

## **Review of Gaelic Medium Early Years and Childcare Provision**

Gaelic early years and childcare provision plays a crucial role in the Gaelic education system and Gaelic development initiatives. Attracting children and parents to the 'Gaelic system' from the earliest stage is essential if the ambitious targets set out in the National Plan for Gaelic for 2021 onwards are to be achieved. Researchers from the Stirling Institute of Education (University of Stirling) and Celtic and Scottish Studies (University of Edinburgh) have been commissioned by the Scottish Government and Bòrd na Gàidhlig to review Gaelic medium Early Years and childcare provision.

The review aims to chart existing Gaelic-medium preschool services and childcare provision and to establish what changes or developments will be needed to ensure that there is sufficient supply to meet demand and that Gaelic-medium provision is effectively promoted. There are four phases to the review:

- mapping of existing provision
- a survey of providers of Gaelic medium preschool education and childcare (asking about the provision offered, costs involved, supply and demand for services, promotion of Gaelic medium provision, strengths and weaknesses and areas for support )
- interviews (expanding on the survey questions) with key informants, including Gaelic language and education organisations and local authorities
- case studies, collecting the views of providers, parents and local authority representatives in specific areas to illustrate and set in context the issues raised in the survey and interviews.

The data collected will be analysed to produce detailed maps of the kind of preschool educational and childcare provision available across Scotland. The findings about factors that inhibit the development of Gaelic medium provision, the forms of support necessary to enhance the supply and quality of services and the means of increasing the up-take of Gaelic medium early education and childcare will form the basis of our recommendations to the Scottish Government and Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

The review began in January 2009 and will end with a report to Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Government in July 2009. To find out more about this study contact Dr Christine Stephen at Stirling Institute of Education ([christine.stephen@stir.ac.uk](mailto:christine.stephen@stir.ac.uk)).

### Review Team

Stirling Institute of Education: Christine Stephen, Joanna McPake, Tessa Carroll  
Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh: Wilson McLeod, Irene Pollock



**UNIVERSITY OF  
STIRLING**

## **Ath-sgrùdadh air Solar Foghlaim Ro-sgoile agus Cùraim Cloinne Gàidhlig**

Tha àite air leth cudromach aig foghlaim ro-sgoile Gàidhlig agus cùram cloinne Gàidhlig ann an siostam foghlaim na Gàidhlig agus ann an iomairtean leasachaidh na Gàidhlig. Tha e deatamach gum bi clann is pàrantan air an tàladh chun 'an t-siostaim Ghàidhlig' aig an ìre as tràithe ma tha na targaidean lèirsinneach ann am Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig 2007-12 gu bhith air an coileanadh. Chaidh luchd-rannsachaidh à Institiùid Foghlaim Shruighlea (Oilthigh Shruighlea) agus Ceiltis agus Eòlas na h-Alba (Oilthigh Dhùn Èideann) a choimiseanadh le Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig gus ath-sgrùdadh a dhèanamh air solar foghlaim ro-sgoile agus cùraim cloinne Ghàidhlig. Is e amas an ath-sgrùdaidh cairt-iùil a dhèanamh air na seirbheisean ro-sgoile agus cùraim cloinne tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig a thathas a' tabhann an-dràsta agus dearbhadh fhaighinn air na h-atharrachaidhean no leasachaidhean a tha a dhìth gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil an solar a' freagradh ris an iarrtas agus gu bheil na seirbheisean Gàidhlig gan adhartachadh agus gan sanasachadh mar bu chòir. Tha ceithir pàirtean anns an ath-sgrùdadh:

- cairt-iùil a dhèanamh air an t-solar a th' ann an-dràsta
- suirbhidh am measg nam buidhnean/daoine a tha a' tabhann foghlaim ro-sgoile Gàidhlig agus cùram cloinne Gàidhlig (a' faighneachd mun t-solar aca, na cosgaisean, solar sheirbheisean agus iarrtas air an son, neartan agus laigsean agus dè an seòrsa taice a tha a dhìth)
- agallamhan (a' togail air ceistean an t-suirbhidh) le luchd-bratha cudromach, nam measg buidhnean Gàidhlig, buidhnean foghlaim agus ùghdarrasan ionadail
- rannsachadh air suidheachaidhean fa leth, a' cruinneachadh beachdan an luchd-sholair, phàrantan agus riochdairean ùghdarrasan ionadail ann an diofar sgìrean gus soilleireachadh a thoirt air na ceistean agus na puingeon a thig a-mach às an t-suirbhidh agus na h-agallamhan

Bidh an dàta a thèid a chruinneachadh air a sgrùdadh gus mapaichean mionaideach a chruthachadh air na seòrsachan foghlaim ro-sgoile Ghàidhlig agus cùraim cloinne Ghàidhlig a tha rim faighinn air feadh Alba. Thèid na co-dhùnidhean againn air na factaran a tha a' bacadh leasachadh an t-solair Ghàidhlig, an taic a bheireadh piseach air solar agus càileachd nan seirbheisean agus na dòighean a bheireadh air daoine gabhail ris na cothroman a th' aca a thaobh foghlaim ro-sgoile Ghàidhlig agus cùraim cloinne Ghàidhlig a chleachdadh mar bhunait do na molaidhean againn do Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Thòisich an t-ath-sgrùdadh san Fhaoilleach 2009 agus thig e gu crìoch le aithisg airson Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig san Òg-mhios 2009. Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun rannsachadh cuiribh fios chun an Dr Christine Stephen aig Institiùid Foghlaim Shruighlea ([christine.stephen@stir.ac.uk](mailto:christine.stephen@stir.ac.uk)).

Sgioba an Ath-sgrùdaidh

Institiùid Foghlaim Shruighlea: Christine Stephen, Joanna McPake, Tessa Carroll  
Ceiltis agus Eòlas na h-Alba, Oilthigh Dhùn Èideann: Wilson McLeod, Irene  
Pollock



**UNIVERSITY OF  
STIRLING**