

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



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18/10/2016

Airson sgaoileadh sa bhad

Gàidhlig is Teicneòlas a' Tighinn Còmhla ann an Seòmraichean-teagaisg

Dh'fhoillsich Bòrd na Gàidhlig an naidheachd na bu thràithe air a' bhliadhna seo gun robh iad a' cur £150,000 mu choinneamh a bhith stèidheachadh e-Sgoil, iomairt far am bithear a' toirt barrachd cothruim do sgoilearan air cuspairean a' churraicealaim ann an Gàidhlig tro chlasaichean air-loidhne, sna h-Eileanan Siar agus ann an sgìrean eile.

Ged nach eil am pròiseact ach dìreach air tòiseachadh, tha e air feum mòr a dhèanamh mu thràth do chloinn a tha ann am foghlam Gàidhlig agus cothrom aca air clasaichean tron Ghàidhlig nach biodh aca, 's dòcha, san sgoil aca fhèin.

Tha tidsear a tha stèidhichte ann an Sgoil Shiaboist, Eilean Leòdhais, a' toirt seachad clasaichean e-Sgoil an-dràsta do sgoilearan ann an Acadamaidh Hazlehead ann an Obar Dheathain. Choinnich a' Bh-ph Cathaidh Màiri Nic a' Mhaoilein leis na sgoilearan an toiseach, agus tha i a-nis a' toirt leasanan dhaibh tro ghoireas airson cho-labhairtean bhidio, Vscene, trì latha san t-seachdain.

Thuir Aonghas MacIlfhinnein, Ceannard e-Sgoil: "Tha na beachdan matha a tha sinn air cluinntinn mu na leasanan ùra ann an Hazlehead bho sgoilearan, pàrantan agus luchd-obrach a tha an sàs annta air ar misneachadh gu mòr. Tha an aon rud air a bhith fìor a thaobh nan clasaichean airson Eòlas Creideimh, Moraltachd agus Feallsanachd aig Àrd-ìre a tha air an lìbhrigeadh bho Sgoil MhicNeacail agus Sgoil an Tairbeirt anns na Hearadh, agus a thaobh nan leasanan fìdhleachd a tha sgoilearan ann an Sgoil Ùig a' faighinn air-loidhne agus iad air an toirt thuca à Steòrnabhagh. Tha na h-eisimpleirean sin gar cuideachadh le bhith feuchainn dè cho math 's a tha an teicneòlas, a' stèidheachadh mhodhan-obrach agus a' comharrachadh fheuman trèanaidh. Cuidichidh an obair-dhearbhaidh seo sinn nuair a thig e gu bhith leudachadh air an t-seirbheis seo aig ìre ionadail agus nàiseanta.

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“Tha e na amas don e-Sgoil frithealadh air iarrtasan bho sgoilearan, sgoiltean agus ùghdarrasan ionadail feuch am bi an aon chothrom aig daoine air cuspairean sa churraicealam agus thathar ag iarraidh dèanamh cinnteach gun gabh feum cho math is cho mòr 's a ghabhas a dhèanamh den luchd-obrach agus de na goireasan a th' ann airson foghlam Gàidhlig agus foghlam tron Ghàidhlig. Tha luchd-obrach bho Chomhairle nan Eilean Siar, Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd agus Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal is Bhòid ag obair còmhla agus comharrachadh dè tha a dhìth a thaobh a' churraicealaim, dè an luchd-obrach a th' againn agus dè na cothroman a th' ann airson leasachadh proifeiseanta leantainneach air an urrainn dhuinn obrachadh còmhla.

“Chan eil e fa-near dhuinn, le e-Sgoil, gum bi clasaichean air-loidhne a' dol an àite an deagh theagaisg a thathar a' faighinn san t-seòmar-theagaisg. 'S e an t-amas a th' againn gun toir sinn seirbheis seachad nuair nach eil tidsearan ann, agus gun cuir clasaichean e-Sgoile ris an fhoghlam a gheibh clann mu thràth. Tha sinn cuideachd a' cuideachadh sgoiltean ann a bhith a' gabhail gu dealasach ris an teicneòlas, air a bheil an òigridh againn cho eòlach mu thràth, gus taic a thoirt don fhoghlam a bheir iad seachad. Tha mi gu sònraichte toilichte gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig air ceann na h-ìomairt gus teicneòlas a chleachdadh san dòigh seo ann am foghlam.”

Thuir Stiùiriche Foghlam na Gàidhlig aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Mona Wilson, agus i a' cur meal-a-naidheachd air an sgioba airson am pròiseact a thoirt air adhart cho luath: “Tha sinn gu math riarachta leis mar a tha sinn, mu thràth, a' faicinn nam buannachdan a thig bho e-Sgoil airson sgoilearan, agus airson na Gàidhlig ann an Alba. Seo agaibh ceum mòr air adhart a thaobh a bhith leasachadh foghlam na Gàidhlig. Tha an Sgoil-lìonra seo a' toirt cothrom do sgoilearan is luchd-foghlaim na Gàidhlig agus don luchd-taice aca làn fheum a dhèanamh de theicneòlas gus na toraidhean a tha nam pàirt mòr den Churraicealam airson Sàr-mhathais a thoirt gu buil. Tha e cuideachd mar mheadhan gus barrachd feum a dhèanamh de luchd-teagaisg, agus iad a' toirt taic do chàch a chèile agus gabhaidh clàran-ama nas iomlaine a chruthachadh.

“Tha an e-Sgoil a' cur, gu luath agus gu h-èifeachdach, ris na cothroman a th' ann do luchd-ionnsachaidh, gu h-àraidh an fheadhainn a tha an sàs ann an cùrsaichean àrd-sgoile tron Ghàidhlig, agus 's e eisimpleir fìor mhath a th' ann de dh'obair chom-pàirteach eadar sgoiltean is ùghdarrasan ionadail agus iad ag obair còmhla a chum maith nan sgoilearan ann an sgìrean nan ùghdarrasan sin.

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“Tha e a’ toirt toileachas mòr do Bhòrd na Gàidhlig gun urrainn dhuinn taic a thoirt do dh’iomairt mar seo far a bheilear a’ dèanamh feum de theicneòlas gus cuideachadh le foghlam òigridh agus far a bheil sgoilearan air am brosnachadh nan cuid foghlaim tro mheasgachadh de dhòighean-ionnsachaidh a tha a’ cur ris an obair aca ann an cuspairean eile. Tha sinn a’ coimhead air adhart ri bhith ag obair gu dlùth còmhla ri sgioba a’ phròiseict seo fhad ’s a bhios e a’ fàs agus a’ tighinn air adhart sna mìosan is sna bliadhnaichean a tha air thoiseach oirnn.”

DEIREADH

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun bhrath-naidheachd seo cuiribh fios gu Steven MacÌomhair, Ceann Roinn a’ Chonaltraidh, Margaideachd is TF aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig, air post-d steven@gaidhlig.scot no air a’ fòn 07595763071.

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For immediate use

Gaelic and Technology Working Hand-in-hand Across Classrooms

Bòrd na Gàidhlig made an announcement earlier this year to invest £150,000 towards the establishment of e-Sgoil, an initiative that looks to access more curriculum subjects in Gaelic through online classes, across the Western Isles, and further afield.

While still in its infancy, the project has already had a positive effect on children currently in Gaelic education by enabling children to access classes through the medium of Gaelic that might not be available to them within their own school.

e-Sgoil classes are currently being provided to Hazlehead Academy in Aberdeen from a teacher based in Shawbost School on the Isle of Lewis. Following an initial face-to-face meeting with pupils, Mrs Cathy Mary MacMillan now delivers her lessons through a video conferencing package known as Vscene three days a week.

Angus MacLennan, Headteacher of e-Sgoil said: “The response from pupils, parents and staff involved in the Hazlehead pilot has been very positive indeed. This is also the case with regard to Higher Religious, Moral and Philosophical Education being delivered from The Nicolson Institute to Sir E Scott School, Harris, and fiddle lessons being taught on-line from Stornoway to Uig primary school. These examples are helping us to test the technology, establish protocols and identify training needs which will be of benefit when it comes to rolling out provision locally and nationally.

e-Sgoil’s aim is to respond to demand from pupils, schools and local authorities in order to provide equity in terms of curricular choice and ensuring that staff and resources can be utilised as effectively and efficiently as possible with regard to Gaelic and Gaelic-medium education. Staff from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Highland Region and Argyll and Bute are working together to identify curricular requirements, staff availability and continuous professional development opportunities which can be dealt with collaboratively.

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e-learning is not about replacing good classroom teaching. It is more a case of providing a service when teachers aren't available and adding value to what is already being delivered. It is also about helping schools to embrace the use of technology at which our young people are already so adept and harnessing it for educational purposes. Ensuring that Gaelic is in the vanguard of such developments is something that I'm particularly pleased about."

Bòrd na Gàidhlig Director of Gaelic Education, Mona Wilson said: "It is extremely reassuring to already see the positive effects the e-Sgoil project is having on the education of pupils, and also on the language within Scotland. It is a significant step in furthering developments in Gaelic education by creating a Virtual School which enables pupils, educators and their supporters to make the full use of technology to achieve the outcomes firmly embedded within the Curriculum for Excellence. It also provides a mechanism for using teaching staff more effectively, providing peer support and creating appropriate timetables.

The e-Sgoil is quickly and effectively enhancing opportunities for pupils, particularly those involved Gaelic-medium education secondary courses and it is also an excellent example of partnerships between schools and Local Authorities coming together for the benefit of education within their authorities.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is delighted to be able to support such an initiative where technology is aiding the education of the younger generation and where pupils are being stimulated by a blended learning approach which complements other studies. We look forward to a continued close working relationship with the project as it further grows and develops in the coming months and years."

ENDS

For further information on the contents of this news release please contact Steven MacIver, Head of Communications, Marketing & IT at Bòrd na Gàidhlig by e-mailing steven@gaidhlig.scot or phoning 07595763071.