
6. Science and technology

(Tes,2019)

Since 1999 Welsh language has been made compulsory in all welsh schools and welsh medium schools in Wales for children up to the age of 16 years. In the new curriculum welsh must be incorporated in all subjects and not just as a welsh lesson. There is more focus on understanding and using Welsh in communication instead of just reading and writing skills. It is understood that language learning is much more effective when combined with content learning, which means learning a subject and a second language at the same time. (TheConversation, 2019)

Other ways the Government has tried to promote the Welsh Language



(GI-19)



(GI-20)



(GI-21)

(Wales and Welsh, 2020)

In 2017, Dafydd Iwan, who was president of Plaid Cymru said he celebrates St David's Day 'every day of the year'. He continued, 'It has a lot to do with history and the fact that we are a very small nation. I think it is easier for a small nation to have community, togetherness and we are a nation emerging into more political awareness. Everywhere you look in Wales you can feel a sense of belonging. (Simon Gaskell, 2013)

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