

Briefing on Gaelic Education

March 2016



Fàilte

Welcome to our Briefing for Gaelic Education. This briefing includes information on Gaelic Medium Education (GME); Gaelic Learner Education (GLE) and the promotion of Learning about Gaelic Language and Culture as part of Scotland's identity.

Strategic Objective 1: Build a world-class curriculum for all learners in Scotland

1. Progression Frameworks: Literacy and Gàidhlig



Thank you to teachers for their assistance with revising the progression framework for literacy and Gàidhlig. The framework is designed to assist with assessing progress in literacy and Gàidhlig from early to fourth level. The progression frameworks are available [here](#).

2. New Resources for Gaelic (Learners) National 5



In response to requests from practitioners, we have commissioned some listening and reading texts which may be useful as preparation for national qualifications.

New Resources for Gaelic (Learners) National 5

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/ngcoursematerials/subjects/g/ngresource_tcm4873072.asp

3. Read, Write, Count



Read, Write, Count is a new Government-led campaign aimed at children in P1 to P3. It recognises that parents and families have a key role to play in helping their children to read, write and count well. The campaign is delivered in partnership with Education Scotland and Scottish Book Trust. It aims to tackle educational inequalities and raise attainment in early years and beyond. A group involving stakeholders of Gaelic has been set up to ensure parents and children in GME are able to engage in Gaelic-related activities. Please visit the [website](#) for more information.

<http://gaelic.readwritecount.scot/>

Strategic Objective 2: Promote high-quality professional learning and leadership amongst education practitioners

4. Language Show Live 2016 11, 12 March SECC, Glasgow



The Language Show Live is coming to Scotland and will have a special feature on Gaelic and Scots. This is Europe's longest running premier language event and has been hosted in London for the past 27 years. There will be an input from **Education Scotland** and **Fèisean nan Gàidheal** on the role of Gaelic in Scotland's identity and in the curriculum of Scottish education. Other attractions include:

- a range of educational seminars
- language classes
- live forums
- cultural performances.

There also will be over 100 exhibitors related to the promotion of languages and resources including some specific to Gaelic such as **Sabhal Mòr Ostaig** and **Bòrd na Gàidhlig**.

Please support the feature on Gaelic and Scots which is taking place from 10.30am in the main hall on 11 March. Please follow this [link](#) to register to attend.

5. Leadership Award: Gaelic Education



Social Enterprise Academy and **Education Scotland** work in partnership to deliver an Institute of Leadership and Management Award for teachers in Gaelic Medium Education. Congratulations to the 11 teachers who completed this award in December 2015.

The **next Leadership Award for Gaelic Education** will commence on **20 and 21 May 2016**. It will be based at Strathpeffer. If you wish to enrol for this award or require more information, please contact kate@socialenterprise.academy. Education Scotland and Social Enterprise Academy acknowledge financial assistance from **Bòrd na Gàidhlig** towards the costs of running this award.

6. Glow watch again TV: Developing literacy



In this session, **Comhairle Nan Leabhraichean** detail how they can support schools to promote and develop the literacy skills of children and young people in Gaelic Medium Education. Please view the session [here](#).

7. CLPL with SCILT 7 March, 4.00pm



Please join Julie-Anne MacKenzie, Professional Development Officer with SCILT to learn of the support available to teachers of Gaelic Education. Registration for this event is now open. Please visit [glow tv](#) for more information. We would be happy to consider requests from other groups and organisations who may wish to raise the profile of their work with schools using Glow TV. Please contact: inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk

8. The Scottish Learning Festival 2016, 21 and 22 September, SECC, Glasgow



Delegate registration for the **Scottish Learning Festival** will open in May. For more information, please visit the [SLF website](#).

Strategic Objective 3: Build the capacity of education providers to improve their performance continuously

9. [Advice on Gaelic Education](#)



The [Education Scotland Inspection Advice Note 2015 - 16](#) requires schools with Gaelic Learner and Medium provision to be reviewing their practice using the [Advice on Gaelic Education](#). Here are some challenge questions to help focus self-evaluation on Gaelic:

- To what extent have staff critically engaged with the Advice on Gaelic Education to improve their practice?
- How do we ensure that improving provision for Gaelic is central to self-evaluation activity?
- How well have we identified the strengths and areas for improvement of our provision for Gaelic Education?
- How effective is evidence from self-evaluation driving forward continuous improvement for Gaelic?

10. [Gaelic Education Award, Scottish Education Awards](#)



Thank you to those who made nominations for the **Gaelic Education Award** at the Scottish Education Awards. The winner will be announced at a special ceremony on 8 June 2016. The **Gaelic Education Award** is sponsored by Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Information from partners

11. Ceitidh Computer Voice

Ceitidh is the world's first Scottish Gaelic computer. The voice has been created by [CereProc](#), the world leading speech synthesis company in Edinburgh, working with Michael Bauer of Akerbeltz. The development of the voice has been funded by the Scottish Government, Scottish Funding Council, SQA and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The new Gaelic computer voice is licensed for the Scottish public sector, so it can be used by students in schools, colleges and universities, NHS patients, and employees in the public sector. CALL also has permission to distribute the voice to charities.

Ceitidh is now available from CALL Scotland's [Scottish voice](#) website alongside 'Heather' and 'Stuart', the two Scottish computer voices. Heather and Stuart are also licenced for the entire Scottish Public Sector.

The Gaelic voice works on Windows and Macintosh computers and can be used to:

- read Gaelic web sites, ebooks, textbooks, SQA exam papers and other curriculum resources;
- check writing, emails, and social media posts – proof-reading by listening can improve spelling and grammar;

The voice will be particularly helpful for Gaelic speakers with dyslexia, reading difficulties and visual impairment, but it should also be useful for anyone learning or working in Gaelic. Crucially, computer reader enables learners to be more independent so that they do not have to rely on human readers in assessments and examinations, helping them to be more confident individuals. Computer readers are vital for people with blindness or severe sight loss, and the Ceitidh voice will for the first time provide visually impaired speakers of Gaelic with a method of reading Gaelic web sites, online newspapers and eBooks.

12. Ceòlas Uibhist

The logo for Ceòlas Uibhist, featuring the word 'ceòlas' in a blue, cursive script.

Ceòlas Uibhist is a Gaelic arts and heritage organisation which is based in Uist. They will be running an immersion week for teachers on the GfT course in the community at the end of April. For more information, please contact liam@ceolas.co.uk.

13. Comhairle nan Leabhraichean



Leum Dhan Leabhar: Do you have an upcoming event in your school such as a parents' evening or school fayre at which you would appreciate representation for Gaelic? Why not take part in our book club scheme, **Leum Dhan Leabhar**? For this, **Comhairle nan Leabhraichean**

will organise a stall of the latest Gaelic books for parents and children to buy? For more information, please phone or e-mail:

T: 0141 337 6211

E: janice@gaelicbooks.org

Ma tha tachartasan sam bith ri thighinn san sgoil agaibh mar oidhche nam pàrant no fèill-reic, carson nach gabh sibh pàirt anns a' chlub leabhraichean againn, Leum Dhan Leabhar. Thèid againn air stàile loma-làn leabhraichean Gàidhlig a thaisbeanadh airson an ceannach. Cuiribh fòn no post-d thugainn airson barrachd fiosrachaidh:

T: 0141 337 6211

E: janice@gaelicbooks.org

14. Comann nam Pàrant



Comann nam Pàrant, the national organisation that advises and supports parents/carers of those in Gaelic Medium Education, has recently published a [newsletter](#).

The newsletter includes information on

- Education (Scotland) Bill/Act
- Children and young people's achievements in Gaelic Medium Education
- Useful information to help parents/carers support their child's learning.

[Please continue to read](#)

15. Dàna: e-magazine



Dàna is an e-magazine suitable for those at the secondary stages and beyond. It includes a range of articles for which young people's contributions are welcome.

Is e iris-d Ghàidhlig a th' ann an [Dàna](#), a bhitheas a' foillseachadh stuth ùr sa Ghàidhlig. 'S ann air ìre àrd-sgoile agus nas adhartaiche as motha a fhreagradh cuspairean na h-irise.

16. E-stòras: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar



We have prepared some learning resources for those in S1 and S2 to accompany the book, **Seallaidhean Sùla** by Iain Crichton Smith.

<http://www.e-storas.com/secondary.aspx/e-storas-resource.aspx?id=2367>

Aonad obrach airson AS1/2 mun leabhar aig Iain Mac a' Ghobhainn, **Seallaidhean Sùla**

<http://www.e-storas.com/secondary.aspx/e-storas-resource.aspx?id=2367>

This [video](#) outlines the benefits of bilingualism as an outcome of Gaelic Medium Education. While much of the content is contextualised to **Comhairle nan Eilean Siar**, there is also relevant information that any local authority or school may use to promote Gaelic Medium Education.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yg-Awm-G9ts>

17. Fèisean nan Gàidheal



Fèisean nan Gàidheal, the Gaelic arts organisation, offers schools throughout Scotland an opportunity to include some learning of Gaelic and about Gaelic as part of the curriculum. This may take the form of music, drama and language and be delivered as a short course, elective, masterclass or interdisciplinary learning. Fèisgoil can also make links to Gaelic Learner Education at both the primary and secondary stages, **Language Learning in Scotland A 1+2 Approach** or to the **Scottish Studies Awards**. Fèisgoil can also offer professional learning to teachers of music on traditional Scottish music. For more information please contact eilidh@feisean.org or visit the website: <http://www.feisean.org>.

18. Stàit Neo-Eisimeileach Sonais



Contemporary Gaelic Arts provider, **Stàit Neo-Eisimeileach Sonais** can deliver a wide range of fun and exciting workshops for children and young people in Gaelic and English Medium Education. This may include circus skills, graffiti art, lantern-making, drama, street theatre and spectacle. For more information please visit the website: www.independentstateofhappiness.com or contact arielkillickartist@gmail.com or phone 07570043745.

For information on other aspects of Education Scotland, please visit www.educationscotland.gov.uk

For further advice on Gaelic Education, please visit Education Scotland websites for [Gaelic \(Learners\)](#), [Literacy and Gàidhlig](#), [Gaelic Education](#), [The Role of Gaelic in a 1+2 Approach](#) and [Gaelic Education: Summary of Key Resources](#).

For enquiries, please contact Inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk

If you wish to use our e-bulletins to inform practitioners of Gaelic Education of useful information, please contact us at Inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk. Our next bulletin will be published in May 2016.