



19 Dàmhair 2017

Fiona Robertson
Stiùiriche
Roinn Ionnsachaidh
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Fiona chòir

**Caidreachasan Leasachaidh Roinneil airson Foghlaim
Aithisg na Co-bhuidhne Stiùiridh**

Tha mi a' sgrìobhadh thugaibh seach gur sibhse Co-Chathraiche na Co-buidhne Stiùiridh airson nan Caidreachasan Leasachaidh Roinneil (CLRan). Tha dleastanasan air Bòrd na Gàidhlig a thaobh foghlaim na Gàidhlig fo Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 agus Achd an Fhoghlaim (Alba) 2016. Mar sin, tuigidh sibh carson a bhiodh ùidh mhòr againn sna rianan-riaghlaidh ùra a tha gu bhith ann airson foghlaim agus sa bhuidhe a dh'fhaodadh iad sin a thoirt air foghlaim tron Ghàidhlig (FtG), chan ann a-mhàin air sàillibh nan dleastanasan reachdail a th' oirnn ach cuideachd air sàillibh gur e foghlaim aon de na prìomh mheadhanan gus ath-bheothachadh a thoirt air mion-chànanan.

Tha sinn a' toirt ar làn-thaic don phoileasaidh aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba, 'A' Coileanadh na tha Ceart airson Gach Pàiste', agus ag aontachadh gu tur gum bu chòir don phoileasaidh sin a bhith aig cridhe nan atharraichean a tha san amharc airson foghlaim. Tha sinn gu h-àraidh toilichte gum bi poileasaidh a tha a-mach air 'gach pàiste' aig teis-meadhan obair na Buidhne Stiùiridh fhad 's a tha iad a' stiùireadh na h-obrach gus na CLRan a chur air chois, agus gus raon-ùghdarras, prìomh phrionnsapalan, obair agus dleastanasan nan caidreachasan aontachadh. Tha sinn cuideachd fìor thoilichte gu bheil a' bruidhinn air ceannas, co-obrachadh gus cùisean a leasachadh, agus cunbhalachd ann am foghlaim mar phrìomh chinn-uidhe airson nan caidreachasan.

**Regional Improvement Collaboratives for Education
Report of Joint Steering Group**

I write to you in your capacity as Co-chair of the Joint Steering Group for the Regional Improvement Collaboratives. Bòrd na Gàidhlig has responsibilities under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Education (Scotland) Act 2016 in relation to Gaelic education. You will understand therefore that we are greatly interested in the development of the new governance arrangements for education and how these will impact on and benefit Gaelic-medium education (GME), not only because of our statutory obligations but also as education is one of the main mechanisms for minority language revival.

We fully support SG policy on 'Getting It Right For Every Child' and the centrality of this policy to the whole educational reform agenda. We particularly welcome the fact that the policy, which specifically states 'every child', is core to the work of the Steering Group as it progresses the development of RICs, their scope, guiding principles, functions, and responsibilities. The key values around providing leadership, collaboration for improvement, and consistency in application are also warmly welcomed.

Leis na sgìrean a tha gach CLR a' gabhail a-steach, tha cothrom ann FtG a bhith mar phàirt den raon-ùghdarras aca, thoradh tha ùghdarrasan ionadail a tha a' toirt seachad FtG anns gach fear de na sia CLRan, agus a thaobh dhà dhiubh gu h-àraidh (Caidreachas a Tuath agus Caidreachas an Iar), tha a' mhòr-chuid de na h-ùghdarrasan aca an sàs ann am FtG.

Chuireamaid fàilte air tuilleadh fiosrachaidh air na dòighean sa bheilear a' dol a thoirt taic do agus leasachadh air foghlam tron Ghàidhlig an lùib nan CLRan, agus air na cothroman a bhios ann leis na rianan-riaghlaidh ùra beachdachadh air FtG mar phàirt de leasachaidhean foghlaim san fharsaingeachd. Tha grunn dhòighean ann san ghabhadh sin a thoirt gu buil, agus tha modhan co-obrachaidh èifeachdach air an stèidheachadh a-cheana ann an roinn foghlam na Gàidhlig. Bhìomaid gu mòr nur comain nan dèanadh sibh cinnteach gum bi foghlam na Gàidhlig air a ghabhail a-steach san ath-leasachadh seo air foghlam, agus bu mhath leinn beachd no dhà a thoirt dhuibh air ciamar a dh'fhaodadh foghlam tron Ghàidhlig a bhith mar phàirt den phròiseas seo agus FtG air a neartachadh is a leasachadh mar thoradh air sin.

Tha mi an dòchas gu bheil sibh riarachtaichte gu leòr le seo.

Le gach deagh dhùrachd

[redacted]

Shona C NicIllinnein
Ceannard

The geographical basis of the RICs also offer an opportunity to include GME within their remit as all six RICS include educational authorities which currently deliver GME, and in two in particular (Northern Alliance and West Partnership), the majority of members are involved in GME.

We would welcome further information on how Gaelic medium education will be supported and developed through the RICs and how the new governance arrangements will enable GME to be considered in wider developments. There are a number of ways in which this could be achieved and the Gaelic education sector already has effective collaborative structures in place. We would be grateful if you could ensure that Gaelic education is part of the reforms and, for our part, we would like to offer some thoughts on how Gaelic medium education can feature in the process and be strengthened and improved as a result.

I hope this will be acceptable.

With best wishes

Shona C MacLennan
Chief Executive