

Gaelic Pre-School Classes

Angus Council supports pre-school provision in Gaelic and there is an established Gaelic pre-school class at Whitehills Primary School, Forfar.

If you are interested in the Gaelic Pre-School Class or would like your child to attend the Gaelic Medium Education Class please contact:

ACCESS Angus 08452 777 778
or

Director of Education
Angus House,
Orchardbank Business Park,
Forfar,
DD8 1AE
Email:
Education@angus.gov.uk

For further information about Gaelic provision in Angus the following may be contacted. They will be able to give advice on Gaelic Medium Education and how to enrol your child:

Susan Duff
Senior Education Manager
Angus House,
Orchardbank Business Park,
Forfar,
DD8 1AE
Tel: (01307) 476363
Fax: (01307) 461848
Email: education@angus.gov.uk

Brenda Davie,
Head Teacher,
Whitehills Primary School,
Forfar,
DD8 3EQ
Tel: (01307) 462996
Email:
whitehills@whitehills.angus.sch.uk
or ACCESS Angus 08452 777 778.

April 2011

Information for Parents

**Gaelic
Medium
Education**



*Foghlam troimh
Mheadhon na
Gaidhlig
ann an Aonghas*

Whitehills Gaelic Medium Class

The Angus Gaelic medium class was opened at Kirkriggs Primary School, Forfar in August 1995 and was re-sited to Whitehills Primary School in August 2007.

Although it occupies its own classroom it is very much part of the whole school community. The children join the rest of the school for assemblies, school trips, specialist teaching, playtimes, and general activities.

Parents are strongly involved in the work of the class and the wider school, and there is close collaboration with the Gaelic teacher.

At present, one child comes from a Gaelic speaking bilingual family.



What is Gaelic Medium Education?

Gaelic Medium Education has expanded rapidly and successfully over recent years across Scotland. The aim of Gaelic Medium Education is to achieve competency in both Gaelic and English. Children are taught the curriculum in Gaelic, followed by the gradual use of English. By the end of primary seven children educated in Gaelic Medium Units will have completed the curriculum and also be fluent in Gaelic. Primaries one to three are the 'total immersion' stages in which all teaching is done through Gaelic language. In the last term of

Primary three, English reading and writing are gradually introduced.

What are the benefits?

Research has found that there are a range of benefits to children from learning Gaelic through the total immersion approach. They have deeper understanding of language from an early age and their ability to learn other languages is enhanced. They are also more confident in tackling new languages at a later stage. Children educated in Gaelic Medium classes grow up with a deep knowledge of and respect for the culture of Gaelic-speaking Scotland. The Gaelic experience will promote a wider and forward looking approach to the opportunities in multi-lingual Europe in which Gaelic sits happily beside other European languages.