

I write as the mother of two children attending GME.

1. I am pleased to note on Pge 47 that there is an intention expressed to "introduce fast-track immersion and literacy learning for prospective teachers" - at this crucial stage, I think this sort of thinking essential if we are to capitalise fully from what appears to be a general surge in goodwill towards Gaelic and translate that into more students in GME.
2. I support CNP Dunedin's suggestion of an action plan to examine all aspects of the difficulties currently slowing GME's progression ie travelling distances, lack of promotion etc I hope the Bord joins with me in recognising that GME is the most effective means of achieving fluency in children.
3. Re GME - we urgently need much increased provision of secondary school classes in Gaelic - or we will produce many speakers with only primary school-level Gaelic.
4. Challenge the written request measure as the only measure for demand for GME
5. I am disappointed that there seems to be so little mention of adult learners and better learning provision for them - I have long wondered, for instance, why the non- Gaelic speaking parents of children attending Nursery in GME are not being specifically targetted: they could make good use of their time spent waiting around for hours while Junior attends class and assist in reinforcing their child's learning by being given lessons in the language. But beyond this small example, it is simply not possible in many parts of Scotland for adult learners to properly progress their learning in a meaningful way to full fluency (despite the heroic attempts of groups such as Cli) and my feeling is that there should be much greater recognition of their needs in the Plan. I was extremely disappointed to note the recent closure of the Gaelic courses at Inverness College, and am concerned that this perhaps ties in with fears expressed to me by others that it is planned eventually for the bulk of Gaelic language courses to be concentrated in Sabhal Mor - it is simply not possible for many of us to remove ourselves to Skye for a year or two - how does the Bord propose to address this concern?
6. I would appreciate more concrete detail of how the Bord is actually planning to achieve its aims - much of the Plan is delightfully aspirational but vague in how to actually achieve these aspirations - I would like to see in the National Plan a clearer outline of the Bord's plans.

Yours

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