



THE WELSH NOT

THE HISTORICAL EVENT THAT HAD A
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE EDUCATION OF
LANGUAGE IN WALES

(Wrexham news, 2014)

What is the Welsh Not?

It was used in schools in the 18th and 19th Century. It's a piece of wood with the letters 'WN' indented into it and hung around children's neck that spoke Welsh throughout the school day.

It was used as a punishment for children that spoke welsh in the 18 and 19th century.

The person at the end of the day that had the Welsh Not around their necks would be punished.



(Wrexham news, 2014)

HISTORY OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE

With the English having power over Wales "Henry VIII's Act of Union in 1536, use of Welsh was largely banned and laws were passed which removed the official status of the Welsh language" (Jacob, 2017)



(wikipedia, 2019)

In 1846 William Williams a Welsh MP from Coventry made a speech to the nation. Following on from his speech a report was published in 1847 on welsh in education.

The report was known as the "Treachery of the Blue Books".

HISTORY OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE

“The Blue Books report found the provision of education in Wales to be extremely poor. The commissioners saw the Welsh language as a drawback and noted that the moral and material condition of the people would only improve with the introduction of English”(BBC, 2014)



(wikipedia, 2019)

“ Welsh was not an institutionalised or official language, and simply wasn't considered a suitable medium for education during the Victorian heyday of the British Empire”
(BBC 2014)

The English language was deemed to be the only appropriate language.

WHY THERE WAS A STRAIN ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Due to England having power over Wales

“The Industrial Revolution was another challenge to the language, with mass migration of English speakers into Wales diluting the language and making workplaces bilingual or English” (Jacob,2017)

“Surrounded by an increasing number of workmates and neighbours who could not speak Welsh, the dynamics of language were changing from migrants learning Welsh to the existing population learning English” (Johnes, 2020)

HOW THE WELSH LANGUAGE HAS CHANGED

(Wrexham news, 2014)



1870

English medium schooling was compulsory throughout wales.

The Welsh Not was Introduced

(Alamy, 2016)



1964

Welsh office established in Cardiff by the Welsh secretary of state

(Courts, no date)



1967

Welsh language act allowed welsh to be spoken in law courts.

(Williams, 2018)



1993

Officially allowed to facilitate the welsh in public life.

Road signs were bilingual for in English and Welsh.

COMPARISON



PAST

- 19th Century Welsh was discouraged
- “20th century, the numbers of Welsh speakers had fallen so much it looked as though the language would die out” (Jacob, 2017)
- Punished for speaking Welsh (Welsh not)



PRESENT

- Welsh is promoted
- From September 1999 Welsh is compulsory in schools for key stages 1, 2, and 3.
- “Increasing the number of Welsh speakers is one of the three key themes”(Williams and Morgan, 2017, p.6)
- Curriculum Cymreig
- Rewarded for speaking Welsh



FUTURE

- “ Our vision is to enable all learners to develop their Welsh language skills and to use the language confidently in everyday life” (Williams and Morgan, 2017, p.14).
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Policy(UNCRC)
 - Article 30 – Your right to use your own language

THE IMPACT OF THE WELSH NOT

The Welsh not really suppressed the language as during this time the language was near enough becoming extinct, due to the lack of people using welsh.

<u>Negative</u>	<u>Positive</u>
Punishment	Promoting the welsh language
People got hurt	Welsh can now be spoken in schools
Language started to die out	Road signs are now made bilingual
Welsh language speakers couldn't speak their preferred language	People can now speak their preferred language

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