

**Bile Sgoiltean (Foghlam air Còmhnaidh a-muigh)  
(Alba)**

**Freagairt bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig  
04/09/2024**

**Schools (Residential Outdoor Education)  
(Scotland) Bill**

**Response by Bòrd na Gàidhlig  
04/09/2024**

- 1. Do you agree that every local authority school pupil and pupils in grant-aided schools should have the opportunity to attend a course of residential outdoor education? If so, what are your views on the Bill's proposal that this consists of four overnight stays and five days, not necessarily consecutive?**

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig ag aontachadh leis na molaidhean seo. Bòrd na Gàidhlig agree with these proposals.

- 2. The Bill does not stipulate what pupils should be entitled to this residential outdoor education as this will be set out in guidance, although the member's preference is that this should apply to all pupils between P6 and S4. What are your thoughts on the stage at which pupils should be entitled to this residential outdoor education? Do you think this should be set in guidance or should it be on the face of the Bill?**

Tha sinn a' cur fàilte air a' mholadh gum bu chòir foghlam còmhnaidh a bhith na chòir do sgoilearan uile eadar BS6 is AS4.

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' moladh gum bu chòir aithne bhunaiteach a bhith anns a h-uile gnìomh a thaobh Ath-leasachadh Foghlaim gu bheil foghlam ann an Alba air a libhrigeadh tro mheadhan na Beurla no tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig.

Ann am Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig (FtG), tha e ro-chudromach gum bi cothroman practaigeach ann gus an cànan a chleachdadh. Bheir cothrom air farsaingeachd de ghnìomhan a-muigh cothrom do chloinn agus do dhaoine òga gus an cuid sgìlean Gàidhlig a chleachdadh ann an suidheachaidhean sòisealta le bhith a' toirt a' chànan a-mach às an t-seòmar-sgoile. Mar as luaithe a gheibhear na cothroman sin 's ann as fheàrr a chuidicheas iad le bhith a' leasachadh misneachd agus sgìlean cànan. Tha ullachadh ro phrìomh ìrean gluasaid leithid BS7 gu ÀS1 agus mus taghar cuspairean air leth cudromach airson FtG. Ma bhios cothrom air gnìomhan matha, fìor-bheatha aig clann tron Ghàidhlig, dh'fhaodte gun cùm seo taic ri gluasad a-steach gu Foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig aig ìre na h-Àrd-sgoile.

We welcome the suggestion that residential education should be an entitlement to all between P6-S4.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig advocates that there is a fundamental recognition in all Education Reform activity that in Scotland education is delivered either through the medium of English or through the medium of Gaelic.

In Gaelic medium Education (GME), practical experiences to use the language are essential. Access to a range of outdoor experiences can enable children and young people to use their Gaelic language skills in social settings by taking the language out of the classroom. The sooner these opportunities are provided the better to help develop confidence and language skills. Provision prior to key transition stages such as P7 into S1 and prior to making subject choices are of particular importance for GME. Having positive, real-life experiences using Gaelic could influence and support transition into Gaelic-medium education at Secondary level.

**3. The Bill requires the Scottish Government to provide funding for the provision of residential outdoor education. What do you think about this measure?**

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' cur fàilte air a' cheum seo agus mholadh iad gum biodh e mar riatanas air ùghdarrasan ionadail a tha a' toirt seachad FtG an t-airgead seo a chleachdadh gus solar fhaighinn a tha iomchaidh dhaibhsan ann am FtG.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig welcome this measure and would suggest that there is a requirement for LAs who provide GME to use these funds to secure provision suitable for those in GME.

**4. Any other comments**

Ged a tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig toilichte fhaicinn gu bheil foghlam còmhnaidh a-muigh sa Ghàidhlig air aithneachadh anns a' Bhile Foghlaim A-muigh ann an earrann 6B, chan eil comharra sam bith ann gu bheil am Bile a' toirt seachad ullachadh airson foghlam Beurla agus Gàidhlig.

While Bòrd na Gàidhlig is pleased to see the acknowledgement of residential outdoor education in Gaelic in the Outdoor Education Bill in section 6B, there is no indication that the Bill provides for both English and Gaelic education.

Tha sinn a' moladh gum bu chòir am Bile a neartachadh barrachd le bhith a' toirt iomradh sònraichte air foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig ann an Earrann 6A agus mar sin ag aithneachadh an t-suidheachaidh gu bheil foghlam ann an Alba air a libhrigeadh tro dhà chànan – Beurla agus Gàidhlig.

We recommend that the Bill should be further strengthened by making specific reference to Gaelic medium education in Section 6A thus reflecting the reality that education in Scotland is delivered through two languages – English and Gaelic.

Mholamaid na leanas:

We suggest the following:

(3) Airson adhbharan na h-earrainn seo, tha “aon chùrsa de fhoghlam còmhnaidh a-muigh” a' ciallachadh cùrsa foghlaim a tha—

(3) For the purposes of this section, “one course of residential outdoor education” means a course of education that—

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(d) air a libhrigeadh an dàrna cuid tro mheadhan na Beurla no na Gàidhlig a rèir meadhan teagaisg an sgoileir san sgoil.

(d) is delivered either through the medium of English or Gaelic depending on the pupil's medium of instruction in school.