

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig 2017-22

Freagairt Cholaiste a' Chaisteil UHI.

Freagairtan air Ceistean Bhòrd na Gàidhlig.

1. Tha cumadh a' Phlana rianail agus furasta a leantainn.
2. Bhiodh taic airson ìomhaigh na Gàidhlig a thogail ann an coimhearsnachdan far a bheil i fhathast air a bruidhinn gu làitheil feumail. A bheil taic ann do ghnìomhachasan beaga a tha airson Gàidhlig a chleachdadh san raon-obrach? A bheil taic ann do bhuidhnean coimhearsnachd a lùigeadh Gàidhlig a chleachdadh nan cuid sanasachd is eile?
3. Ged a tha am plana seo ag amas air foghlam Gàidhlig a leudachadh, bhiodh e feumail sùil cuideachd a thoirt air dè na cothroman a th' ann do dhaoine a tha a fileanta a thaobh bruidhinn na Gàidhlig, ach aig nach eil sgilean leughaidh no sgrìobhaidh. The seo a' fàgail na daoine as motha aig a bheil Gàidhlig labhairteach fileanta air an dì-mhisneachadh a thaobh an comasan cànan, agus a' lagachadh a' chànan aig a cheann thall.
4. Bhiodh barrachd taic do Ghàidhlig san dachaigh agus anns a' choimhearsnachd feumail. Taic do thachartasan làn-Ghàidhlig do chlann agus òigridh, far am feum Gàidhlig a bhith aca airson pàirt a ghabhail.
5. A bharrachd air obair leasachaidh, tha obair dhaingneachaidh a dhìth. The cus cuideam ga chur air leudachadh àireamhan, seach a bhith a' neartachadh freumhan. Tha am plana ag ainmeachadh na h-Eileanan an Iar mar an àite as làidire a thaobh Gàidhlig mar chànan coimhearsnachd, ach chan eil guth air Colaisde a' Chaisteil agus mar a dh' fhaodadh sinn a bhith a' frithealadh feumalachdan na coimhearsnachd sin. Chan ann a-mhàin a thaobh cànan a tha na coimhearsnachdan beò, agus le bhith a' toirt foghlam seachad ann an iomadh cuspair, tha LCC a' toirt cothrom do mhuinntir nan eilean fuireach sna coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig fhad 's a tha iad a' leantainn foghlam aig ìre colaiste agus ìre oilthigh. An b' urrainn do Bhòrd na Gàidhlig beachdachadh air sgeama a bheireadh taic do dh'oileanaich le Gàidhlig nach eil a' dèanamh cùrsaichean Gàidhlig, ach a tha a' leantainn cùrsaichean eile anns na sgìrean eileanach?
A' coimhead ri trèanadh luchd-teagasg, tha cus aire a-rithist ga thoirt air àireamhan seach comasan. Feumar dòigh a lorg a nì cinnteach gu bheil an luchd-teagasg a tha a' dol a-steach air beulaibh nan clasaichean Gàidhlig a cheart cho comasach 's a tha neach-teagasg tro mheadhan na Beurla.
A thaobh tràth-ionnsachadh, carson a dh' fheumas HNC Gnàthachadh Cloinne a chruthachadh? Chan e cùrsa ùr tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig a tha a dhìth an seo, ach cothrom a thoirt do dh' oileanaich aig a bheil Gàidhlig na sgilean cànan aca a leasachadh. Nach biodh leithid 'HNC Childhood Practice with Gaelic' na b' èifeachdaich a thaobh cosgaisean, agus a thaobh àireamhan? Dh' fhaodadh seo togail air eòlas a tha mar tha ri fhaotainn ann an colaistean leithid Colaisde a' Chaisteil a thaobh foghlam tràth-bhliadhnaichean agus Gàidhlig.

Response from Lews Castle College UHI.

Answers to Bòrd na Gàidhlig questions:

1. The Plan is well laid out and easy to follow.
2. Support for the image of Gaelic in the Gaelic-speaking communities would be useful. Is there support for small businesses which want to use Gaelic in the workplace? Is there support for community groups which would like to use Gaelic in their marketing and publicity?
3. Although the Plan aims to expand Gaelic education, it would be useful to explore the provision for fluent speakers who are unable to read or write Gaelic. This can lead to fluent speakers losing confidence in their language abilities, and therefore weakening the language as a whole in the long run.
4. More support for Gaelic in the home and in the community would be desirable. Support for Gaelic-only events for children and young people, where Gaelic language ability is essential.
5. As well as development work, more needs to be done on sustainability. Too much emphasis is being placed on increasing the numbers of Gaelic speakers, instead of embedding the language. The plan names the Western Isles as the place where Gaelic is strongest as a community language, but there is no mention of the role which Lews Castle College could play in servicing this community. The community will not survive on language skills alone, and Lews Castle College allows islanders to remain in the Gaelic-speaking communities while undertaking FE and HE level education. Could Bòrd na Gàidhlig consider a scheme which would allow Gaelic-speaking students who are not on Gaelic courses to pursue their studies in the islands?

Regarding teacher training, again too much emphasis is being placed on numbers over ability. We need to ensure that teachers in Gaelic-medium education are of the same academic standard as teachers in English-medium.

With Early Years education, we see no need for the creation of a Gaelic-medium version of HNC Childhood Practice. Instead, we would recommend giving students on the existing course an opportunity to improve their Gaelic skills. Would a qualification such as 'HNC Childhood Practice with Gaelic' not be more effective regarding costs and numbers? This could build on existing expertise regarding both Childcare and Gaelic, which is to be found in colleges such as Lews Castle College.