

Name of consultation: Acharacle Gaelic Medium

Your comments: I would like to add my support to the comments made in relation to the potential impact on Ardnamurchan High School should the proposal to formalise the Acharacle GM catchment area go ahead. Acharacle's catchment area is within Ardnamurchan High school's catchment area and therefore any changes to Acharacle's boundaries will impact on AHS.

As was highlighted, if the invitation to establish GM provision is taken up by parents from Lochaline or Ardgour, (and if for any one of several reasons they are unable to have GME provided for their children on their own premises), they will therefore be obliged to send their children to BSGL, as the only viable option open to them. It is natural therefore, having been primary schooled in BSGL that these children will proceed to Àrd-sgoil Lochabar for their secondary schooling.

Any leakage of pupils, in this case, GM pupils from Lochaline or Ardgour primaries who would previously have fed onto AHS, will almost certainly have a detrimental effect on AHS as a whole. Not least, the potential loss of teaching staff or teachers' hours due to a reduction in school roll.

It is also worth noting however, that a reduction in GM pupils and hence staff, will not only impact on GME but also on the whole-school experience of both EM and GM pupils alike. This issue therefore is not just of concern to parents of GM pupils whose cohort numbers will naturally be reduced (not a great model for encouraging increased language use between peers), but for all future parents who are seeking quality education and the best all-round experience for their children at Àrd-sgoil Àird nam Murchain.