

Advice on Gaelic Education

Gaelic Education: policy

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3.1 Curriculum for Excellence aims to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum from 3-18. The curriculum includes the totality of experiences that are planned for children and young people wherever they are being educated. The implementation of Curriculum for Excellence needs to lead to high-quality experiences of learning Gaelic and learning through Gaelic. The development of the four capacities is also an important feature for Gaelic. We are educating young people to be successful learners to achieve as highly as possible, responsible citizens who participate in and contribute effectively to their society, confident and assured young people who know that they have skills, values and a contribution to make.

3.2 Developing Scotland's Young Workforce, the continued **development of the senior phase, *Insight*** and **16 plus Activity Agreements** present new opportunities for schools, colleges, businesses, Skills Development Scotland to collaborate effectively to increase learning through the medium of Gaelic with coherence from the broad general education into the senior phase. The senior phase of Curriculum for Excellence is reliant on effective partnership working with a range of providers in a range of learning settings. Community Learning and Development and the youth work sector have a significant role to play in Curriculum for Excellence. They are important delivery partners, offering young people valuable opportunities for learning and personal development, both in and out of school.

3.3 The report, ***Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach*** sets an ambitious framework for the future delivery of language learning in Scotland's schools. It describes a framework for learning based on the mother tongue and two additional languages in the broad general education leading to awards and qualifications in the senior phase. Both Gaelic Learner and Medium Education are central to this framework.

3.4 Youth organisations are key partners in taking forward learning for sustainability, which includes outdoor learning, sustainable development education and global citizenship. The report ***Learning for Sustainability***¹ aims to build the values, attitudes, knowledge, skills and confidence needed to develop practices and take decisions, which are compatible with a sustainable and equitable society.

3.5 *Generations Working Together*² has a focus on intergenerational practice, which is inclusive, building on the positive resources that young and old have to offer each other and the community at large. Youth organisations and young people can promote greater use of Gaelic between generations and contribute to building learning that is more cohesive.

3.6 The Scottish Government's **Programme for Government (November 2014)** outlines a commitment to maintain a strong support for Gaelic, through support for Gaelic Education, Gaelic broadcasting and Gaelic arts. The Scottish Government recognises that the only way to create a secure future for Gaelic in Scotland will be by increasing the numbers of those learning, speaking and using the language, and Gaelic Education in particular has a key role in achieving this aim. There has been encouraging growth in Gaelic early years and primary in some areas and the 2011 Census recorded an increase in the numbers of young people between the ages of 3-19 who speak Gaelic.

¹ [Learning for Sustainability](#) (Scottish Government Dec 2012)

² [Generations Working Together](#)

