

## **Local Authority Website Information on GME.**

### **Advice on Best Practice for LA Officers.**

#### **Introduction**

The advice in this document will support Local Authority Officers as they renew the information they provide on Local Authority websites. The suggestions may expand on commitments in the local Gaelic Language Plan, providing practical examples of how information might be provided for the wider community. The delivery of best practice will furthermore ensure the Local authority builds a solid evidence base regarding responsibilities noted in the Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education.

#### [Education Scotland Act \(2016\)](#)

As you will be aware, the Education Scotland Act (2016) places a duty on Local Authorities to promote and support Gaelic medium education and learning and this is detailed in the [Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education](#). One way, Local Authorities can promote GME is via information provided on their website.

This current draft has been compiled by staff on the Education Team at Bòrd na Gàidhlig. We would like to thank the following who have supplied valuable feedback in compiling this advice:

Education Scotland  
North Ayrshire Council  
City of Glasgow Council  
Highland Council  
GLAN  
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## 1. Accessibility of Information

It is crucial that advice is easily accessible to parents in, or considering GME and to anyone in the local community who would like further information on the Council's efforts to promote Gaelic and Gaelic-medium Education. The following should be considered:

- a) Creation of a dedicated section in the Local Authority Website where all information relating to Gaelic and GME will be maintained.
- b) The main Council page has an easily accessible link to the section on Gaelic and GME.
- c) LA Officers have used feedback from a focus group of parents/ service-users to affirm that the links are accessible and the information appropriate.

## 2. Information on GME for Parents and Carers.

This section should focus on practical information regarding service delivery in the Local Authority and would contain the following:

- a) A general statement on GME service provision relating to Early Years, Primary and Secondary provision.
- b) Clear information on how parents/carers register for GME in Early Years and Primary. A clear statement on the services link and how transitions are organised (particularly between Primary and Secondary). This should also contain clear information on school catchment areas relating to GME provision.
- c) Clear information for parents on the process for submitting a request for GMPE via the Education Authority in line with the Statutory Guidance.
- d) A link to school websites where GME is located should be provided and a contact person or email address for further information. Parents/ Carers should be advised that the School Annual Improvement Plan and Standards and Quality Report would contain information on how the school is developing GME provision. In addition it would be useful to note that parents are encouraged to become actively involved with the Parent Council (and that further information on the Parent Council will be available from the school office).
- e) The Local Authority Officer with responsibility for GME should be identified and an email contact provided.
- f) Information on Transport to GME provision should be available.
- g) Information on the process for placing requests for GME.

## 3. Wider Community Developments relating to Gaelic and GME in the Local Authority.

This section will outline some wider contexts for parents/carers and ensure GME service-users are linked into other developments.

- a) A link to the Local Authority Gaelic Language Plan should be provided and



the contact email of the officer with overall responsibility for the plan's delivery.

- b) Additional information on 0-3 services, including Gaelic Playgroups.
- c) Linkage to any other Local Authority Gaelic-related services such as community groups and Gaelic learners' classes should be provided along with a contact email.
- d) Some brief information on the 1+2 delivery of Gaelic in English-medium Education should be provided along with Gaelic in the Modern Languages curriculum (in English-medium Secondary provision).

#### 4. National Contexts.

A series of links should be provided to enable service-users to access additional information and support from national initiatives and agencies. Each link should be accompanied with a very brief explanation e.g. Comann nam Pàrant: the national agency for parents and carers in GME.

Links to the following:

- a) [Comann nam Pàrant Nàiseanta](#)
- b) [Fèisean nan Gaidheal](#)
- c) [Comann na Gàidhlig](#)
- d) [Learn Gaelic](#)

Resource Agencies:

- a) [Stòrlann Nàiseanta](#) and specifically [Gaelic4parents](#)
- b) [Comhairle nan Leabhraichean](#) (bilingual newsletter)
- c) [Acair](#) – books in and about Gaelic

National Agencies:

- a) [Bòrd na Gàidhlig](#) and specifically the [National Gaelic Language Plan](#) and [Statutory Guidance](#) (+contact)
- b) [Education Scotland](#) and specifically Gaelic Education information (+contact)

Contact Information at [enquiries@education.scotland.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@education.scotland.gov.uk)

Further Information: <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone>

#### 5. The Scottish Government:

The Scottish Government also has an important role for Gaelic education, in shaping policy and programmes, in approving key documents and in providing funding.

The Scottish Government also has budgets which support Gaelic education and these include Gaelic education grants to authorities, Gaelic schools capital fund, funding for Stòrlann, Streap, Go Gaelic, FilmG and other programmes. Contact: [stuart.pescodd@gov.scot](mailto:stuart.pescodd@gov.scot)



## Further Information on GME and Bilingual education.

This section will include links to research organisations where parents and carers can access the latest information.

- a) [Link to Bilingualism Matters.](#)
- b) [Highland Council GME video.](#)
- c) [Visit Scotland – Gaelic explained video.](#)



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