

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2010

GAELIC MEDIUM EDUCATION UPDATE REPORT

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide a report to Governance & Scrutiny Committee on the costs and benefits of Gaelic medium Education provision by East Ayrshire Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Since 1996 East Ayrshire Council has supported the provision of Gaelic Medium Education. The context for such support stemmed from the previous Scottish Executive National Priority 3 which was: 'To promote equality and help every pupil benefit from education, with particular regard paid to pupils with disabilities and special educational needs and to Gaelic and other lesser used languages'. The Education Committee on 17th September 2002 approved a strategy for Gaelic Education which set out the model for the provision which still exists at present. Appendix A of this report has a copy of the strategy agreed at that time.
- 2.2 In 2005 the Scottish Parliament passed the Gaelic Language Scotland Act. Among other provisions the Act established the Bòrd na Gàidhlig (Gaelic Board) and required the Bòrd to publish within one year a draft plan for the development of Gaelic in Scotland.
- 2.3 A draft Gaelic national plan was issued in September 2006 and the Education Committee on 7 November 2007 responded positively to this, accepting the proposals as outlined in the national plan. The Scottish Government issued a consultation on the final Gaelic Plan in 2009 for the period 2009-2012. The Gaelic Plan outlines the measures which the government has put in place to support the promotion of Gaelic throughout Scotland.

3. PRESENT POSITION

- 3.1 Currently, there is a Gaelic medium presence in every sector of East Ayrshire's education service. There is a 'Mothers and Toddlers' provision at Mount Carmel Primary School and facilities at Onthank primary school are designated for nursery and primary aged provision. Grange Academy is responsible for secondary provision while adult services are managed through Community Learning and Development. In addition other schools may make some less formal provision for Gaelic education depending upon the interest of staff.
- 3.2 In Onthank primary School the present roll of pupils studying through the medium of Gaelic is as follows:

- Nursery: 11
- P1 – 10 pupils
- P2/3 – 10 pupils overall (P2 – 4, P3 – 6)
- P4/7 – 11 pupils overall (P4 – 5, P5 – 4, P6 – 1, P7 – 1)

3.3 In Grange Academy in session 2009-2010, 15 pupils are taught geography, personal and social development and religious education in Gaelic and this is also the language used in their registration class.

4. PER CAPITA COSTS FOR PUPIL STUDYING THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF GAELIC

4.1 The table below outlines the per capita costs of Gaelic Medium provision in East Ayrshire Council. This allocation for the Gaelic Unit below includes a sum set aside of £36,860 for transport costs which may not be incurred depending upon how many pupils actually reside in the catchment area.

4.2 In terms of the nursery provision, Muirkirk nursery was chosen for comparison with the Gaelic nursery provision as it represents the average cost of a nursery provision in East Ayrshire. In relation to primary provision, Littlemill Primary school was selected as its roll is closest to the Gaelic Unit, while New Farm Primary school was selected as it represents the average cost of a primary school in East Ayrshire. Onthank primary school mainstream costs have also been added for the sake of completeness. It should also be noted that the transport costs for the non-Gaelic Primaries are not included in the cost below.

4.3 The secondary school costs are allocated as additional to the school formula. The cost in the table can be broken down as follows: £43,338 salary; £22,230 pupil transport; £3078 materials; £462 teacher CPD; £40 teacher travel and £382 cover (school funded). This aggregates to a cost per pupil of £3153 per pupil. The costs per pupil for a 'non Gaelic' student at Grange Academy is £3140

Provision	Pupil Roll	Budget 2009/2010	Cost per pupil	Points to note
Gaelic Nursery Class	11	£53,335	£4,849	
Muirkirk Nursery Class	20	£61,770	£3,088	To achieve a relevant comparison budgets have been removed which are appropriate for Muirkirk NC but not Gaelic NC e.g. energy
Gaelic Primary	32	£220,032	£6,876	
Littlemill PS	27	£165,282	£6,122	Littlemill PS is displayed as the roll is closest to that of the Gaelic Unit. To achieve a relevant comparison budgets have been removed which are appropriate for Littlemill PS but not the Gaelic Unit. E.g. energy and other property costs
New Farm PS	226	£673,100	£2,978	New Farm PS is displayed as this is an average size PS in East Ayrshire. To achieve a relevant comparison budgets have been removed which are appropriate for New Farm PS but not Gaelic Unit. E.g. energy and other property costs.
Onthank Primary School	526	£1,985,124	£3774	Onthank PS is described as it is the base for the Gaelic provision.
Gaelic Secondary Grange	15	£47,300	£3153	All costs are additional as pupils are budgeted for within Grange Academy. This does not include transport costs of £22,230
Mainstream provision Grange Academy	1172	£3,681,119	£3140	

5. COMPARISON OF GAELIC PROVISION IN OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

- 5.1 Twelve local authorities including East Ayrshire have in place provision for the teaching of Gaelic medium education while seven have provision in place for secondary education. The twelve include: Aberdeen City, Angus, Argyll and Bute, Edinburgh, Highland, Inverclyde, Glasgow, Orkney and Shetland, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and the Western Isles. The seven who alongside East Ayrshire provide secondary education include: Aberdeen City, Argyll & Bute, North Lanarkshire, Glasgow City, Highland and the Western Isles.

6. COMPARISON OF THE COST OF TEACHING GAELIC MEDIUM EDUCATION AND A MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN EAST AYRSHIRE.

- 6.1 There is no additional cost, above the cost of staffing a school based on roll, of teaching a modern foreign language in nursery or primary school as the class teachers, depending upon their interest and aptitude, deliver either French or German as part of the general curriculum. In secondary schools, Head Teachers are allocated a staffing allocation determined by a roll based formula and they employ modern foreign language teachers calculated on the need generated by the subject curriculum and uptake in SQA courses and programmes. Modern Language teachers recruited are part of the normal staffing calculation and not employed additionally, as in the case of Gaelic Medium Education, to teach the subject. It is therefore not possible to give accurate comparative costs of teaching Gaelic Medium Education against a Modern Foreign Language, other than to note that the cost of the latter is included in the £3140 cost per pupil in Grange Academy.

7. POST SCHOOL GAELIC PROVISION MANAGED BY COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

- 7.1 Community Learning and Development (CLAD) started providing community based Gaelic Classes throughout East Ayrshire in 1996. In 2008/09 classes ran in Kilmarnock, Crosshouse, Cumnock, Onthank and Waterside with a total of 63 learners participating. These classes are supported by 3 part-time sessional Gaelic tutors working between 2.5 and 6 hours a week and a part time Community Learning tutor for Gaelic, working 12 hours a week. In 2009/10 the cost of this service was £14, 210.
- 7.2 Within the service, there is a Gaelic development group, consisting of the Gaelic Community Learning Tutor, 3 Community Workers (1 representative from each area team) and a Senior Practitioner. This group supports the development of Gaelic learning across the authority, provides support to part-time tutors and organises Gaelic events. These events include a Gaelic Burns Supper and a Conversation/cultural day, which take place on an annual basis. In session 2008/2009, 54 learners attended the Burns Supper and 59 attended the conversation/cultural event. The Conversation/Cultural Day is open to Gaelic learners from other Local Authorities.

7.3 In 2009, CLAD staff set up a Gaelic Forum to support Gaelic learning in East Ayrshire. Over the summer months, a group of learners who had identified an interest in serving on the committee worked on establishing a constitution and undertook committee skills training. In November 2009 the first AGM was held, a constitution ratified and a committee elected. The forum committee meets on a 4-6 week basis and organises four events throughout the year for the wider forum members. At present, there are 25 members of the forum, which is open to anyone interested in Gaelic across Ayrshire. The first event organised by the forum, with support from CLD staff, was the Gaelic Burns supper held in Mauchline community centre on January 27th, at which 51 people were in attendance.

7.4 The Senior Practitioner with responsibility for Gaelic sits on the Community Learning and Development Review group, which meets 4 times a year and provides training for tutors, national events for learners of all ages and provides a means of information sharing and support.

8. IMPACT OF THE TEACHING OF GAELIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS ON THE USE OF GAELIC LANGUAGE IN THE COMMUNITY POST SCHOOL.

8.1 It is not possible, at this stage, to make an objective analysis of the direct impact of the teaching of Gaelic in schools on the use of the Gaelic language in the community as pupils who embarked on the provision of Gaelic, at its inception in nursery, are still in the education system. It can be reported that there is an active Gaelic Medium Parent Association and the majority of parents who send their children to Gaelic Medium Education are themselves non- Gaelic speakers.

9. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The present policy for Gaelic Medium Education fulfils the expectations of the Standards in Scotland's schools etc Act 2000, the 2005 Gaelic language (Scotland) Act and the Gaelic National Plan.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Gaelic provision at its inception was specifically funded by the Scottish Government under specific grant arrangements. The standard conditions for the Gaelic grant assumed that three years after each phase of provision had been established funding would be mainlined within the Authority budget. More than three years has elapsed on each of the phases of provision and funding is now allocated as part of the overall budget allocated to the Department of Educational and Social Services.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members:

- (i) Note the model of delivery of Gaelic Medium Education in East Ayrshire

Members requiring further information should contact Andrew Sutherland, Head of Schools, (01563-576089).

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Education Committee on 17th September 2002 on a strategy for Gaelic Education.
2. Education Committee Report 7 November 2007 approving the Gaelic National plan
3. East Ayrshire Council: Gaelic Education: A Strategy attached as Annexe A of the report.

Implementation Officer: Andrew Sutherland

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Department of Educational & Social Services

GAELIC EDUCATION: A STRATEGY

1. RATIONALE

- 1.1** As one of Scotland's indigenous languages, Gaelic occupies a special place in the daily life and culture of Scotland's people. It is a language whose rebirth has been recognised by its inclusion in Scotland's National Priorities in Education and by the establishment of the Bòrd Ghàidhlig. It is an expectation that Gaelic will be supported by local authorities.
- 1.2** Gaelic education has enjoyed the support of East Ayrshire Council since local government reorganisation in 1996, when an undertaking was first made to meet the needs of Gaelic speakers and those with an interest in the Gaelic language.
- 1.3** The authority endorses the Scottish Executive's view that: "Gaelic is an important part of Scotland's heritage, that Gaelic Medium education is crucial to the survival of Gaelic as a living language and that Gaelic Medium education has beyond doubt proved capable of delivering good quality education."

2. CONTEXT

- 2.1** The Gaelic Education (Scotland) Regulations 1986 were introduced in response to the recommendations of the Montgomery Report 1984. A Scheme of Specific Grants for Gaelic Education was established to assist new developments in Gaelic education provision. Gaelic Specific Grant is awarded in respect of expenditure to be incurred for purposes approved by Scottish Ministers in, or in conjunction with, the teaching of the Gaelic language or the teaching of other subjects through Gaelic.
- 2.2** Grant funding is paid at a level of 75% of approved project costs. Acceptance of the grant legally obliges authorities to enhance the Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED) contribution by 25%. Local authorities accessing Gaelic Specific Grant are expected to plan for the assimilation of the costs of Gaelic development in their mainstream budgets after a maximum of five years of notional support.
- 2.3** In 1998 a new Gaelic pre-school education grant was introduced for 3- or 4-year-olds in addition to the main SEED sources of pre-school funding. Only pre-school centres that are registered with The Scottish Executive Education Department for the purposes of Part II of the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 are eligible to receive Gaelic pre-school education grants.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 It is the expectation of speakers of Gaelic that:

- they will enjoy continuity through the education system on the same basis as any learner in English-language education
- their experience of Gaelic education will be lifelong
- they will enjoy the same high level of support from high-quality resources, Information Communications Technology and school and authority education personnel
- they will be consulted regularly on their needs as Gaelic-speakers through the local branch of Comann nam Pàrant, CNAG* and other organisations representing speakers of Gaelic
- they will be encouraged to be self-determining and creative in language and cultural developments in support of Gaelic

* a glossary of Gaelic organisations referred to in this document is provided as Appendix 1.

3.2 In particular, parents have an expectation that Authorities will:

- be responsive to the needs of parents accessing Gaelic education for their children;
- make appropriate provision for Gaelic Medium children with special educational needs;
- place continuing priority on the development and training of all staff working within the Gaelic sectors;

3.3 The Scottish Office Education Department Gaelic 5-14 Guidelines (1993) define the four broad aims of Gaelic learning and teaching. The document states that schools should:

- develop pupils' Gaelic language skills and knowledge so that they can fully realise their ability to understand Gaelic and use it accurately;
- support pupils' personal development through Gaelic and its literature and culture, including intellectual, emotional, aesthetic and moral development;
- develop in all pupils a range of positive attitudes towards their own and others' Gaelic development including concern for tolerance, enjoyment, co-operation and sharing;
- develop inter-relationships with the Gaelic community.

4. SUPPORT FRAMEWORK

4.1 East Ayrshire Council's support for Gaelic is described in the following publications:

- Gaelic Medium Education in East Ayrshire: Gaelic Classes
- Gaelic Medium Education in East Ayrshire: Nursery Classes
- Gaelic Medium Education in East Ayrshire: Secondary Classes (in preparation)
- Gaelic for Learners in Primary School (in preparation)
- Gaelic for Adult Learners (in preparation)

- 4.2** A number of key publications exist which will be of use to officers and heads of establishment in interpreting the needs of the Gaelic community:
- A Fresh Start for Gaelic - the Meek Report (Scottish Executive 2002)
 - National Priorities in Education – Priority 3: Inclusion & Equality
 - Gaelic Specific Grant Regulations
 - East Ayrshire Education Committee Paper: Gaelic Medium Unit, Education Sub-committee 25 March 1997
 - Sradagan – CNAG policy papers, East Ayrshire NOF bid
 - minutes of the MRG and the Stòrlann Board
- 4.3** Copies of the documentation referred to above are held by the Quality Improvement Team as well as by Gaelic centres and can be requested from Woodstock Centre.

5. PROVISION

5.1 Early Years Education

5.1.1 Parent & Toddler Group: a voluntary group holds regular meetings at Onthank Primary School, which aim to introduce very young children to the Gaelic language and culture. A Gaelic class is offered for parents whose children are involved in Early Years and Gaelic Medium primary education.

5.1.2 Nursery: 10 places are provided at Onthank Primary School on a part-time basis, with tuition provided by a Gaelic-speaking Nursery Teacher (full-time permanent) and Nursery Nurse (part-time temporary).

5.2 Primary Education – Gaelic Medium

5.2.1 The Gaelic Medium primary provision for East Ayrshire is based in Onthank Primary School. Children from P1 to P7 are taught in two composite classes in Onthank Primary School. School management decides how best to deploy Gaelic Medium staff in the light of the total pupil roll. Gaelic Medium pupils have access to whole school activities and contribute to the whole school ethos.

5.2.2 Gaelic Medium provision is treated as a separate entity when calculating the staffing entitlement, which is enhanced when the pupil roll, within the multi-composited Gaelic Medium setting, exceeds 15. This enhancement is subject to the availability of Specific Grant and suitably qualified teaching staff.

5.2.3 Teaching staff for Gaelic Medium primary education in East Ayrshire is made up of 2.5 teachers. One Senior Teacher organises the day-to-day activities of the classes and learning approaches; a further 1.5 full time equivalent teachers have responsibility for Support for Learning. Their duties include the introduction of reading and writing in English. Staff are supported by a part-time Gaelic-speaking Classroom Assistant.

5.2.4 In the first two years of Gaelic Medium Education, an immersion programme is established. Gaelic is used extensively in teaching and learning in these two important years. English reading and language skills are introduced once pupils have attained Level A Reading and Writing in Gaelic and usually by the end of primary three. Gaelic, however, continues to be the predominant language of the classroom.

5.2.5 In order to achieve "broadly equal competence in Gaelic and English, in all the skills, by the end of primary seven" (Gaelic 5-14 National Guidelines, SEED), both languages are used for teaching and learning from P3 onwards. Gaelic is retained as the predominant language of the classroom.

5.3 Primary Education – Gaelic for Learners in Primary Schools

5.3.1 Gaelic Language in the Primary School (GLPS) is offered in 3 primary schools in East Ayrshire in P5 classes, with training underway for teachers in 3 more schools. It is planned that a phased introduction of GLPS will take place, at the end of which

- 25% of primary schools in three Learning Partnerships will offer Gaelic
- schools will be encouraged to develop plans to offer Gaelic alongside French in P5-7
- students wishing to progress from primary to secondary school will be able to prepare for national qualifications in Gaelic, using a 'mixed delivery' model, featuring class lessons, distance learning and video-conferencing

5.3.2 The Quality Improvement Team cooperates with other local authorities to provide a range of quality core pupil materials to support the GLPS programme.

5.3.3 Trained staff are encouraged to further develop their personal linguistic skills by giving them access to annual Gaelic language in-service training.

5.4 Secondary Education

5.4.1 At the end of P7, young people who wish to transfer to secondary Gaelic Medium education will move to suitable stage-related provision. Here a Gaelic-speaking teacher will offer courses in Gaelic and in other subjects including and Personal & Social Education through the medium of Gaelic. All other classes are offered through the medium of English.

5.4.2 The Gaelic teacher will encourage pupils to continue with their study of Gaelic beyond the first two years of their secondary education by providing a language environment which stimulates their imagination and their enjoyment of Gaelic language studies.

5.4.3 The school, in collaboration with the Quality Improvement Team and other Gaelic agencies, will raise the awareness of pupils studying Gaelic about the economic and academic benefits of bilingualism generally, and of the specific job opportunities for Gaelic speakers in a growing variety of sectors.

5.4.4 Close links will exist between primary and secondary Gaelic centres.

5.5 **Adult Education**

5.5.1 Regular beginners' and intermediate evening classes are offered in several locations in East Ayrshire, backed up by regular "immersion weekends", according to demand. The aim of classes is to introduce non-Gaelic speakers to the language and culture and also to prepare those students for whom it is appropriate for entry to the Gaelic Immersion Course offered by Kilmarnock College, where students can prepare National Qualifications in Gaelic.

5.6 **Sradagan**

5.6.1 The Gaelic Youth Club meets weekly and offers young people aged 5 upwards, who are being educated through the medium of Gaelic, access to a wide range of leisure pursuits through Gaelic. The club is NOF-funded for 3 years from 2002.

5.7. **Support for learning**

5.7.1 Gaelic Medium classes are required to make appropriate arrangements to meet the learning needs of all pupils. It is important that children experiencing learning difficulties in Gaelic Medium education are identified at an early stage and intervention strategies appropriate to the needs of the child are implemented at the earliest opportunity.

5.7.2 Gaelic Medium classes are required to have structured assessment and monitoring procedures in place and to access the support of the Quality Improvement Team, learning support staff and, where appropriate, Psychological Services to assist with the assessment process.

5.7.3 Gaelic Medium pupils experiencing difficulties cannot be formally assessed in Gaelic as no standard screening tests exist for Gaelic education. However, as English is likely to be the home language of all, or most, Gaelic Medium pupils, educational psychologists conduct their tests in English with the support of the pupil's Gaelic teacher. Where a specific need is identified, the Gaelic teacher, in consultation with school management, designs an appropriate support programme for the child with difficulties. In the first instance, the additional adult support will be from within existing staffing arrangements i.e. a member of the Gaelic teaching staff or Gaelic classroom assistant.

6. **MANAGEMENT**

6.1 Responsibility for Gaelic education is shared at Head of Service level since there is a school, early years, community learning and strategic development interest. Operational aspects of management are divided between the heads of establishment involved and the Quality Improvement Officer who links to the national Gaelic networks.

- 6.2** The Parent & Toddler Group is the responsibility of a part-time development officer who runs classes with the support of the CNSA. Quality assurance of the Gaelic Nursery is the responsibility of the Principal Officer (Early Years) and the Quality Improvement Officer with responsibility for Gaelic.
- 6.3** The Head Teacher and Senior Teacher Gaelic in Onthank Primary School are responsible for the day-to-day management of the Nursery and Gaelic primary classes. There is also a high level of cooperation with Onthank Nursery School and with other Gaelic Medium classes and schools in the west of Scotland. Onthank Primary School is required to formulate a Gaelic language policy in accordance with the authority's Gaelic Policy and national guidance contained within 5-14 National Guidelines. Onthank is also required to ensure that Gaelic staff formulate detailed forward plans and programmes of study which relate to national 5-14 Guidelines and to make this paperwork available for scrutiny by the Quality Improvement Team when required. Staff development is provided by Quality Improvement Officers in cooperation with the SEED and with other local authorities.
- 6.4** GLPS is managed, quality-assured and provided with staff development by the Quality Improvement Officer with responsibility for Gaelic in cooperation with the SEED and with other local authorities.
- 6.5** Support is provided to secondary Gaelic Medium education by the senior and middle management of the school involved, with resources being provided by the Stòrlann and staff development by Quality Improvement Officers, in cooperation with other local authorities. The Gaelic secondary teacher is required to formulate a Gaelic language policy in accordance with the authority's Gaelic Policy and national guidance contained within 5-14 National Guidelines and Higher Still Guidance. The Head Teacher is also required to ensure that Gaelic staff formulate programmes of study which relate to national 5-14 Guidelines and to make this available for scrutiny by the authority when required.
- 6.6** Sradagan is managed by a Sub-committee of Comann nam Pàrant, which appoints a part-time Sradagan Coordinator to organise activities, with the assistance of volunteer parent helpers. Financial management of the youth club is assumed by the AFA of James Hamilton Learning Partnership.
- 6.7** The Assistant Principal Officer Support to Communities is responsible for Adult Education activities and for overseeing the work of the Sradagan and community courses in Gaelic. This includes supervising the work of part-time development officers and sessional staff.

7. TRANSPORT

- 7.1** Pupils travelling to the Gaelic primary classes in Onthank primary school are offered transport free of charge, subject to the availability of Specific Grant. Additional provision is made for home journeys for Gaelic Medium pupils who may have a shorter day until October in their first school session.

8. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

- 8.1** Gaelic Medium pre-school, primary, secondary and Gaelic Learners provision is subject to the same scrutiny by HM Inspectorate of Education as any other mainstream education provision.
- 8.2** School management has responsibility for the day to day monitoring of the effectiveness of Gaelic provision. The ways in which primary and secondary establishments assess their pupils' progress in Gaelic Medium and Learners education is consistent with national guidelines. A comprehensive menu of attainment targets for both Gaelic Medium and Gaelic Learners is clearly set out in the 5-14 National Guidelines.
- 8.3** *How Good Is Our School* 2002 also provides a set of Quality Indicators for use in self-evaluation of performance and effectiveness.
- 8.4** The following key performance indicators for monitoring effectiveness and progress apply to Gaelic education:
- the increasing number of pupils accessing Gaelic Medium pre-school, primary and secondary provision and Learners' Gaelic classes;
 - an increasing interest in, and awareness of, Gaelic education among pupils, parents and teachers;
 - an increasing number of pupils continuing the study of Gaelic beyond S2 and their achievement of quality grades in SQA examinations;
 - the success of Gaelic Medium pupils in achieving broadly equal competence in both Gaelic and English by the end of P7;
 - an increased awareness by Gaelic Learners of the present day Gaelic cultural background and their ability to communicate effectively in Gaelic;
 - parental satisfaction with their child's progress and their endorsement of authority and establishment policies and developments;
 - the commitment of Gaelic staff to providing balanced, progressive and coherent programmes of study for Gaelic Medium pupils and learners;
 - the contribution of Gaelic staff to the development of a range of quality resources and school-devised programmes of study;
 - the commitment of Gaelic staff to creating positive language learning environments and adopting a range of teaching styles to stimulate pupils and raise achievement;
 - the satisfaction of the establishment management teams and the Quality Improvement Team with the quality of Gaelic teaching and learning.
- 8.5** Monitoring and evaluation are the responsibility of the Quality Improvement Team and are subject to the normal process of triennial review.

Gaelic Education: a strategy paper
Glossary of Gaelic Organisations (with websites where available)

Bòrd Ghàidhlig

The establishment of the Gaelic Board, the national Gaelic Development Agency, was recommended by the Meek Report. It is due to be established late in 2002.

CNAG

Comunn na Gaidhlig is the government-funded national organisation dedicated to the development of Gaelic language and culture.

www.cnag.org.uk/

CNSA

Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich is the national Gaelic Playgroup Association, a voluntary body registered as a charity and operating in cooperation with local authorities.

Comann nam Pàrant

Usually referred to as CnamP, this is the organisation of parents educating their children through the medium of Gaelic.

www.parant.org.uk/

Gaelic Immersion Course

The one-year total immersion course in Gaelic for adults leads to employment in Gaelic-speaking organisations/activities or to higher education in Gaelic. Such an immersion course has been offered since 2000 by Kilmarnock College.

Gaelic/Gaidhlig

In the SEED and SQA, there are two parallel sets of courses and examinations: Gaidhlig refers to fluent-speakers courses and examinations, while Gaelic is used to describe courses and examinations for learners of Gaelic

GLPS Gaelic Language for the Primary School

This is an SEED-funded training scheme to equip classroom teachers with little or no Gaelic background to teach Gaelic in their own class after 24 days of training.

MRG

The Management Review Group is an organisation of local authority officers which, in cooperation with the SEED, oversees the development of local authority Gaelic provision and also provides board members for:

Stòrlann

The Gaelic National Resource Centre, based in Lewis, commissions and publishes resource materials for use in local authority Gaelic classes and schools. Each local authority involved in Gaelic Medium primary and/or secondary education is expected to contribute 10% of its total spending on Gaelic annually to maintaining the Stòrlann.

www.storlann.co.uk/

Sradagan

- "Sparks" is the national organisation of Gaelic youth clubs.

<http://www.cnag.org.uk/projects.htm>