

# Briefing on Gaelic Education

September 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. Achievement of a level in literacy and Gàidhlig



A suite of resources is available on the [National Improvement Hub](#) to support practitioners in making a professional judgement about the achievement of levels in numeracy and literacy. This includes specific advice on Gaelic Medium Education and the requirements for the collection of data. Practitioners will also find it useful to refer to the [Assessing progress and achievement framework for literacy and Gàidhlig](#), with a related presentation on [Glow](#). The Gaelic version of the framework is available [here](#). It will be useful to refer to [Quality Indicator 3.2: Raising Attainment and Achievement](#), and in the case of Early Learning and Childcare settings, [Quality Indicator 3.2: Securing Children's Progress](#). In so doing, practitioners should focus on being able to evidence:

- The progress that children and young people are making in Literacy and Gàidhlig and that they are raising attainment.
- Attainment over time for literacy and Gàidhlig and that high standards are maintained for all.
- Effective use of assessment, monitoring and tracking of progress with resultant interventions and impact.
- Shared expectations for standards to be achieved using the progression frameworks.
- Robust arrangements for moderation.
- Equity for all learners.

[This Statement for Practitioners](#) from the HM Chief Inspector of Education provides key messages for teachers and practitioners about planning learning, teaching and assessment. The benchmarks for literacy and English and numeracy and mathematics accompanying this statement streamline approaches to assessment. Benchmarks are to follow for other curricular areas.

- [Letter from John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills](#)
- [Curriculum for Excellence : A Statement for Practitioners from HM Chief Inspector of Education](#)
- [Benchmarks for literacy/English and numeracy/mathematics](#)

### 2. Interesting practice exemplars: Could these be used to develop your curriculum for GME?

The following interesting practice is now detailed on the National Improvement Hub:  
[Pre-Apprenticeship Programme at Govan High School \(Glasgow\)](#): This tackles the issue of youth unemployment through a highly dynamic partnership programme with a local employer providing expertise, equipment and qualifications for young people.

[Career education in the primary sector - Caskieberran Primary School](#): The school has embraced the career education standard to enhance career education throughout the school and the wider cluster.

[‘Workout’ programme at South Ayrshire Council](#): A local authority project to deliver sustainable positive destinations for targeted young people in the senior phase of Curriculum for Excellence.

[‘Teen Takeover’ and Community Café, Sandwick Junior High School, Shetlands](#): Two initiatives involving learners, employers, teachers and community groups to enhance the development of skills for learning, life and work.

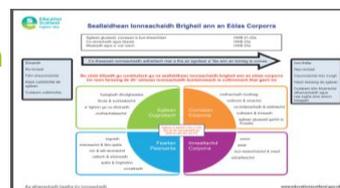
[Work-based learning initiatives in Dumfries and Galloway](#): 6 specific work placement opportunities delivered by local employers to support the development of skills and sustained positive destinations. There are examples of other interesting practice exemplars on our [DYW webpages](#).

### 3. New online literacy tool: [MageQuill](#)



This is an opportunity for young people in GME and GLE to create an e-book or e-short story. Education Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig support this opportunity for developing young people’s literacy skills. More information can be found [here](#).

### 4. Physical Education resource for Gaelic Medium Education



This resource, through the medium of Gaelic, is useful in assessing progress and achievement in physical education at the broad general education. For more information, please visit the [National Improvement Hub](#)

### 5. Family Learning: [Parentzone](#)



We have added resources for GME to the website, [Parentzone](#). These are designed to assist families in supporting their children’s learning across a range of curricular areas. These materials are available [here](#).

### 6. Family Learning: [Sabhal Mòr Ostaig \(SMO\)](#)



This exemplar will assist practitioners in reflecting on how to increase family engagement in learning Gaelic. SMO's family learning weeks are developed and supported through effective partnership with community learning and local authorities. For more details, please visit the [National Improvement Hub](#).

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

### 7. Gaelic Education Seminar at The Scottish Learning Festival

**Language Learning in Scotland: 1+2 = Gaelic!**

**Scottish Learning Festival, 4.15pm on Wednesday 21 September.**

**Seminar Room: Boisdale 2**

Education Scotland invites you to a seminar at the Scottish Learning Festival on the role of Gaelic in a 1+2 Approach to languages. This session will give you an opportunity to hear of effective practice in Comhairle nan Eilean Siar which is resulting in more young people learning Gaelic as part of 1+2. We are also delighted that the new CEO of Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Shona MacLennan will share key messages on how Gaelic will be taken forward in the next national Gaelic Language Plan. Please register for this seminar at:

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/slf/index.asp>



### 8. Audit of career-long professional learning



Thank you to all those who assisted us by completing an audit to help ascertain priorities for professional learning for Gaelic Education. A summary of the results of the audit are available [on our professional learning community for Gaelic](#). We will also be sharing the results with key stakeholders to help them in planning future programmes of professional learning.



### 9. CLPL resources for the Career Education Standard

[Find out more about the work](#) that Skills Development Scotland and Education Scotland have been developing as part of career-long professional learning modules on the Career Education Standard.

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

### 10. Conference on Gaelic Education: Transitions to secondary, June 2016



The presentation slides from our conference, Transitions to Secondary are now available on the [National Improvement Hub](#). We will continue to add materials from the conference to the Hub.

## 11. Some resources that may be of use to practitioners of Gaelic Education

Here's a selection of hyperlinks which may be of interest to practitioners:

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Pages/kr1teaching-assistants.aspx>

<http://www.scotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/SCEL-Developing-Teacher-Leadership.pdf>

This [new learning and assessment resource](#) is for practitioners in early learning and childcare settings and early stages of primary schools. This multi-media resource offers support and challenge on how best to gather, analyse and make the best use of observations to support learning. The resource contains a blend of practical advice, reflections on research and CLPL tasks.

## Strategic Objective 4: Provide independent evaluation of education provision

### 12. Approaches to inspection from August 2016

Details of the range of new inspection models being introduced to suit particular circumstances and contexts can be found [here](#). We will be retaining our commitment to having a specialist in Gaelic on all inspections of GME.

### 13. How Good is our School? Fourth Edition



The Gaelic version of How Good is our School? v4 is now available on the National Improvement Hub. Click [here](#) to view.

## Strategic Objective 5: Influence national policy through evidence-based advice

### 14. Consultations

Have your say on [draft statutory guidance](#) in relation to a series of amendments to the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000. The draft guidance aims to support those who will have duties in relation to:

- the National Improvement Framework (NIF);
- reducing inequalities of outcomes for learners experiencing them as a result of socio-economic disadvantage, and;
- planning and reporting duties at school and education authority levels.

The consultation on statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education runs until 1 November. More information is available [here](#).

## Information from partners

## 15. An t-Alltan 2016

An t-Alltan 2016 conference for practitioners of Gaelic will be held on 28 & 29 September. For more information, please visit: [www.storlann.co.uk/an-t-alltan](http://www.storlann.co.uk/an-t-alltan)



## 16. Barefoot Computing resources – now available in Gaelic



The Barefoot Computing Programme is now available in Scotland. Developed by BT in partnership with BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT and Education Scotland, the resources will help teachers at the primary stages bring computing science to life in the classroom. For more information about the programme, [visit the Barefoot website](#). [A list of Gaelic resources is available here](#).

## 17. Comann nam Pàrant



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

## 18. 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](mailto:eilidh@feisean.org) or visit the website: <http://www.feisean.org>.

## 19. Goireasan bho Chomhairle nan Eilean Siar English translation undernoted



Tha an dreach ùr airson e-Stòras a-nis deiseil. Faodar goireasan a lorg ann an diofar dhòighean – tro chuspair agus tro na aoisean agus iean ionnsachaidh eadar-dhealaichte. Tha ceangal air a dhèanamh air Eòlasan agus Builean an Curaicealam airson Sàr-mhaitheas cuideachd. Ùr air an làrach tha plana leasan airson an dàrna ìre mu Grace Darling agus na Geamannan Oilimpigeach far a bheil na sgoilearan a cruthachadh geama ùr. Tha e-stòras air steigearan agus postairean ùr a chruthachadh. Ma tha sibh airson feadhainn fhaighinn cuir fios gu [evelyn@gnes.net](mailto:evelyn@gnes.net)

Tha sinn air gnìomhan airson pàrantan agus airson luchd-cùraim 's na sgoiltean àraich a dhèanamh a thèid an cois Òrain na Cloinne Bige. Faodar a luchdachadh air an làrach fhèin no faodar fios a chur airson pasgan a chur a-mach. <http://orain-na-cloinne-bige.e-storas.com/>  
Cùm sùil a-mach air an làrach airson Gàmag – geama airson sgilean gràmair a leasachadh anns a' bhun-sgoil.

## New resources from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar



The redesign of e-Stòras is now complete. Resources are more clearly linked to Curriculum for Excellence experiences and outcomes, with search options available by subject, curricular area or by stage. The following resources are new:

- Lesson plans about Grace Darling, Roald Dahl and the Olympic Games where the pupils have to devise a [game](#).
- Stickers to recognise children's successes. For this, [please e mail](#).
- Learning resources for [Òrain na Cloinne Bige](#) which are suitable for the early years.

Coming soon is Gàmag – an interactive resource for developing grammar at the primary stages and a year planner for teachers.



## 20. Scottish Book Trust: Read, Write, Count

The Read, Write, Count bags for those in Primary 2 and 3 will be delivered to schools between September and November. Key contacts in each local authority are helping us to distribute the bags. You can find the details of your local contact [here](#). We have a range of online resources to support schools which can be found here: [www.scottishbooktrust.com/readwritecount](http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/readwritecount) If you have any questions, please contact Scottish Book Trust at [readwritecount@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:readwritecount@scottishbooktrust.com).



## 21. First Minister's Reading Challenge

The First Minister's Reading Challenge for children in Primary 4-7 has now been launched. Schools are invited to register and view a wide range of resources and support materials. The First Minister's Reading Challenge supports GME, with the resource '100 places to start your reading journey' including Gaelic titles to inspire children to begin their own reading adventures.

Please visit [www.readingchallenge.scot](http://www.readingchallenge.scot) to find out more. You may also sign up to the First Minister's Reading Challenge [newsletter](#) or email us at [readingchallenge@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:readingchallenge@scottishbooktrust.com).

## 22. Social Enterprise Academy: Leadership Award



Social Enterprise Academy is offering a Leadership Award for practitioners of GME. The programme explores the challenges and skills required for leaders and aspiring leaders in GME/GLE. The first of two modules is in early November. More details are available [here](#).

## 23. Eatwell Guide: Stiùireadh lth gu math



Food Standards Scotland (FSS) has recently produced an A1 Eatwell Guide poster and an "Information for teachers" leaflet on the new Eatwell Guide - the new healthy eating guide for the UK. These are currently being translated to Gaelic.

For information on other aspects of Education Scotland, please visit [www.educationscotland.gov.uk](http://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](#).

We are also adding resources to our National Improvement Hub. Please search [Gaelic Education](#) in the [National Improvement Hub](#)

**For more information, please contact [inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk)**

If you wish to use our briefing to inform practitioners of Gaelic Education of useful information, please contact us at [inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:inverness@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk). Our next publication will be in November.