Language Policy 2026-2027

Phoenix Private School, Doha – For Students and Staff

Review Date: August 2026

Approved by: Principal and Governing Body

Next Review Date: August 2027

1. Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission:
To develop future leaders who are able to make positive changes throughout the world. We challenge today to create a better tomorrow.
Vision:
To prepare a generation of Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.
Values:

- Perseverance
- Honesty
- Originality
- Enrichment
- Nurturing
- Inspiration
- eXcited to learn

2. Rationale

Phoenix Private School recognises that language is central to teaching, learning, communication, identity, and inclusion. As an international school community, we value multilingualism and believe that effective language development supports academic achievement, wellbeing, and global citizenship. This policy outlines how PPS supports students' language development across the curriculum while ensuring equity and access for all learners.

3. School Language Profile

- **Language of Instruction:** English
- **Additional Languages Offered:** Arabic (as required by the Ministry of Education), and other languages where applicable
- **Languages Spoken in the Community:** English, Arabic, and a wide range of home languages reflecting our diverse school community

Phoenix Private School values students' home languages as an important part of their identity and learning.

4. Aims of the Language Policy

The aims of this policy are to:

- Ensure all students can access the curriculum through effective language support
- Develop high levels of proficiency in English for academic and social purposes
- Promote respect for linguistic and cultural diversity
- Support students learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Ensure consistency in language expectations across the school
- Encourage positive communication between students, staff, parents, and the wider community

5. Language of Instruction – English

English is the primary language of instruction at Phoenix Private School. All students are supported to:

- Develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills
- Use academic language appropriate to their age and stage of learning
- Communicate confidently and respectfully in a range of contexts

Teachers:

- Model accurate and age-appropriate English
- Use consistent vocabulary and language structures
- Plan explicitly for language development within lessons
- Scaffold learning using visuals, modelling, and structured talk

6. English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Phoenix Private School is committed to inclusive practice and provides support for students who are learning English as an Additional Language.

Identification and Support

- Students' language proficiency is identified on entry through assessment and teacher observation
- EAL students are supported through in-class strategies, targeted interventions, and differentiated instruction
- Progress in English language development is monitored regularly

Classroom Practice

Teachers will:

- Use clear learning objectives and success criteria
- Pre-teach and revisit key vocabulary
- Provide opportunities for structured talk and collaborative learning
- Use visual supports, graphic organisers, and modelling
- Allow appropriate use of home language to support understanding where beneficial

7. Arabic Language Provision

Arabic is taught in line with Ministry of Education requirements.

- Arabic A is provided for native/first-language Arabic speakers
- Arabic B is provided for non-native Arabic speakers
- Arabic lessons promote language proficiency, cultural understanding, and respect for heritage

Arabic is valued as an integral part of the school's identity within Qatar.

8. Home Languages and Multilingualism

Phoenix Private School:

- Respects and values students' home languages
- Encourages parents to continue developing their child's first language at home
- Recognises that strong first-language skills support additional language acquisition

Students may use their home language:

- As a learning support tool when appropriate
- During informal social interactions
- To support understanding of complex concepts, under teacher guidance

9. Language Across the Curriculum

Language development is the responsibility of **all teachers**.

Across all subjects, teachers will:

- Explicitly teach subject-specific vocabulary
- Develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills
- Encourage accurate use of academic language
- Provide opportunities for discussion, explanation, and reasoning
- Support students to write in a range of genres

10. Inclusion and Special Educational Needs (SEND)

Students with SEND may require additional language support.

Phoenix Private School ensures:

- Language demands are adjusted to meet individual needs
- Support strategies are aligned with Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
- Collaboration between class teachers, SEN staff, and EAL support where appropriate

11. Assessment and Monitoring

- Language development is assessed through formative and summative assessments
- EAL progress is tracked using appropriate assessment tools
- Teachers use assessment information to plan next steps
- Language outcomes are reviewed by subject leaders and SLT

12. Roles and Responsibilities

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

- Ensure implementation and review of the Language Policy
- Allocate resources and professional development
- Monitor impact on teaching and learning

Teachers

- Implement consistent language expectations
- Plan for language development in all lessons
- Support EAL and multilingual learners

Students

- Use language respectfully and responsibly
- Engage positively in language learning
- Value their own and others' languages

Parents

- Support language development at home
- Communicate with the school regarding language needs
- Value multilingualism and cultural diversity

13. Professional Development

Phoenix Private School is committed to ongoing professional learning in:

- EAL strategies
- Language-rich classroom practice
- Inclusive and culturally responsive teaching

14. Review of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains:

- Fit for purpose
- Aligned with school priorities
- Responsive to the needs of the school community