

Cuspair Clàir-ghnothaich	4
Àir. Aithisge	G/1/26

Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Comataidh: Gàidhlig

Ceann-latha: 25 Gearran 2026

Tìotal Aithisge: Tachartasan agus Buaidh Eaconamach, Cànanach is Cultarach Blas 2025

Aithisg le: Iar-Àrd-Oifigear – Daoine

1. Adhbhar/Geàrr-chunntas Gnìomhach

- 1.1 Tha an aithisg seo a' toirt seachad mion-sgrùdadh mionaideach air na buannachdan eaconamach, Gàidhlig, is cultarach a bha an lùib Fèis Bhlas 2025 a tha air a stiùireadh le Fèisean nan Gàidheal (FnanG). Tha i a' sealltainn cho làidir 's a tha an tabhartas a tha i a' cur ri coimhearsnachdan na Gàidhealtachd tro bhuidhean ionmhasail, brosnachadh cànan, com-pàirteachadh cultarach, agus riarachas luchd-ùidh.
- 1.2 Bheir Mgr Calum Ailig Mac a' Mhaoilein, Àrd-Oifigear Fèisean nan Gàidheal, seachad taisbeanadh mionaideach mu Fhèis Bhlas a chaidh a chumail eadar 5–13 Sultain ann an coimhearsnachdan air feadh sgìre na Gàidhealtachd agus bheir e seachad fiosrachadh mun phlanadh a tha an lùib na fèise. Tha an t-Oifigear Leasachaidh Gàidhlig na ball de Bhuidheann Prògramachaidh Fèis Bhlas.

2. Molaidhean

- 2.1 Thathar ag iarraidh air Buill:
 - i. aontachadh gun tèid maoinachadh bliadhnail a leantainn air adhart airson Fèis Bhlas, a' toirt fa-near gu bheil riarachaidhean uile san àm ri teachd fhathast fo ùmhachd ath-sgrùdadh buidseat bliadhnail na Comhairle agus cuingealachaidhean maoinachaidh on taobh a-muigh;
 - ii. toirt fa-near gu bheil comas na fèise maoinachadh on taobh a-muigh a ghleidheadh an crochadh air taic leantainneach gach bliadhna bho Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd. Bhiodh lùghdachadh no tarraing air ais sam bith dhen mhaoineachadh seo a' cur a' phasgain mhaoineachaidh san fharsaingeachd ann an cunnart;
 - iii. aontachadh taic a chur ri obair air sealbh choimhearsnachd Blas leis an luchd-brosnachaidh ionadail agus ri bhith a' co-roinn teachd a-steach gus com-pàirteachadh ionadail a neartachadh;
 - iv. aontachadh gun tèid brosnachadh a thoirt do FnanG rannsachadh a ghabhail os làimh leis an lìonra luchd-brosnachaidh aca gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil guth aig an luchd-brosnachaidh sa phrògramadh;

- v. aontachadh leantainn air adhart a' neartachadh nan dòighean tomhais airson buaidh eaconamach agus taisbeanairean a' buntainn ri cànan na Gàidhlig a rèir bhuilean Plana na Gàidhlig;
- vi. aontachadh leantainn air adhart a' neartachadh nan ceanglaichean eadar Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd agus luchd-eagrachaidh Fèis Bhlas airson tachartas 2026;
- vii. toirt fa-near dhan obair a thathar a' gabhail os làimh le FnanG agus An Comunn Gàidhealach le taic bho Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig a thaobh Acadamaidh a' Mhòid a chaidh a chumail ann an sgoiltean air feadh sgìre Loch Abar ro Mhòd Loch Abar (**Eàrr-ràdh 1**); agus
- viii. aontachadh gu bheil iomairt Acadamaidh a' Mhòid na pàirt de phròiseact dileib Mòd Loch Abar 2025.

3. Builean

3.1 Goireas

Tha Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd air Fèis Bhlas a mhaoineachadh bhon toiseach. Tha seo air comas a thoirt do FnanG maoineachadh a bharrachd a tharraing bho bhuidhnean eile a leithid Alba Chruthachail, Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus prìomh bhuidhnean eile.

3.2 Laghail

Chan eil builean laghail a' tighinn am bàrr bhon aithisg seo.

3.3 Cunnart

Chan eil cunnartan a' tighinn am bàrr bhon aithisg seo.

3.4 Slàinte is Sàbhailteachd (cunnartan a' tighinn am bàrr mar thoradh air

atharrachaidhean do dh'uidheamachd, acfhainn, pròiseas no daoine) –
Chan eil builean Slàinte is Sàbhailteachd a' tighinn am bàrr on aithisg seo.

3.5 Gàidhlig

Tha fìor dheagh bhuaidh aig Fèis Bhlas air a' Ghàidhlig seach gu bheil i a' lìbhrigeadh spionnadh làidir eaconamach do na sgìrean far a bheil na tachartasan air an cumail. Tha i cuideachd a' brosnachadh cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, com-pàirteachadh òigridh, co-obrachadh cultarach, tar-chur cànan eadar ghinealaichean, coimiseanan ùra innleachdach agus com-pàirteachadh coimhearsnachd. Tha an taic leantainneach bho Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd a' dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil na buannachdan is na buaidhean seo air an gleidheadh, gu bheil creideas is follaiseachd na Gàidhlig agus tapachd eaconamach Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd air an neartachadh.

Tha Fèis Bhlas cuideachd a' co-thaobhadh ris na prìomhachasan ann am Plana na Gàidhlig mar a leanas:

- Prìomhachas Ro-innleachdail 1.1 – Leudaich taic do luchd-cleachdaidh is luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig uile, sna coimhearsnachdan aca, agus sna lionraidhean anns a bheil iad.
- Prìomhachas Ro-innleachdail 2.1 – Toradh nam Meadhanan is nan Ealainean Gàidhlig – cruthaich cothroman airson cur an cèill, sgilean, ruigsinneachd, com-pàirteachadh agus cruthachalachd.

- Prìomhachas Ro-innleachdail 3.1 – Cleachd a’ Ghàidhlig ann an gnìomhachasan is iomairtean sòisealta, agus mar stòras eaconamach ann an Alba.

4. Buaidhean

4.1 Ann an Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, tha poileasaidhean, ro-innleachdan no atharrachaidhean seirbheis uile fo ùmhlachd sgrìonadh amalaichte airson buaidh air Co-ionannachdan, Bochdainn is Còraichean Daonna, Còraichean is Sunnd Chloinne, Atharrachadh Gnàth-shìde, Eileanan is Coimhearsnachdan Dùthchail air Tìr-mòr, agus Dìon Dàta. Far a bheil feumalachd air a h-aithneachadh, thèid measadh buaidh iomlan a ghabhail os làimh.

4.2 Tha a bhith a’ beachdachadh air buaidhean na phàirt bhunaiteach dhen phròiseas cho-dhùnaidhean agus feumaidh seo fios a chur ris a’ phròiseas cho-dhùnaidhean. Nuair a thathar a’ tighinn gu co-dhùnadh sam bith, feumaidh Buill aire iomchaidh a thoirt do thoraidhean measaidh sam bith.

4.3 ’S e aithisg sgrùdaidh agus ùrachaidh a tha seo agus mar sin chan eil feum air measadh buaidh.

5. Buaidh Eaconamach

5.1 Tabhartas Eaconamach Iomlan:

Tha Fèis Bhlas air co-dhiù £9 millean a lìbhrigeadh ann am buannachd eaconamach tionalach do sgìre na Gàidhealtachd bho chaidh a stèidheachadh.

5.2 Bhon a chaidh Fèis Bhlas a chur air bhog ann an 2005, tha na toraidhean a’ gabhail a-steach:

- Cosnadh do 5,564 neach-ciùil is seinneadair
- Còrr is 1,380 tachartas air feadh na Gàidhealtachd
- Luchd-èisteachd corporra de chòrr is 135,000
- Luchd-èisteachd air-loidhne a tha a’ sìor fhàs bho chaidh FèisTV a stèidheachadh
- Dòigh do Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd a bhith an lùib nam bliadhnaichean cuspaireil aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

5.2.1 Bha na consairtean, na cèilidhean agus na tachartasan a chaidh a chumail ann an diofar àiteachan a’ tarraing luchd-èisteachd bho choimhearsnachdan ionadail air feadh na Gàidhealtachd, agus luchd-tadhail bho thaobh a-muigh na Gàidhealtachd is thall-thairis.

Bha na prìomh thachartasan a’ gabhail a-steach:

- Chluich an còmhlan cliùiteach Angla-Èireannach, Flook, airson a’ chiad uair aig an fhèis.
- Chluich còmhlan ùr, Prasgan, sa bheil sàr luchd-ciùil às a’ Ghàidhealtachd airson a’ chiad uair riamh aig Blas.

- Bha dà thachartas ‘Caolas 50’ ann an Loch Abar a’ comharrachadh 50 bliadhna den MV Maid of Glencoul air aiseag a’ Chorrain ann an Àird Ghobhar agus 50 bliadhna de Dhrochaid Bhaile a’ Chaolais.
- Chaidh còig cèilidhean coimhearsnachd a chumail tron fhèis le Raibeart Nairn, Anndra MacDhòmhnaill, Iain MacMhaighstir, Emma NicLeòid, Darren MacIlleathain, Màiri Anna NicUalraig, Calum MacColla agus Noraidh MacIomhair.
- Chluich Julie Fowles agus Duncan Chisholm aig cuirmean loma-làn anns a’ Chaol agus ann an Ullapul is iad a’ comharrachadh call na h-Iolaire.
- Bha cothrom aig com-pàirtichean òga na fèise cluiche ri taobh luchd-ciùil proifeiseanta aig mòran chonsairtean is chèilidhean.
- Chaidh consairt sònraichte a chumail anns a’ Bhlàran Odhar gus 25 bliadhna dhen Fhèis air an Oir a chomharrachadh agus bha com-pàirtichean is oidean a’ cluiche a bharrachd air buill de Trail West.
- Chomharraich an fhèis 90mh co-là-breith Catriona Garbutt, a tha na seinneadair, na pìobaire is na seanchaidh ainmeil à Beinn na Faoghla. Thug Comhairle nan Eilean Siar taic dhan tachartas.
- Bha com-pàirteachasan le Seirbheisean Leabharlainn High Life na Gàidhealtachd agus Com-pàirteachas Biadh Math na Gàidhealtachd a’ cur ri na bh’ air a thabhann aig iomall na fèise.
- Bha com-pàirteachasan a bharrachd le Seall, The Ceilidh Place, Croy Live, Light up Portree agus The Raasay | The Restitution a’ leudachadh a’ phrògram.
- Bha cuirm chrìochnachaidh na fèise a’ comharrachadh ceòl traidiseanta agus òrain Ghàidhlig mar a bha iomchaidh. Dh’fhosgail an oidhche le Aon Ghuth, a’ chiad chòisir Ghàidhlig ion-ghabhaltach, agus le com-pàirtichean Fèis na h-Òige. Às dèidh sin bha cothrom ann an coimisean aig Mike Vass bho Bhlas 2020, ‘Air Falbh ann am Bàta’ a chluinntinn is e air a chluiche le com-pàirtichean nas sine na fèise. San dàrna leth dhen oidhche, chaidh òrain Ghàidhlig a chomharrachadh agus òrain ann bho Art MacCarraig, Jenna Chuimneach, Ruairidh Gray, Alice Nic a’ Mhaoilein, Ruairidh MacCarraig agus Iain MacCarraig. Bha còmhlan an taighe fo stiùir an stiùiriche ciùil Ingrid NicEanraig agus bha ceòl-cheathrar theudan ann air a stiùireadh le Helena Rose.

5.3 Bun-structair an Tachartais agus Solarachadh Ionadail

Tha Blas a’ toirt taic do raon farsaing de sholar ionadail a leithid àiteachan-fuirich is siubhal do luchd-ealain, fuaim, solais, agus margaidheachd do ghnòthachasan ionadail.

Bidh na com-pàirtichean coimhearsnachd a’ faighinn 30% de theachd-a-steach nan tiogaidean agus cothroman maoineachadh a thogail tro rafailean is com-pàirteachadh sòisealta sa choimhearsnachd.

5.4 Luamhan Eaconamach tro Chom-pàirteachasan

Thug maoineachadh bho Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd cothrom seachad taic a bharrachd fhaighinn bho Alba Chruthachail, Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

Ainmeachadh: Iar-Àrd-Oifigear – Daoine

Ceann-latha: 22 Faoilleach 2026

Ùghdar: Morag Anna NicLeòid Mitchell, Oifigear Leasachaidh Gàidhlig

Pàipearan Cùl-fhiosrachaidh:

Eàrr-ràdhan: Eàrr-ràdh 1 – Acadamaidh a' Mhòid

Graphs illustrating economic data:

Figure 1:
Bar chart showing cumulative economic contribution, events, performers, and community share.

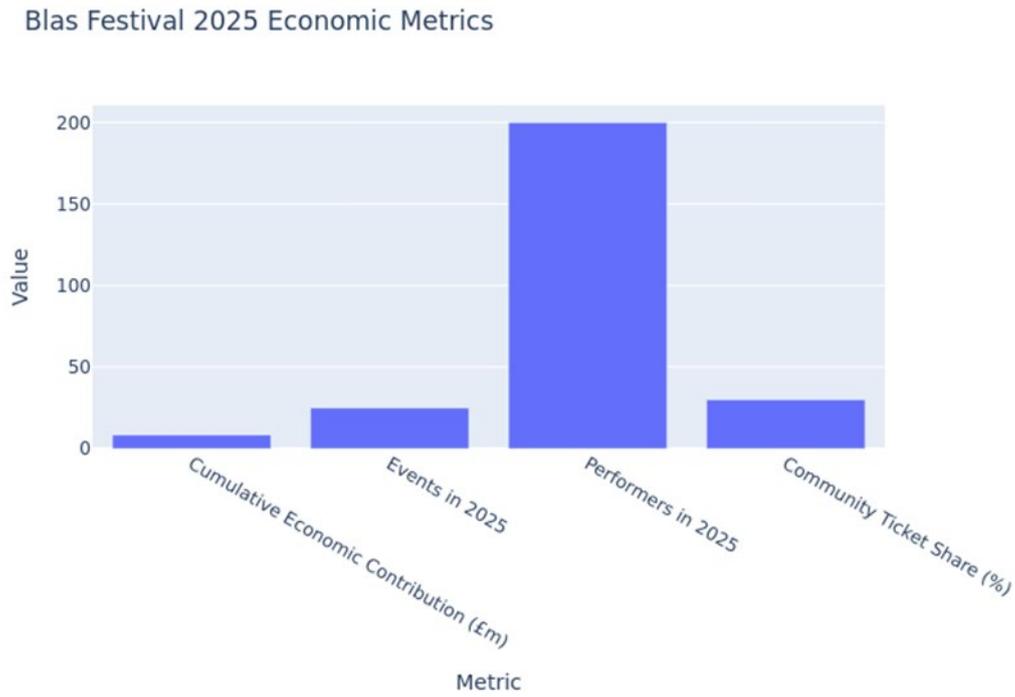
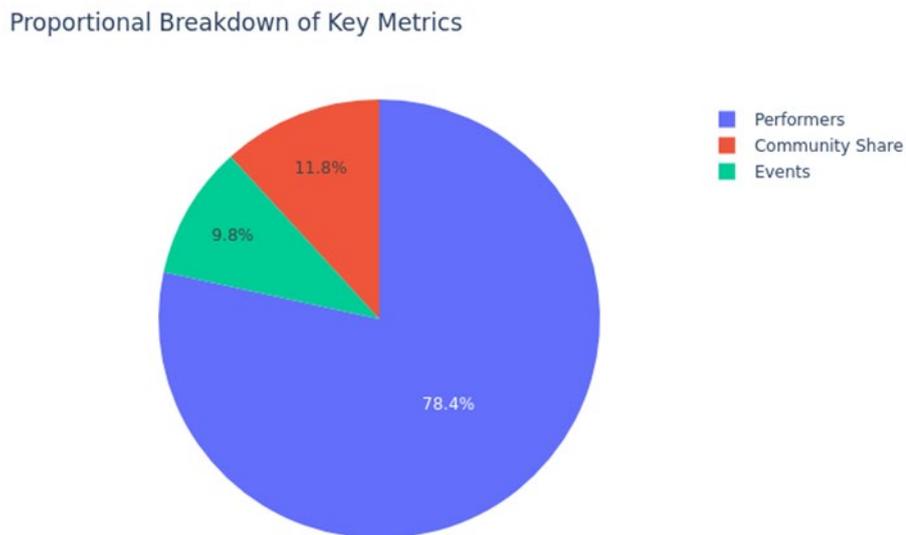
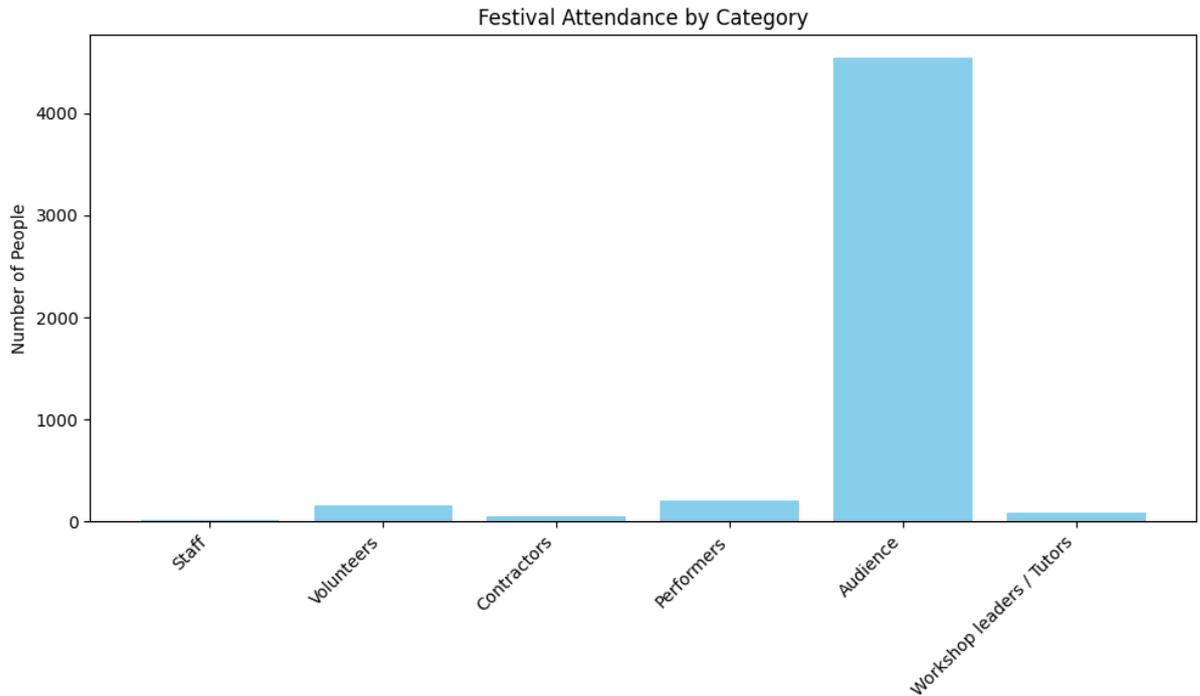


Figure 2:
Pie chart showing proportional breakdown of events, performers, and community share.



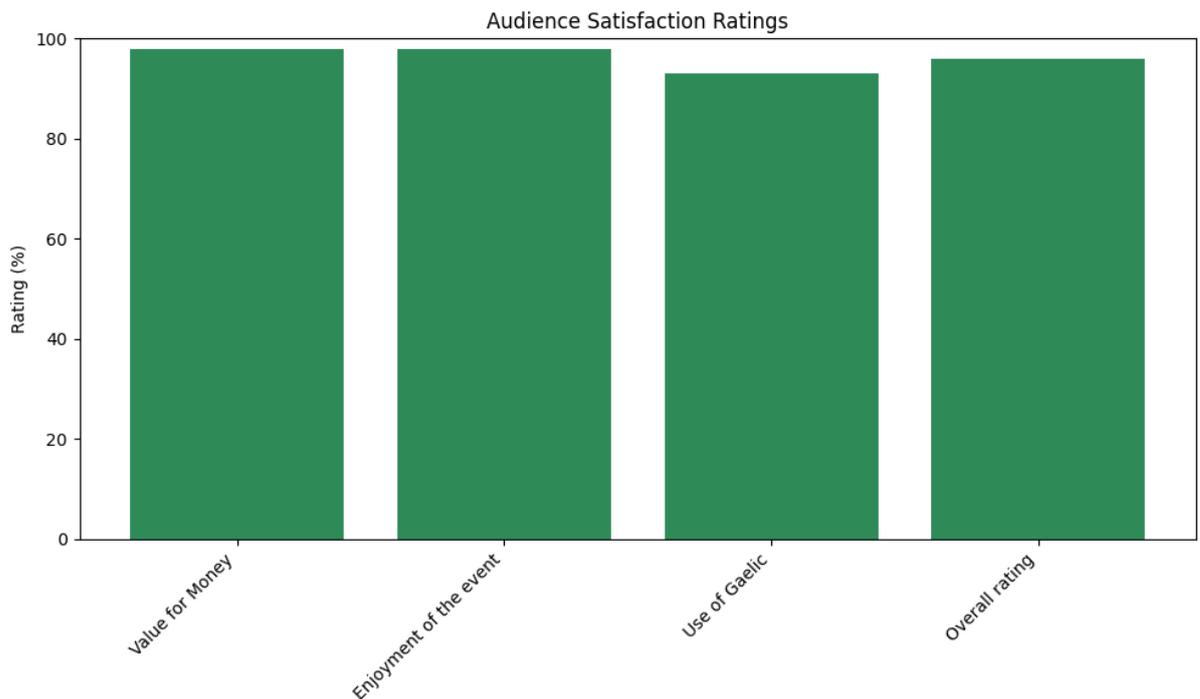
Festival Attendance by Category

Fig 3:
This bar chart visualises the breakdown of everyone involved in the festival—from staff and volunteers to performers, tutors, and the audience. The attendance is the largest group.



Audience Ratings

Fig 4:
This chart highlights the exceptionally strong positive response across all measured areas, with Value for Money and Enjoyment both reaching 98%.



Mod Academy

The Mod Academy was initiated by the Gaelic Team in conjunction with ACG was delivered for An Comunn Gàidhealach and Highland Council by Fèisean nan Gàidheal's formal education service, Fèisgoil, with funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and The Highland Council (MPG) also An Comunn Gàidhealach.

Between March and October 2025, 20 schools in the Lochaber area took part in the Mòd Academy and the initiative was lead and taught by a team of 6 Fèisgoil tutors. During the first block, whole class sessions were delivered so that all children in the schools involved had the opportunity to learn some Gaelic songs and as the Mòd preparations for the Mòd developed, tutors focussed on the pupils wishing to compete. There were 473 sessions delivered with a total of 464 children participating with more than 200 taking part in the Mòd either as soloists or as part of a group.

The schools involved are as follows, with those in bold including pupils entered to compete in October and those in Italics* competing online:

Acharacle

Ardnamurchan High

Ballachulish

Banavie

Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar

Duror

Eigg

Invergarry

Kinlochleven High

Kinlochleven Primary

Lochaber High

Lochaline

Lundavra

Mallaig High

Mallaig Primary

Muck

Rum

Spean Bridge

St Bride's

Strontian

Additional points of interest:

- Tutors reported good engagement from school staff and pupils from across the Lochaber area.
- The Highland Council and Fèisean nan Gàidheal wish to highlight the support offered by Iain Robertson on behalf of the Meur Loch Abar and Chair of the Local Committee.
- Schools have involved themselves in the Mòd for the first time in many years, particularly those in the Ballachulish area.
- Lochaber High School had 9 pupils entering as soloists but as a result of the work of Mod Academy alongside the Gaelic department, they have also

managed to attract 17 high school students to form a choir for the Celtic Praise event and are hopeful this will lead to further choral development in the future.

- Some of the schools not competing nevertheless showed keen interest in learning the songs during the first block of delivery. These schools are all learning Gaelic as an additional language and were very grateful for the support.

Feedback from schools after completion of the project:

- 91% of respondents gave the sessions 5/5 for enjoyment and 82% gave 5/5 for confidence building, with the remaining respondents still scoring the sessions at 4/5. Content and tutor delivery returned exceptionally high levels of satisfaction; all respondents would like further support of this kind and cited positive health and well-being as well as positive Gaelic engagement through the initiative.

Impact:

- Learning Gaelic language as well as development of personal skills and attributes. Pupils very much enjoyed the sessions which prepared them for the Mod.
- The purpose of the sessions was to prepare pupils for the National Mod in a relatively short period of time. This was achieved in no small part due to the effort, commitment, perseverance and determination of the Mod Academy tutors this was evident impressive array of Mòd results.
- The sessions were great and it would be fantastic to have more opportunities for children to develop their skills in music and Gaelic, particularly in the younger years. For example, opportunities to support schools in creating their own Gaelic choir, or children to experience (and where able join in with) a session. The children in my class are keen to learn some traditional instruments e.g. clarsach, bagpipes. However, I know parents find it difficult to attend lessons in Fort William. Could lessons be taught during school time at school? Similar to how strings, brass and woodwind are taught. Are there any further opportunities for teachers to develop their own Gaelic speaking ability?
- All Small Isles Pupils were able to sing two Gaelic songs together in person during our Small Isles Week on the Isle of Rum. This is likely the first time an event like this has happened. This has raised the profile of Gaelic in our schools and in our isles.
- The tutor was able to engage meaningfully with pupils and encourage them to take part in solo and duet performances. The pupils do not often participate in the Mod and so this was a great start to see and hopefully a legacy for us at LHS.
- Pupils were more confident competing the local Mòd and keen to attend national.
- The Mòd Academy sessions have enhanced learning and engagement in Gaelic language and music.

Skills Development:

- Pupils developed Gaelic pronunciation, rhythm, musical memory, and confidence performing. Staff gained practical strategies for teaching Gaelic songs and integrating them into class routines.

Literacy:

- Improved Gaelic vocabulary, listening skills, and confidence in speaking, supporting literacy development.

Numeracy:

- Indirect benefits through rhythm counting and pattern work, reinforcing numeracy concepts.

Personal Skills:

- Pupils showed increased confidence, resilience, and teamwork, especially those initially hesitant to perform.

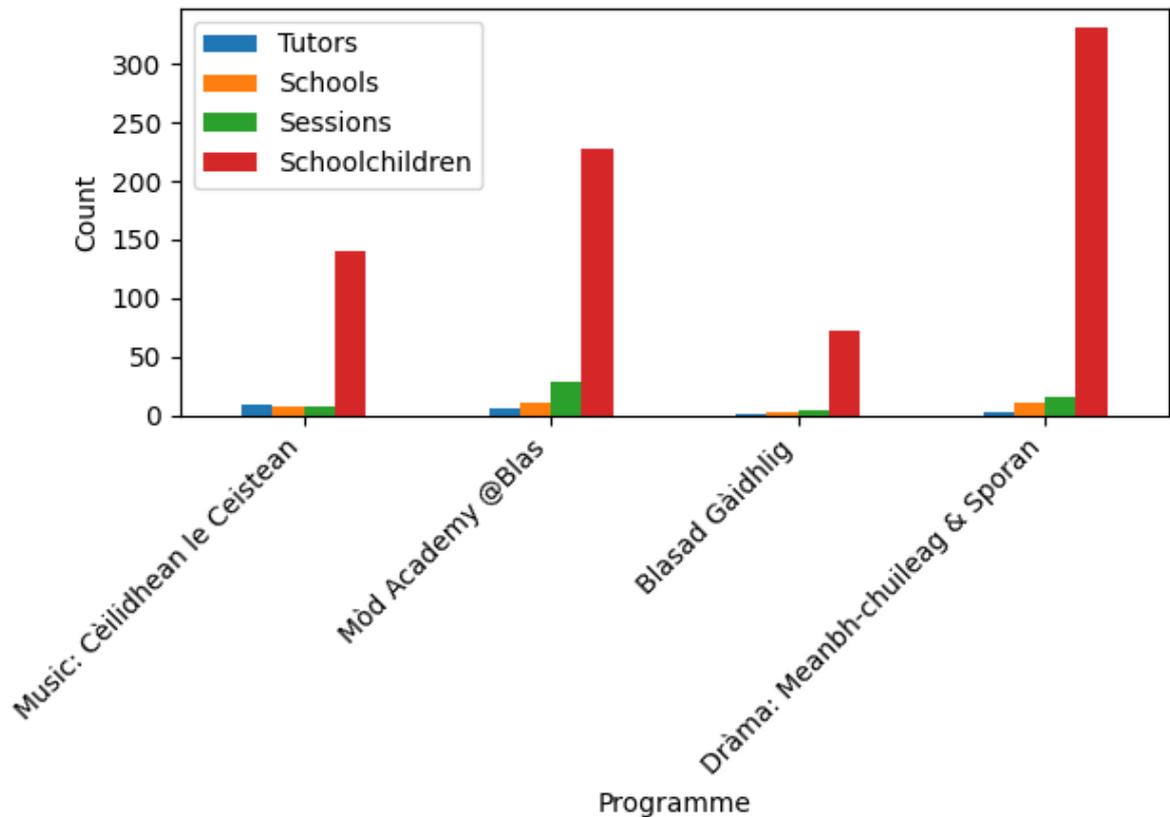
Staff Capacity:

- Staff feel more equipped to continue Gaelic activities independently and extend them to other classes and contexts. Overall, the sessions have left a very positive impact on pupils' skills and cultural awareness and built staff confidence to sustain the learning.

Mòd Academy Testimonials:

- We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Mòd Academy sessions. They have had a clear and positive impact on our pupils' skills, confidence, and cultural understanding, and have provided staff with valuable tools to carry this learning forward. I strongly believe continued funding for these sessions is worthwhile, as they help preserve and promote Gaelic language and culture while delivering real educational benefits. Many thanks to the tutor and the team for their excellent work and support throughout.
- It was good for our pupils to join in with others and experience music in a group.
- All our pupils took part in learning two songs for local Mòd action song, we have had times in the past when pupils have been hesitant about doing so, but this year they were all very positive and were independently singing out with lesson time. We also had pupils take part in solo competitions at the local Mòd which helps build their confidence.
- Tha a' chlann a' togail uidh mhor sa Chanan is tha na puirt a' cordadh riutha gu mor. Fhuair clann nan Eilean Tarsainn cothrom seinn comhla ann an Gaidhlig airson na ciad uair - is iad a' gabhail oran mu na h-Eileanan aca fhein. Cha bhiodh an cothrom sin ann, as aonais an oideachadh a fhuair iad tro Acadamiadh a' Mhoid.
- The children are developing a great interest in the Gaelic language and they are really enjoying the tunes. The children from the Small Isles were given the opportunity to sing together in Gaelic for the first time - singing songs about their own Isles. That opportunity would not have been possible without the education they received through the Mod Academy.

Fo Education 6 - Fèisgoil @ Blas Overview



Blas Testimonials

“S e fèis uabhasach cudthromach airson Loch Abar a th'ann am Blas - bidh tachartasan beaga mar seo a' toirt dhuinn chothroman a thighinn còmhla agus a bhruidhinn ri chèile ann an suidheachadh soisealta. Agus bha e cho math a bhith ag èisteachd ri feadhainn de na cluicheadairean-ciùil as fheàrr san t-saoghal!

“Concert I attended was excellent; this is what traditional music is all about. Great venue as well, good local village hall. Thank you for booking Prasgan.”

“Had such a good time! Was visiting Isle of Skye as a first-time tourist to Scotland. My hotel choice and day tour choices were influenced by the Blas Concert.”

“It's great to see events in small communities.”

“Great events, spread the word on our culture and language, keep going.”

“Thank you for making these amazing events happen!”

“The Blas festival is one of the highlights of our year. There is always something on locally and the standard of musicianship is world class.”

‘Hosting a cèilidh with Blas brought new families to our hall and boosted café and accommodation trade all weekend.’