

GME developments during Covid-19 lockdown and next steps

This paper reports on recent GME developments created during Covid-19 lockdown and in preparation for children returning to school in August '20. Focus on recovery curriculum in core areas (literacy, numeracy and Health and Wellbeing) and GME immersion approaches working in partnership with Gaelic partners and organisations.

Overview

In line with SG document *Coronavirus (COVID-19): Curriculum for Excellence in the Recovery Phase* the following has been developed by HC officers to support GME schools to address attainment gap (in recovery and beyond) and immersion approaches:

- Health and Wellbeing; resources developed with menu of these resources created. Shared on HT Google classroom and Highland Digital School Hub website (See [below](#)).
- Literacy recovery curriculum overview; Curriculum for Excellence levels broken down into stages, with core benchmarks pulled together with hyperlinks to resources. Shared on HT Google classroom and Highland Digital School Hub website.
- Numeracy recovery curriculum overview; Curriculum for Excellence levels broken down into stages, with core benchmarks pulled together with hyperlinks to resources.
- Immersion support for GME; resources gathered with Gaelic partners to support GME immersion at home.

Details in regards to above:

The Gaelic Head Teacher reference group has outlined the core curriculum benchmarks that Gaelic Medium School provisions should focus on as part of their total immersion and immersion experiences online and at home. The group of HTs has worked with practitioners from both BSGI and BSGPR early years provisions to create weekly a multimedia resource linked to these benchmarks that will support families at home for pupils at key Gaelic total immersion stages. The resource is called 'Cluichidh sinn Còmhla' and is based on play experiences linked to the Bumps to Bairns framework. This resource is shared and updated weekly and also links into the nationwide initiative lead by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, 'Cleachd I aig an taigh'.

Following consultation with Education Scotland, key messages shared with Gaelic Medium provisions around how best to support quality interactions for Gaelic Immersion stages and how this could be supported at home and online. Many community organisations in Highland have offered support and various opportunities to schools to create engaging opportunities for children to use as well as speak Gaelic as part of their online and learning at home such as live singing sessions,

football challenge session, shinty skills challenges and our school staff are increasingly confident and working together towards creating these opportunities to talk and use Gaelic with the resources we have available to us.

Tha sinn taingeil airson an com-pàirteachas eadar Sgioba Ghàidhlig Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd agus FC Sonas, seirbheis ball-coise Gàidhlig a chuir Calum Fearghastan agus Donaidh Foirbeis air bhonn. Tha Calum agus Donaidh fileanta sa Ghàidhlig agus air a bhith an lùib ball-coise airson iomadh bliadhna. Tha grunn dhreuchdan air a bhith aig Donaidh le ICFTC, Comann Ball-coise na h-Alba agus Club Ball-coise Heart of Midlothian. 'S e cluicheadair ball-coise proifeiseanta a th' ann an Calum agus tha e air cluiche airson clubaichean an dà chuid ann an Alba agus air stèidh eadar-nàiseanta ann an Canada agus Sealan Nuadh. Tha iad air dà rud air a bheil meas mòr aca – Gàidhlig agus ball-coise – a thoirt còmhla gus FC Sonas a chruthachadh. Tha an dùbhlán ball-coise aca as ùr gach seachdain agus faodaidh sgoiltean air feadh Alba, foghlam 's a Ghàidhlig agus Beurla pàirt a' ghabhail. Tha an sgioba ag coimhead airson pròiseict Iomain a' stèidheachadh agus bidh barrachd fiosrachadh ri thighinn a dh'aithghearr ann am com-pàirteachas le Eòghan Stiùbhart.

We are delighted to see weekly challenges from the FC Sonas project up and running. This is an innovative Scottish Gaelic Football service which has been set up by Calum Ferguson and Donnie Forbes by the Gaelic team at Highland Council. Calum and Donnie are both fluent Gaelic speakers, former pupils of Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis and the Inverness Royal Academy who have been engaged in football circles for a number of years. Donnie has held various roles with ICFTC, Scottish Football Association and Heart of Midlothian Football Club. Calum is a professional football player who has played for clubs both in Scotland and on an international level in Canada and New Zealand. They have combined their two passions of Gaelic and football to create FC Sonas. The idea is to use football challenges as a way to engage those both learning Gaelic and fluent speakers whether young or old; providing an opportunity to enhance and strengthen Gaelic language skills as well as their football abilities.

The team also established an online Shinty project for all school in partnership with Eòghan Stiùbhart and this was also shared with all schools. FC SONAS Challenges available to all schools on their social media platforms. Follow FC SONAS on you tube for updates [FC SONAS](#)



FC Sonas

Na amasan aig FC Sonas:
FC Sonas's aims:

Foghlaim Education

Brosnaich is leasaich daoine
fa leth air an slighe gu
fileantas sa Ghàidhlig ge brith
dè an ìre comais

Encourage and develop
individuals in their journey to
Gaelic fluency regardless of
their level of proficiency

Com- pàirtich Participation

Fas partaicheas ann a h- uile
aite ann a ball-coise agus
Gaidhlig

Increase football and Gaelic
participation in all areas

Brosnachadh Development

Brosnachadh
ceannardan òga gus teagasg
agus fàs

Develop young leaders to teach
and grow

#GàidhligIsOurGoal

Dùbhlán na Camanachd - Sreath ùr bhideothan bho Iomain Cholm Cille airson òigridh na camanachd a' fuireach aig an taigh as dèidh iarrtas bho cheannardan a bha ag iarraidh dùbhlán iomain air loidhne a' leantainn air bho soirbheachas FC SONAS. Tha Ceit Bradley a' cluich airson Àird nam Murchan agus Alba. Anns na bhideothan seo, tha i a' toirt dùbhlán do chluicheadairean òga as urrainn dhaibh a dhèanamh aig an taigh a thaobh smachd a chumail air a' bhall agus air amasachd.

Lockdown Shinty Challenges – Iomain Cholm Cille have published a series of Lockdown Shinty Challenge videos for fluent and learner Gaelic speakers to complete over the next weeks in response to requests from Head Teachers across Highland following the success of FC SONAS. In the first two challenges, Ceit Bradley (who plays for Ardnamurchan and the Scotland team) demonstrates the 'Accuracy Skills Challenge' [here](#) and 'Control Challenge' [here](#).

Goireas Litearrachd - Airson tuilleadh taic a chuir ri litearrachd airson curraicealam fhaotainn air ais sgoilearan, tha Sgioba na Gàidhlig air goireasan, a chruthaich Dòmhnall Iain Mac Leòid agus dealbhan le Karen Sutherland, a chuir ann an dreuchd digiteach air loidhne. Gheibh sibh 'Sròn, Srann, Sreothart!' air an hub digiteach.

Recovery Curriculum A resource, created by Donald John MacLeod with pictures by Karen Sutherland, has been re-created in digital format by the Gaelic team and is now available on the digital hub. The phonics resources will support Gaelic Medium teachers as part of the literacy recovery curriculum 'Tools and Targets' resource. The complete series of "Sròn, Srann, Sreothart!" and supporting phonics framework is available [here](#)

Taic do theaghlaichean – Tha sreath ùr bhideothan a chruthaich Ellen Jack air loidhne airson taic a thoirt dha teaghlaichean le clann òga le Gàidhlig aig an taigh.

Supporting families – ELC family resource. A new series of 9 short videos created by Ellen Jack to be shared with parents and carers of young children to support Gaelic Medium or Gaelic learners at home.

[1 – Introduction](#)

[2 – Washing hands](#)

[3 – Getting up and getting ready in the morning](#)

[4 – Eating](#)

[5 – Getting ready for bed](#)

[6a – Storytime \(Part 1\)](#)

[6b – Storytime \(Part 2\)](#)

[7 – Time to sleep](#)

[8 – Singalong](#)

Am Mòd Nàiseanta 2020 – Thèid Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail 2020 a chumail air loidhne san Dàmhair. Tha clàran-eagair na cloinne agus nan inbheach agus barrachd fiosrachaidh air na diofar roinnean agus riaghailtean rim faotainn aig a' cheangal seo: www.ancomunn.co.uk/air-loidhne . Tha fàilte ga chur air clann agus inbhich pàirt a ghabhail 's thathas ag iarraidh chlàraidhean dhaoine 'S e 31mh luchair an ceann là mu dheireadh airson clàraidhean a chur a-steach.

Mòd Nàiseanta 2020 - An Comunn Gàidhealach have announced that they will be holding an online version of Am Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail later this year. In keeping with the tradition, the event will take place during October. Junior and senior participants will be able to record performances in their respective categories and upload and submit their performances online with performances being showcased via The Royal National Mòd's social media channels in October. Information can be found [here](#) as well as further information on the Virtual Mòd. Performances must be submitted by **31st July**. Information on this was shared with all schools to promote this event.

As young children prepare to join sgoil-àraich provision across Highland (Gaelic Medium ELC), it is recognised that while the principal transition arrangements shared in the transition pack will transfer between both EM and GME provisions, there are some areas that GM schools will require further guidance and support on. The Highland Council has an excellent video resource for families who are beginning their Gaelic Medium Education that will complement the current transition pack. Specific GME guidance for schools to support children and families entering into the total immersion early years provisions will be shared shortly. Please see video shared here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-1-sQ5lqu0&feature=youtu.be>

Education Scotland have shared a Wakelet of curated resources around Scotland on implementing the recently published *Realising the Ambition* document. The HC Padlet of resources is created by P1 teachers, allied health professionals and GME officer in Highland to support play pedagogy in primary. This resource Education

Scotland calls it "a wonderful one stop shop". The HC Padlet includes a GME rationale to support Play Pedagogy in GME total immersion phase.

The Ed Scot wakelet is here: <https://wakelet.com/wake/CASkLDRrNyMTIoEZnTiXt>

The HC padlet is here: https://padlet.com/laura_carson/highlandplaypedagogy

Taic làn-bhogaidh sa Ghàidhlig le Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd air Alba Nuadh a' ruighinn.

Tha sinn air leth moiteil gu bheil a ghoireas 'Cluichidh sinn Còmhla' a-nist taobh thall An Cuan Siar ann an Alba Nuadh far a bheil Colaisde na Gàidhlig ga chleachdadh mar ghoireas airson taic aig an taigh dha òigridh far a bheillear ag ionnsachadh sa Ghàidhlig. Thuirt Coinneach MacCoinnich,

'Bidh na goireasan gu math feumail anns na buidhnean beaga againn a-bhos an seo ann an Alba Nuadh, dha na tidsearan agus cuideachd, do phàrantan aig an taigh. Tha cuid an seo a' cleachdadh Gàidhlig aig an taigh agus cuid eile aig nach eil mòran Gàidhlig, ach tha iad deònach. 'S ann dhan fheadhainn seo a tha na goireasan feumail cuideachd.

Aig Colaisde na Gàidhlig, tha sinn a' feuchainn ri prògraman ùra a chur air bhonn dhan fheadhainn òga agus tha an luchd-obrach againn a' cleachdadh nan leasan an seo gus rudan ùra a dhèanamh, no dòighean ùra a chur gu feum. Taing mhòr dhuibh uile!

Director of Education for the Gaelic College in Nova Scotia adopts Highland Council approach to Gaelic Immersion support at home.

'Cluichidh sinn Còmhla', the GME framework for Early Level learning support at home has been adopted by The Gaelic College in Nova Scotia. The college is "The only institution of its kind in North America. Students of all ages and skill levels visit the College every year to study under some of the finest instructors in Nova Scotia Gaelic culture. With an international reputation for its contribution to the preservation and promotion of Gaelic culture, the Gaelic College offers a truly one-of-a-kind learning experience."

We are proud that the Director of Education, Kenneth MacKenzie, has adopted and is actively promoting the Highland Council approach to supporting Gaelic immersion learning at home with young families. He shared that, "Nova Scotia parents and teachers and community groups will benefit greatly from these resources. We have families who speak Gaelic at home and others who do not have much Gaelic but are enthusiastic, and the resources will be useful to them too. At Colaisde na Gàidhlig, we are establishing new programmes for the early years and our practitioners are using the lessons shared in this resource to create new experiences and apply a different pedagogy. Thank you all very much!"

Next Steps

Education Scotland released the new practice guidance, *Realising the Ambition*, in the Spring. This guidance covers learning from birth through to the end of Early

Level and had significant input from Highland practitioners and partners at different stages. The new guidance will be very helpful for settings in making improvements in quality and smoothing transitions from nursery into P1. *Education Improvement Team to liaise with Allied Health Professionals to expand this resource around GME total immersion approaches through the relationships between play and language acquisition approaches such as 'Words Up'.*

Continue with secondary PT reference group to further joint up working across Highland for improved attainment.

Extend partnership with Gaelic organisations around total immersion and immersion resources. Planning for the possibility of second wave of lockdown.

Training for staff to implement above steps.