

Gaelic Medium Education Consultation 2023
Summary of online responses

I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - parent/carer of current primary pupil(s)	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - Primary School Name	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - parent/carer of current secondary pupil(s)	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - Please enter Secondary School Name	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - parent/carer of future pupil(s) (pre 5 child)	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - local resident	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - other	I am a: (Please tick all applicable boxes) - other, please describe	What is the most positive part of the proposal (if any)? - Comments	What is/are your main concern(s) about the proposal? - Other Comments	What would you like the Council to know about the proposal? - Comments	Overall, do you support the proposal? - Do you support the proposal?	Any other comments? - Comments
Yes	Gilcomstoun	No		No	No	No		The proposed Catchment zones are ideal in that they encompass all of the city residents making this an inclusive proposal and allowing all residents of aberdeen city to feel welcome and encouraged to attend GME.		Thank you for taking into consideration concerns regarding the previous proposed zones and widening the zone to include all city residents.	Yes	
Yes	Gilcomstoun	No		No	No	No		The city wide catchment area and reinstatement of transport are the most positive step as it allows equal access to the provision for every child across the city.	None	It is a very positive proposal which acknowledges the thoughts and feelings of stakeholders which were previously expressed. It is great to see as the previous consultation was so negative.	Yes	
Yes	Gilcomstoun	No		No	No	No		City wide catchment area for both schools.		It is great to see that our views have been taken into account and now appears that GME is being promoted rather than being cut back.	Yes	
No		No		No	No	Yes	Grandparent of Primary Pupil	City wide catchment area to allow all children to chose GME as an option for school.	N/A		Yes	
No		Yes	Hazlehead Academy	No	No	No		It's actually what we asked for, thank you	No concerns	Good move, please pass this	Yes	It's what is needed to encourage GME in Aberdeen, and the Shire
Yes	Gilcomstoun	No		Yes	No	No		It reopens GME to everyone in the city making it more accessible no matter your family/financial situation	None	That the last 4 years without transport and trying to implement a smaller zone has caused damage to GME in aberdeen. Many parents would have liked to have done it but just couldn't. Very glad to see this, it makes me feel more positive about GME, even with the situation with no teachers I now feel the council believe in GME	Yes	No
No		No		No	Yes	No		Fantastic that children should learn our ancient language.	No concerns. I think it should be taught in every school from primary...	Bring it on , sooner the better.	Yes	
No		No		No	Yes	No		Alignment with city boundary			Yes	
No		No		No	Yes	No		Keeping alive a traditional language that will slowly die without intervention	None		Yes	
Yes	Gilcomstoun	No		No	No	No		The creation of a city wide catchment.	The lack of proximity between the primary and secondary schools.	The new catchment is a positive step forward and it seems the council has listened to concerns of affected parties.	Yes	The council should consider reinstating transport for City children wanting to attend GME who qualify based on their distance from school.
Yes	GME Gilcomstoun	No		No	No	No		That ACC recognise that for Gaelic education to flourish in Aberdeen that we need to have as wide a catchment with ACC boundaries as possible to minimise any barriers that may have been created by restricting it to a smaller geographical catchment within the city. Thank you for understanding why GME parents and the wider Gaelic community welcome this valued support.	Can't think of any negatives.	Same as above. Thank you for giving GME education some much needed support particularly at this time where we are facing a huge deficit in GME teachers and the consequential negative impact this could have for Gaelic in the city. This proposal gives a welcome boost to all that value the many positive effects that a flourishing Gaelic community can bring to the city.	Yes	Please support all initiatives to recruit GME teachers to Gilcomstoun. Our children's education is hugely dependent on recruiting and retaining strong and motivated Gaelic teachers.
No		No		Yes	Yes	No		Agree with this proposal. A city wide catchment ensures equal opportunity for all children in Aberdeen city to access GME.	No concerns about catchment proposal. However, I do have concerns about recruitment of GME teachers. It seems that training opportunities for current practitioners in English medium to move to gme is unequal across the country. I.e the immersion year is only available in Glasgow and the islands. Given our local demand for Gaelic teachers I feel making this transition should be made easier and suit a wider range of circumstances (e.g. for teachers who have families and can't move away to undertake this training opportunity but have a higher/equivalent in the language currently).		Yes	
Yes	Gilcomstoun	No		No	Yes	No		The city wide catchment area, enabling all children in the city to access GME	No concerns	I am happy with the information supplied.	Yes	
No		No		No	Yes	No		That all children in the city will be entitled to go into GME no matter where they stay. Transport would also reduce the amount of cars coming into the Rosemount area as parents wouldn't be individually transporting children to & from school.	None	It's very positive. Hopefully teachers can be found to support it.	Yes	
No		No		No	No	No	national organisation	Comann nam Pàrant welcomes the decision to establish catchment areas for GME and we believe that the proposal in this paper for a city-wide catchment is one that will both encourage growth in GME and provide educational benefit for pupils. Since the establishment of GME almost 30 years ago, up until the removal of transport in 2019, parents from the entire local authority area were supported to attend GME in Gilcomstoun and Hazlehead. This proposal now confirms the right of families again within Aberdeen City to access GME with transport provided on an equal basis to that provided for English medium education (EME). We also welcome the inclusion of placing requests from Aberdeenshire, acknowledging that families from that area will still have access to GME. Statutory Guidance states that the catchment area should have the potential to attract parents to choose GME provision for their children'. The clarity in proposal on the catchments and entitlement to transport will encourage more families to consider GME as an option for the children's education.	We have no concerns about the proposal.		Yes	

<p>Freagairt Bhòrd na Gàidhlig don Cho-chomhairleachadh air Sgìre-sgoile airson Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig ann an Comhairle Baile Obar Dheathain</p>	<p>Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Response on the Consultation on Gaelic Medium Education for Aberdeen City Council</p>
<p>1. Ro-ràdh</p> <p>Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' cur fàilte air an iomairt gus sgìre-sgoile a chur air bhonn airson Solar Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig (FtG) ann an Obar Dheathain.</p> <p>Tha am Plana Cànain Nàiseanta Gàidhlig 2018-23 agus an Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Foghlam Gàidhlig mar bhunait airson na freagairt seo. San Stiùireadh Reachdail, far a bheil barrachd mìneachaidh air na ceumannan seo, 's e bunait na cùise gum bu chòir adhartas is fàs a bhith air Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig.</p>	<p>1. Introduction</p> <p>Bòrd na Gàidhlig welcomes the initiative to establish a school catchment areas for Gaelic Medium Education Provision (GME) in Aberdeen City.</p> <p>The Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education and the National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-23 form the basis for the Bòrd's response to this consultation. The Statutory Guidance, where there is further detail on the steps involved, has as its basis that GME should develop and grow.</p>
<p>2. Fiosrachadh sa Cho-chomhairleachadh</p> <p>Tha Comhairle Baile Obar Dheathain ag ràdh gu bheil iad airson sgìre-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson nan adhbharan a leanas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaidh solar FtG ann an Obar Dheathain a stèidheachadh le Comhairle Roinn nam Monadh Liath, agus aig an àm cha deach sgìrean-sgoile sam bith a stèidheachadh. • Dh'fhoillsich Bòrd na Gàidhlig Stiùireadh Reachdail ann an 2017, a' comharrachadh gum bu chòir do dh'ùghdarrasan ionadail sgìrean-sgoile a chruthachadh airson FtG. • Tha FtG taobh a-staigh Comhairle Baile Obar Dheathain an-dràsta ri fhaighinn aig Acadamaidh Hazlehead agus Bun-sgoil Gilcomstoun. Gus an Stiùireadh Reachdail a leantainn, tha 	<p>2. Consultation Information</p> <p>Aberdeen City Council says they want to establish a catchment area for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GME provision in Aberdeen was established by the former Grampian Regional Council, and at the time no catchment areas were established for this provision. • Bòrd na Gàidhlig issued Statutory Guidance in 2017, specifying that local authorities should create catchment areas for GME. • GME within Aberdeen City Council is currently provided at Hazlehead Academy and Gilcomstoun School. To comply with the statutory guidance, it is proposed that catchment areas for these provisions

<p>moladh ann gun tèid sgìrean-sgoile a stèidheachadh a bhios a' gabhail a-steach am baile gu lèir.</p>	<p>are established, which overlay the city as a whole.</p>
<p>3. Moladh na Comhairle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sgìre-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson Foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig aig Acadamaidh Hazlehead, a tha a' gabhail a-steach crìochan Comhairle Baile Obar Dheathain; • Sgìre-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig aig Bun-sgoil Gilcomstoun, a tha a' gabhail a-steach crìochan Comhairle Baile Obar Dheathain; • Gun tòisich na sgìrean-sgoile ùra bho 1 Lùnastal 2023. 	<p>3. Council Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish a catchment area for the existing Gaelic Medium Education provision at Hazlehead Academy, which is bounded by Aberdeen City's local authority boundary; • To establish a catchment area for the existing Gaelic Medium Education provision at Gilcomstoun School, which is bounded by Aberdeen City's local authority boundary; • That the new catchment areas should take effect from 1 August 2023.
<p>4. Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Foghlam Gàidhlig</p> <p>Tha moladh san Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Foghlam Gàidhlig gun tèid sgìrean-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson sgoiltean far a bheil foghlam tron Ghàidhlig (FtG) (Earrainnean 2.53 & 2.54).</p> <p>Sgìrean-sgoile FtG is Stiùireadh airson Àiteachan a Ghleidheadh do Sgoilearan</p> <p>Bu chòir do dh'ùghdarrasan foghlaim sgìrean-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson FtG, agus dh'fhaodadh gum bi iad ag iarraidh beachdachadh air an iarrtas a th' ann airson FtG nuair a tha iad a' stèidheachadh stiùireadh airson nan àiteachan a thèid a ghleidheadh do sgoilearan ann am FtG</p> <p>Tha 2.54 ag ràdh:</p> <p>Bu chòir do sgìre-sgoile airson sgoil le FtG a bhith na sgìre far a bheil an t-ùghdarras</p>	<p>4. Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education</p> <p>The Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education recommends that catchment areas are established for schools where Gaelic-medium education (GME) is provided (Section 2.53 & 2.54).</p> <p>GME Catchment Areas and Placing Guidelines</p> <p>Education authorities should establish catchment areas for GME provision and may wish to consider demand for GME when setting guidelines for placing pupils in GME provision.</p> <p>2.54 states:</p> <p>A catchment area of GME provision should be an area in which the education authority thinks it is reasonable for pupils wishing to receive GME provision to travel to school and should have the potential to attract</p>



foghlaim den bheachd gu bheil e reusanta do chloinn san sgìre sin, a tha airson a dhol gu FtG, siubhal don sgoil, agus bu chòir san sgìre sin gum bi cothrom ann pàrantan a thàladh gu bhith cur an cuid chloinne gu FtG.

Nì sgìrean-sgoile airson an dà chuid Acadamaidh Hazlehead & Bun-sgoil Gilcomstoun cinnteach gum bi FtG nas ruigsinneach agus nas tarraingiche do phàrantan is clann.

Tha an t-ùghdarras foghlaim air beachdachadh air clann is teaghlaichean air am faodadh buaidh a bhith leis na molaidhean ùra. Mar eisimpleir, dhaibhsan a tha taobh a-muigh crìochan a' bhaile, agus tha iad air soilleireachadh gum bi e comasachadh dhaibh leantainn air adhart le FtG.

Tha an t-ùghdarras foghlaim air soilleireachadh ciamar a gheibh clann is teaghlaichean a tha a' fuireach taobh a-muigh a' bhaile, àite ann am FtG ma tha iad ga iarraidh.

Leis a sin, tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' cumail taic ris a' mholadh gun tèid sgìre-sgoile a chruthachadh an dà chuid airson Acadamaidh Hazlehead agus Bun-sgoil Gilcomstoun, far a bheil solar FtG.

parents to choose GME provision for their children.

The education authority has considered both reasonable travel distance & arrangements for pupils and parents.

The city-wide catchment area for both Hazlehead Academy and Gilcomstoun School will ensure GME is both more accessible and more attractive to prospective parents & children.

The education authority has given due consideration to children & families that may be impacted by the proposed changes. For example, those outwith city boundaries, and highlighted that they will be able to continue with GME.

The education authority has highlighted how children & families living outwith city boundaries can access GME should they wish to do so.

Therefore, Bòrd na Gàidhlig welcomes the recommendation that a catchment area will be established for both Hazlehead Academy Gilcomstoun School where there is GME provision.

