

<p>Co-chomhairle air Bile Ciorraman Ionnsachaidh, Òtasam agus Niùro Eug-samhlachd</p> <p>Freagairt bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig</p> <p>21 An Giblean 2023</p>	<p>Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill Consultation</p> <p>Response by Bòrd na Gàidhlig</p> <p>21 April 2023</p>
<p>Mar fhreagairt dhan cho-chomhairle gu h-àrd tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig air an aithris a leanas ullachadh anns a bheil iomraidhean air earrannan iomchaidh den fhoirm freagairt co-chomhairle agus a tha a’ gabhail a-steach cuspairean farsaing a bheir buaidh air Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig.</p> <p><u>Facal-toisich</u></p> <p>Mar a tha fìor leis a h-uile co-chomhairleachadh co-cheangailte ri foghlam ann an Alba tha e ro-chudromach gum bi molaidhean sam bith a’ sealltainn gu bheil mothachail gu bheil foghlam ann an Alba air a thoirt seachad tron Bheurla no tron Ghàidhlig. Tha mòran de na h-ùghdarrasan ionadail a’ toirt seachad foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig de sheòrsa air choreigin a-nis tro sholar airson roinnean Tràth-bhliadhnaichean, Bun-sgoil agus Àrd-sgoil. Bidh e cudromach meòrachadh air mar a dh’fhaodadh na molaidhean buaidh a thoirt an dà chuid air sgoilearan tro mheadhan na Beurla agus tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig le mothachadh nach eil Gàidhlig mar a’ chiad chànan aig a’ mhòr-chuid de chloinn is dhaoine òga ann am FtG agus gu bheil iad air fileantachd fhaighinn sa Ghàidhlig tro fhoghlam bogaidh.</p> <p><u>Earrann a h-Aon: Cuspairean Farsaing</u></p> <p>Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig air na prìomh nithean a leanas a chomharrachadh san Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh:</p> <p>a) Tha e ro-chudromach gum bi a h-uile moladh co-cheangailte ri foghlam gu tur co-chòrdail ris a’ phrionnsapal gu bheil foghlaim ann an Alba ga lìbhrigeadh ann an dà chànan, an dàrna cuid tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig no tro mheadhan na Beurla. A thaobh feumalachdan taic a bharrachd agus feumalachdan sònraichte aig clann is daoine òga niùro eug-samhlach tha farsaingeachd de cheistean</p>	<p>In response to the above consultation Bòrd na Gàidhlig has prepared the following statement which includes references to appropriate sections of the consultation response form and includes over-arching themes which impact on Gaelic Medium Education.</p> <p><u>Introduction</u></p> <p>As with all consultations relating to education in Scotland it is essential that any proposals evidence awareness that education in Scotland is provided through either English or Gaelic. Many local authorities now provide some form of Gaelic Medium Education (GME) via provision for Early Years, Primary and Secondary sectors. It will be important to reflect on how proposals may impact on both English Medium and Gaelic Medium pupils with an awareness that the majority of children and young people in GME do not have Gaelic as their first language and have acquired Gaelic fluency through immersion education.</p> <p><u>Section One: Over-arching Themes</u></p> <p>Bòrd na Gàidhlig has identified the following key aspects in relation to GME on reviewing the Consultation Document:</p> <p>a) It is crucial that all proposals relating to education are fully consistent with the provision of education in Scotland being delivered in two languages, either through the medium of Gaelic or through the medium of English. In relation to additional support needs and the specific needs of neurodivergent children and young people</p>

sònraichte co-cheangailte ri foghlam bogaidh agus dà-chànanas air am bu chòir iomradh a thoirt airson gach moladh. Is urrainn Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus buidhnean eile leithid Stòrlann agus Foghlam Alba taic-airgid a thoirt seachad gus taic a chumail ri in-ghabhail an dà chuid a thaobh solar tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig agus Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Beurla (FtG).

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' moladh cho làirsinneach 's a tha nàdar na Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh agus an aithris air td23:

“tha a h-uile duine a tha a’ toirt seachad taic no seirbheisean, leithid cùram slàinte, foghlam agus cùram, ... soilleir mu na dleastanasan aca fon Bhile agus mu cò dha a tha seo a’ buntainn”.

Tha e ro-chudromach gum bi seo follaiseach airson gach cuid roinnean FtG agus FtB. Gach turas a bhios molaidhean ann gum bi dleastanasan ùra air Ùghdarrasan Ionadail a thaobh libhrigeadh foghlaim, tha e cudromach gum bi fianais ann gu bheil buaidh gach cuid air na roinnean FtG agus FtB (m.e. am moladh anns an Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh gum bi Ùghdarrasan Foghlaim a’ coimhead gu sònraichte air clann agus daoine òga a tha niùro eug-samhlach ann an Aithisg Bhliadhnail nan Seirbheisean Cloinne).

Anns an earrainn mun ghluasad gu inbheachd tha e feumail beachdachadh a bharrachd a dhèanamh air feumalachdan dhaoine òga bhon t-siostam FtG a tha a’ dol nan inbheach gus am faigh inbhich òga le Gàidhlig/Beurla làn thaic sa choimhearsnachd.

- b) Ann a bhith a’ cruthachadh bhuidhnean lèirmheis agus a’ stèidheachadh lìonraidhean co-chomhairleachaidh bu chòir an dà chuid na roinnean tron Ghàidhlig agus tron Bheurla a bhith daonnan air an gabhail a-steach. Tha seo a’ gabhail a-steach com-pàirteachadh proifeiseanta agus beachdan bho chloinn is dhaoine òga agus an teaghlaichean. A bharrachd air Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus na buidhnean a chaidh ainmeachadh san earrainn mu dheireadh, faodaidh Comann nam Pàrant taic a bharrachd a thoirt seachad às leth phàrantan is theaghlaichean ann an roinn FtG. Chan eil e soilleir an deach an dà chuid FtG agus FtB a ghabhail a-steach anns na Pannalan Luchd-ùidh agus Luchd-cleachdaidh

there are a range of specific issues relating to immersion education and bilingualism which should always be referenced across all proposals. Bòrd na Gàidhlig and other organisations such as Stòrlann and Education Scotland can provide input to support inclusion of both Gaelic Medium and English Medium (EME) provision.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig firmly supports the visionary nature of the Consultation Document and the statement on p23:

“everyone providing support or services, such as healthcare, education and care, ... are clear about their duties under the Bill and who this applies to”.

It is vital that this clarity is evident for both the GME and EME sectors. Wherever there may be proposals that new duties are undertaken by Local Authorities in their delivery of education, it is important that there is an evidenced impact on both the GME and EME sectors (e.g. the proposal in the Consultation Document that Education Authorities include specific consideration of neurodivergent children and young people in the Children’s Services Annual Report).

In the section around transitions to adulthood it will be useful to reflect further on the needs of young people from the GME system entering adulthood so that young Gaelic / English bilingual adults are fully supported in the community.

- b) In constructing review groups and establishing networks for consultation both the Gaelic Medium and English Medium sectors should always be included. This includes professional input and input from children and young people and their families. In addition to Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the organisations noted in the previous section, Comann nam Pàrant can provide additional input on behalf of parents and families in the GME sector. It is unclear if both GME and EME have been included in the Stakeholder



<p>air a bheilear a’ toirt iomradh air td2 den Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh.</p> <p>c) Thathar a’ toirt iomradh air raon farsaing de chùisean trèanaidh agus CLPL air feadh na Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh. Am measg nan cuspairean air a bheilear a’ bruidhinn tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a’ toirt fa-near do na leanas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tha iomradh air Frèam Trèanaidh Òtasam air td32. Chan eil e soilleir dè an taic a tha san Fhrèam Trèanaidh a thaobh FtG, dà-chànanas agus foghlam bogaidh. • Tha comhairle choitcheann anns an Fhrèam Nàiseanta airson In-ghabhail ach bhiodh fiosrachadh sònraichte co-cheangailte ri FtG, foghlam bogaidh agus luchd-ionnsachaidh dà-chànanach na bhuannachd. • Thathar a’ toirt iomradh air ITE thairis air diofar earrannan den Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh agus tha e air a chomharrachadh mar eileamaid a dh’fhaodadh a bhith riatanach air td163 den Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh. Tha e cudromach gum bi a h-uile moladh co-cheangailte ri ITE a’ gabhail a-steach solar ITE airson an dà chuid FtG agus FtB. Le susbaint sònraichte ann an cùrsaichean ITE do FtG a thaobh clann is daoine òga niùro eug-samhlach, dà-chànanas agus foghlam bogaidh nithear cinnteach gum faigh tidsearan FtG barrachd gnàth-eòlais ann a bhith a’ toirt taic do chloinn is do dhaoine òga air fad. • Bu chòir do mholaidhean trèanaidh is ghoireasan a thaobh Dhàimhean agus Slàinte Feise a bhith a’ gabhail a-steach an dà chuid solar FtG agus FtB (gu sònraichte a thaobh goireasan). <p>d) Tha cruinneachadh dàta air a chomharrachadh mar chuspair cudromach air feadh na h-aithisg cuideachd. Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a’ moladh gum bi an dàta uile a chruinnichear a’ gabhail a-steach dàta an dà chuid mu roinnean FtG agus FtG gus taic a chumail ri planadh ro-innleachdail iomchaidh. Rinneadh rannsachadh air Feumalachdan Taic a Bharrachd ann am FtG* ach bidh e cudromach leantainn air adhart le ùrachadh dàta co-cheangailte ri roinn FtG. Thathar a’ coimhead air cruinneachadh dàta co-cheangailte ri Foghlam air td163/164 den Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh</p>	<p>and Practitioner Panels noted on p2 of the Consultation Document.</p> <p>c) A wide range of training and CLPL issues are referenced across the Consultation Document. Amongst the issues Bòrd na Gàidhlig notes are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Autism Training Framework is noted on p32. It is unclear what input there is in the Training Framework regarding GME, bilingualism and immersion education. • The National Framework for Inclusion contains generic advice but particular input relating to GME, immersion education and bilingual learners would be beneficial. • ITE provision is noted across various sections of the Consultation Document and highlighted as a possible mandatory element on p163 of the Consultation Document. It will be important that all recommendations relating to ITE include ITE provision for both GME and EME. Particular input into GME ITE courses relating to neurodivergent children and young people, and bilingualism and immersion education will ensure that GME teachers develop greater expertise in supporting all children and young people. • Training and resourcing proposals around Relationships and Sexual Health should also include both GME and EME provision (in particular in relation to resources). <p>d) Data collection is also identified as an issue across the report. Bòrd na Gàidhlig recommends that all data collection provides information on both the GME and EME sectors to support appropriate strategic planning. Research has been conducted on Additional Support Needs in GME* but it will be important to continue to update data relating to the GME sector. Data collection relating to Education is explored on p163/164 of the Consultation Document and Bòrd na</p>
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agus tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' toirt làn thaic do na molaidhean farsaing leis a' chumha gum bu chòir na molaidhean a libhrigeadh an dà chuid airson solar FtG agus FtB (a' gabhail a-steach dàta a chaidh a chruinneachadh mu chomas-cosnaidh mar a chaidh a chomharrachadh air td43 den Sgrìobhainn Co-chomhairleachaidh).

A bharrachd air sin, bu chòir trèanadh do luchd-obrach agus ro-innleachdan in-ghabhail didseatach buaidh a thoirt air solar FtG agus FtB.

- e) Tha roinn Tràth-ionnsachadh agus Cùram-chloinne na àite inntigridh cudromach do FtG, a' toirt seachad bogadh deatamach dhan chuid mhòr den chloinn a tha a' togail dà-chànanas sa Gàidhlig agus sa Bheurla agus tha e a' toirt cothrom do chloinn aig a bheil Gàidhlig mar a' chiad chànan aca foghlam tràth-bhliadhnaichean fhaighinn sa chànan mhàthaireil aca. Bu chòir a h-uile moladh co-cheangailte ri taic a bharrachd a bhith co-chòrdail ri amasan foghlam bogaidh agus fianais gun deach beachdachadh air taic a thoirt do chloinn ann an Tràth-ionnsachadh is Cùram-chloinne tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Bu chòir dhan obair a tha Comhairle Seirbheisean Sòisealta na h-Alba a' dèanamh air na h-Inbhean Dreuchdail Nàiseanta a bhith a' gabhail a-steach fiosrachadh mu sholar FtG agus ro-innleachdan bogaidh. (Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig air an Stiùireadh Tràth-ionnsachadh is Cùram-chloinne tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig ullachadh** a tha a' co-thaobhadh ris an Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Tràth-ionnsachadh agus Cùram-chloinne a dh'fhoillsich Riaghaltas na h-Alba san Iuchar 2021.)

* Feuman Taice A Bharrachd ann am FtG

** Stiùireadh Tràth-ionnsachadh is Cùram-chloinne

Gàidhlig fully supports the broad proposals with the proviso that recommendations are delivered for both GME and EME provision (including data collected around employability as noted on p 43 of the Consultation Document).

In addition, training for staff and digital inclusion strategies should impact on both GME and EME provision.

- e) The Early Learning and Childcare sector is an important entry point into GME providing crucial immersion experience for a large proportion of children developing Gaelic and English bilingualism and enables children who may have Gaelic as their first language to receive early years education in their mother tongue. All proposals relating to additional support should be consistent with the aims of immersion education and evidence that consideration has been given to supporting children in Gaelic-medium ELC. The work being undertaken by the Scottish Social Services Council on the National Occupation Standards should include input on GME provision and immersion strategies. (Bòrd na Gàidhlig has produced Gaelic Medium ELC Guidance** which sits alongside the Early Learning and Childcare Statutory Guidance issued by the Scottish Government in July 2021).

* Additional Support Needs in GME, Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

** GM ELC Guidance

