



Gàidhlig Medium Education in North Ayrshire



Whitehirst Park Primary in Kilwinning is where you'll find North Ayrshire's Gàidhlig Medium Education provision. Established in April 2020, the department follows the mainstream model of education, with the entire Curriculum for Excellence being taught in Gàidhlig. This option is available to all families.



Gàire bhlàth àlainn
- cànan caoimhneis
gach duine.

The benefits of Gàidhlig Medium Education

- Learning thorough GME provides a range of benefits that include:
- Becoming bilingual
- Access to a second culture
- Literacy in two languages
- Many career opportunities

When does the total immersion phase begin?

The total immersion phase begins in nursery between the ages of 3-5. The Total immersion is a significant first step for your child when learning the Gàidhlig language. When choosing to enrol your child into Gàidhlig Medium Education it is beneficial to have had your child attending a Gàidhlig nursery or playgroup before beginning Primary 1. This ensures your child is already familiar with and confident in using the Gàidhlig language.

Leugh tòrr, ionnsaich
mòran, agus thig
thu gu iomadh àite.



How will my child learn in a Gàidhlig total immersed Classroom?



Tha a h-uile pàiste mar
dhiofar flùr, agus còmhla
tha iad ann an gàrradh
àlainn luachmhor.

Your child will be learning through the medium of Gàidhlig in all areas of the curriculum. Learning will be implemented through memorising words and actions to songs, listening carefully to stories, recognising rhyme, following repeated instructions and taking part in various games all in the Gàidhlig language. The activities your child completes and the feedback given to your child will all be in Gàidhlig.

What will a GME classroom look like for my child?

Your child will enter a totally immersed Gàidhlig classroom.

- Classroom signs and labels will all be in Gàidhlig
- The teacher will be talking Gàidhlig to your child continually as they take part in structured play activities.
- The activities your child completes and the feedback given to your child will all be in Gàidhlig.

This is the best practice to achieve equal fluency based on the principles of immersion.



Gàire bhlàth àlainn
- cànan caoimhneis
gach duine.

How can I support my child's learning through GME?

To support your child in their GME learning journey it is recommended parents attend Gàidhlig learner classes. There are various opportunities within North Ayrshire to learn Gàidhlig online or attend Gàidhlig classes.

It is important that as a parent you are aware of the teaching and learning approaches in a totally immersed Gàidhlig classroom. This will let you prepare your child to understand the environment they will be learning in to ensure they receive the best start to their education, they are happy and they are ready to learn through Gàidhlig Medium Education.



'Gaelic Medium Education is open to all and it is important that parents who are not fluent in Gaelic are aware that they are instrumental in supporting their children's education through the medium of Gaelic. Children's fluency in Gaelic is enhanced by using the language outwith school.' (Advice on Gaelic Education 2015)

Useful websites to search

- ☐ Comann nam Pàrant
- ☐ Fiosrachaidh do Phàrantan
- ☐ Gaelic4parents
- ☐ Advice for Gaelic Education
- ☐ Statutory Advice for Gàidhlig
- ☐ Education GoGaelic
- ☐ Gaidhlig nan og

Useful apps to download

- ☐ GoGaelic
- ☐ Air a chloc
- ☐ Fios air fuaimean
- ☐ Duolingo
- ☐ Abair abairtean
- ☐ Dean matamataig



Comments from families

Our experience so far has been fantastic, our little one loves going to school and has learnt quite a bit of Gàidhlig from her few months there already.

I am so proud of my children in the ease in which they can use Gàidhlig.

For further information about enrolment or to discuss the option of Gaidhlig Medium Education for your child please contact Whitehirst Park Primary school via email or phone call.

Email: whitehirstpark@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk Contact No: 01295 554538