

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



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28th Gearran 2019
Ri sgaoileadh sa bhad

Thèid tachartas sònraichte mu dheidhinn Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig (FtG) a chumail ann am Peairt gus bruidhinn air adhartas le Foghlam Gàidhlig

Bidh mu 45 luchd-foghlaim bho air feadh Alba a' gabhail pàirt ann an tachartas fad-latha air Dihaoine 1 Màrt 2019 gus plana gnìomh ùr a dhealbh airson foghlam Gàidhlig ann an Alba.

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig, ann an co-bhuinn ri Foghlam Alba, Riaghaltas na h-Alba, agus Ùghdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba (SQA), air iarraidh air riochdairean bho ùghdarrasan ionadail, tidsearan nam measg, tighinn gu tachartas aig Ionad Cho-labhairtean Battleby ann am Peairt.

Cuideachd am measg nan daoine a bhios an làthair bidh riochdairean bho ionadan a bhios a' toirt seachad foghlam adhartach is àrd-ìre, agus riochdairean bho na sia sgoiltean Gàidhlig ann an Alba, a tha stèidhichte ann an Glaschu, Dùn Èideann, Inbhir Nis, Loch Abar agus Port Rìgh. Air an latha, bidh cothrom aig daoine pàirt a ghabhail ann an còmhraidhean mionaideach mu mar a ghabhas an Curraicealam FtG airson ÀS4-ÀS6 a dhealbh san ùine air thoiseach agus mu mar a ghabhas frithealadh air an leudachadh a tha a' tighinn air foghlam na Gàidhlig.

Air an latha – a thèid fhosgladh le facal bho Jim Whannel, Cathraiche Comataidh Ionnsachaidh Bhòrd na Gàidhlig – thèid bùithtean-obrach is pannalan-deasbaid a chumail, agus an lùib nan còmhraidhean sin bidh cothrom aig daoine cluinntinn bho na sgoiltean a tha a' dealbh is a' leasachadh nan àrd-ìrean den churraicealam àrd-sgoile aca.

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Aig a' cheann thall, 's e a tha san amharc leis an tachartas seo, plana gnìomh a dhealbh leis na ceumannan a thèid a ghabhail gus an curraicealam a thoirt air adhart. Bithear cuideachd a' toirt sùil air slighean dreuchdail do luchd-obrach a tha an sàs ann am foghlam tron Ghàidhlig.

Thuir Jim Whannel: “Tha e a' toirt toileachas mòr dhomh an tachartas sònraichte seo fhosgladh a bhios a' coimhead air an t-slighe air adhart airson Foghlam Àrd-sgoile FtG. Tha mi gu sònraichte toilichte agus tha e na adhbhar misneachd dhomh gu bheil e gu bhith mar phàirt cudromach den tachartas gum bi prìomh luchd-foghlaim a' cruinneachadh gus plana èifeachdach a dhealbh leis na ceumannan a tha a dhìth gus tuilleadh adhartais a dhèanamh. Tha e glè chudromach, ma tha a leithid a dh'adhartas gu bhith ann, gun iarrar comhairle is stiùireadh bho thidsearan is luchd-stiùiridh nan ùghdarrasan ionadail gus am plana ùr a chruthachadh.

“Tha Ministear na Gàidhlig, Iain Swinney BPA, air a bhith air ceann na h-iomairt, Adhartas nas Luaithe, a tha air buidhnean nàiseanta a thoirt còmhla airson tuilleadh adhartais a dhèanamh thar dhiofar raointean mar thaic dhan Ghàidhlig agus tha sinn a' dèanamh toileachas mòr ris an iomairt ùir seo airson FtG aig ìre na h-àrd-sgoil. Tha barrachd is barrachd phàrantan is daoine òga air feadh Alba a' togail ùidh ann am foghlam tron Ghàidhlig agus tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ri bhith a' leudachadh air an àireamh dhaoine ann am FtG aig ìre na h-àrd-sgoile, agus sinn a' dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil an seòrsa foghlaim sin a' cur ris an adhartas a tha sinn a' faicinn air feadh Roinn an Fhoghlaim ann an Alba.”

Thuir Gillian Chaimbeul-Thow, Cathraiche Lìonra nan Ùghdarrasan Ionadail Gàidhlig (LUIG): “Tha e gu h-àraidh freagarrach gu bheil an tachartas seo, a tha ag amas air cur ris an taghadh de chuspairean a gheibhear, ga chumail aig an aon àm 's a bhios Comataidh Foghlaim is Sgilean Pàrlamaid na h-Alba a' gabhail fianais air na roghainnean a gheibhear sa churraicealam a thaobh chuspairean. Bidh na còmhraidhean a bhios againn glè fheumail do dh'ùghdarrasan ionadail, gu h-àraidh air sàillibh gum bi A' Togail Feachd-obrach Òg mar phàirt de ghnothaichean an latha.”

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Thuir Jane Renton, Leas-Stiùiriche, Foghlam Alba: “Tha e na thoileachas dhuinn a bhith a’ gabhail pàirt sa cho-labhairt Dihaoine. Tha sinn a’ coimhead air adhart ri bhith a’ bruidhinn air mar a ghabhas na h-àrd-ìrean de dh’Fhoghlam tron Ghàidhlig a leasachadh feuch am faigh daoine òga buannachdan bho ionnsachadh ùidheil is brioghmhor thar gach taobh den churraicealam agus feuch an ruig iad na h-ìrean-coileanaidh as àirde as urrainn dhaibh.”

Thuir Raibeart Quinn, Ceann Theisteanas – Beurla, Nuadh-chànanan agus Gnothachas aig Ùghdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba: “Tha e fìor chudromach gum faigh sgoilearan, a fhuair foghlam tron Ghàidhlig air feadh an fhoghlaim fharsaing choitchinn aca sa bhun-sgoil agus sa chiad trì bliadhna san àrd-sgoil, làn chothrom air foghlam tron Ghàidhlig aig na h-àrd-ìrean – ÀS4 gu ÀS6. Às aonais leantailachd mar sin nan cuid foghlaim, cha tèid na sgilean cànan aca a dhaingneachadh mar a bu chòir. Tha an SQA a’ cur a làn thaic ri plana nàiseanta aonaichte a nì cinnteach gun tachair seo.”

DEIREADH

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Fiosrachadh don Luchd-deasachaidh

Thòisich Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig (FtG) ann an 1985 le dìreach 14 sgoilearan sa bhun-sgoil. A rèir nan àireamhan as ùire, tha 3,278 sgoilearan bun-sgoile ann am FtG, agus tha 5,607 uile-gu-lèir ann am FtG bho ìre nan tràth-bhliadhnaichean (sgoil-àraich) gu ìre na h-àrd-sgoile.

Tha sia sgoiltean Gàidhlig ann an Alba: ann an Glaschu, Dùn Èideann, Inbhir Nis, Loch Abar agus Port Rìgh. Sa [Phlana Cànan Nàiseanta Ghàidhlig 2018-23](#) tha e na amas gun tèid ceithir sgoiltean Gàidhlig ùra fhosgladh rè ùine a’ Phlana.

Chaidh a dhearbhadh gu bheil dà-chànanas a’ cur ri ìrean-coileanaidh san sgoil agus tha e a’ toirt tuigse do chloinn air mar a tha cànan ag obrachadh agus tha e nas fhasa do chloinn dhà-chànanach cànanan eile ionnsachadh. Bidh clann ann am Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig a’ dèanamh a cheart cho math no nas fheàrr na clann a thèid oideachadh ann an dìreach aon chànan, agus tha sin fìor mun a h-uile cuspair, Beurla nam measg.

Tha a’ Ghàidhlig a’ cur ri eaconamaidh na h-Alba mar a chaidh a shealltainn leis an sgrùdadh a rinn Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean (HIE) air [buaidh eaconamach na Gàidhlig](#).

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Chaidh [Achd na Gàidhlig \(Alba\) 2005 \(An Achd\)](#), aontachadh le Pàrlamaid na h-Alba le taic bho na partaidhean uile, agus e na amas dhan Achd inbhe na Gàidhlig a dhèanamh tèarainte mar chànan oifigeil ann an Alba a tha a' faighinn spèis a tha co-ionann ris an spèis a th' ann don Bheurla. Am measg diofar nithean, tha an [Achd](#) a' fàgail dleastanas air Bòrd na Gàidhlig gus Plana Cànan Nàiseanta Gàidhlig ullachadh agus a chur a-steach gu Ministearan na h-Alba. Tha seasamh laghail aig a' Phlana Nàiseanta sin, agus mar sin chan e dìreach liosta a th' ann de phrìomh amasan corporra.

Fo [Achd an Fhoghlaim \(Alba\) 2016](#) tha a' chòir aig pàrantan iarrtas a chur a-steach airson foghlam bun-sgoile tron Ghàidhlig don chuid chloinne.

'S iad prìomh amasan a' Phlana Cànan Nàiseanta Ghàidhlig:

- A' toirt fàs air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig
- A' toirt fàs air ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig
- A' cur deagh iomhaigh air adhart airson na Gàidhlig.

28th February 2019

For immediate release

Growth and development of Gaelic Education to be discussed at Special Gaelic Medium Education (GME) Event in Perth

Around 45 educators from across Scotland are set to take part in a special day-long event on Friday, 1st March 2019 to develop a new action plan for Gaelic education in Scotland.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig, in conjunction with Education Scotland, Scottish Government, and Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), has invited education representatives and teaching staff from local authorities to the Battleby Conference Centre in Perth.

Also present will be further education and higher education providers, and representatives from the six Gaelic schools in Scotland, based in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Inverness, Lochaber and Portree. The day will provide an opportunity to take part in in-depth discussions on shaping the future curriculum for GME in S4-S6 and also address the growth in Gaelic learning.

The day – which will be opened by Jim Whannel, chair of Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Learning Committee – will take the format of workshops and discussion panels, among which will be the chance to learn first-hand from schools developing their senior phase curriculum.

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Ultimately the aim of the event will be to develop an action plan laying out the next steps for developing the curriculum. It will also focus on career pathways for staff involved in Gaelic medium education.

Jim Whannel said: “I am delighted to open this special event focusing on the way forward for GME Secondary Education. I am particularly pleased that an encouraging aspect of the event is the gathering together of key practitioners to shape an effective strategy, which will deliver the next phase of development. Engaging teachers and local authority leadership teams in developing the new strategy will be a key factor in ensuring success.

Minister for Gaelic, John Swinney has led the setting up of the Faster Rate of Progress Initiative, which draws together national organisations around a set of themes supporting the Gaelic language and we look forward with excitement to this latest initiative focusing on the GME secondary sector. Gaelic medium education is of growing interest to parents and young people across Scotland and we look forward to widening the appeal of GME secondary, ensuring it is an integral part of the successes we are seeing across Scottish Education.”

Gillian Campbell-Thow, Chair of Gaelic Local Authorities’ Network (GLAN) said: “It is particularly appropriate that this event, which aims to increase subject choice, is taking place at the same time as the Education and Skills Committee of the Scottish Parliament is taking evidence on subject choices in the curriculum. Today’s discussions will be very useful for local authorities, particularly with the the inclusion of Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) agenda as part of the day.”

Jane Renton, Assistant Director, Education Scotland said: “We are pleased to be involved in Friday’s conference. We look forward to discussions on how the senior phase of Gaelic Medium Education can be enhanced to ensure young people benefit from stimulating learning experiences across all aspects of the curriculum and attain as highly as possible.”

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Robert Quinn, Head of Qualifications – English, Modern Languages and Business at the Scottish Qualifications Authority, said: “It is of vital importance that students who have experienced Gaelic-medium education throughout their broad general education in primary, and in the first three years of secondary school, are able to have full access to Gaelic-medium education in the Senior Phase – S4 through to S6. Without this continuum, the consolidation of their language skills will not be complete. SQA fully supports the development of a coherent national strategy to ensure that this happens.”

ENDS

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Notes to Editors

Gaelic medium education (GME) started in 1985 with only 14 primary school pupils. Latest figures show 3,278 pupils in GME at primary level, and 5,607 in total involved from early learning (nursery) to secondary.

There are six Gaelic schools in Scotland; in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Inverness, Lochaber and Portree. The [National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-23](#) states a target of four more new Gaelic schools to open during its lifetime.

Bilingualism has been demonstrated to increase attainment and enables children to understand how language works and can make it easier to learn other languages. Those in Gaelic Medium Education perform on a par or outperform those educated in one language in all subjects, including English.

Gaelic contributes to growth in the Scottish economy as demonstrated by Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) study on [economic impact](#).

The [Gaelic Language \(Scotland\) Act 2005 \(the Act\)](#), passed by the Scottish Parliament with cross-party support, sought to secure the status of Gaelic as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. Among other things, the [Act](#) requires Bòrd na Gàidhlig to prepare and submit to Scottish ministers a National Gaelic Language Plan. As such, the National Plan has legal status and is more than a list of corporate priorities.

The [Education \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#) gave parents the right to request Gaelic medium primary education.

The principal aims of the National Gaelic Language Plan are:

- Increasing the use of Gaelic
- Increasing the learning of Gaelic
- Promoting a positive image for Gaelic.

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