ar son na Gaeilge - ar son na Gaelscolaíochta

PRÍOMH-ÉILIMH GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. ar RIALTAS NA hÉIREANN 2011

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Gaelscoileanna

ar son na Gaeilge - ar son na Gaelscolaíochta

<u>GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. DEMANDS of the 2011 IRISH GOVERNMENT</u>

- **PROTECT THE PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO IN IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS**
- **A REDEPLOYMENT PANEL FOR TEACHERS IN IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS**
- **IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION FOR GAELSCOIL RÁTH TÓ**
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- **IRISH AS A CORE SUBJECT FOR THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE**
- **AN APPROPRIATE SYLLABUS FOR HIGHER LEVEL IRISH IN THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE**
- **APPROPRIATE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS TEACHING THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF IRISH**
- **PROPER RECOGNITION FOR IRISH-MEDIUM UNITS IN POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS**
- **APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS**
- **CONFIRM FUNDING FOR GAELSCOILEANNA TEO.**

➢ CÓIMHEAS DALTAÍ LE MÚINTEOIRÍ SNA SCOILEANNA LÁN-GHAEILGE A CHOSAINT

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Aithníodh go raibh obair bhreise (aistriúcháin, easpa acmhainní, srl.) ar siúl sna scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge nuair a tugadh cóimheas daltaí le múinteoirí níos ísle dóibh. Cé go bhfuil acmhainní breise ar fáil do na scoileanna seo ó shin, fós níl an réimse acmhainne ar fáil is atá do scoileanna atá ag múineadh trí Bhéarla. Gheall an Rialtas chomh maith nach n-athrófaí an cóimheas dalta le múinteoirí don scoilbhliain 2011/2012.

Réiteach Éilithe

An cóimheas daltaí múinteoirí sna scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge a fhágáil mar atá sé, le haitheantas a thabhairt ar an obair bhreise a bhíonn ar mhúinteoirí agus ar dhaltaí a dhéanamh sna scoileanna seo.

➢ PAINÉAL ATHIOMLONNAITHE DO MHÚINTEOIRÍ SNA SCOILEANNA LÁN-GHAEILGE

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Ní aithníonn an córas painéil athiomlonnaithe do mhúinteoirí atá ann faoi láthair go bhfuil scoileanna le riachtanais ard-chaighdeán sa Ghaeilge. Ciallaíonn seo go m'fhéidir go mbeadh ar scoil lán-Ghaeilge glacadh le múinteoir nach bhfuil dóthain Gaeilge acu múineadh trí mheán na Gaeilge.

Réiteach Éilithe

Go n-aithneodh an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna go bhfuil riachtanais ar leith Gaeilge ag na scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge trí phainéal athiomlonnaithe ar leith a bheith ann do na scoileanna a mhúineann trí mheán na Gaeilge.

➢ AITHEANTAS LÁITHREACH DO GHAELSCOIL RÁTH TÓ

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Aithníodh Ráth Tó mar cheantar ina mbeadh fás ag teacht ar líon na ndaltaí bunscoile ann i 2010 agus, mar sin, go mbeadh gá le breis spáis bunscolaíochta ar an mbaile. Cuireadh iarratas isteach ar ghaelscoil don cheantar (ar a raibh mór-éileamh – 35 dalta réidh le tosú sna naíonáin) ach sa deireadh shocraigh an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna nach mbeadh gá le scoil nua ar an mbaile ar chúinsí daonra amháin. Ghlac an coiste bunaithe cinneadh Gaelscoil Ráth Tó a oscailt gan aitheantas i mbliana agus tá sí ag iarraidh aitheantas a fháil do Mheán Fómhair 2011. Níl aon ghaelscoil eile ar an mbaile.

Réiteach Éilithe

Aitheantas a thabhairt do Ghaelscoil Ráth Tó le feidhmiú láithreach le soláthar scolaíocht lán-Ghaeilge a chur ar fáil héileamh na dtuismitheoirí sa cheantar!

➢ PROTECT THE PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO IN IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS

Present Situation

The favourable pupil-teacher ratio granted to Irish-medium schools implicitly recognised the considerable extra workload involved in running an Irish-medium school (translation, lack of resources etc.) Although more resources are now available to these schools, they still don't have the breadth of resources available to schools teaching through the medium of English. The government also pledged not to change the pupil-teacher ratio for the 2011/2012 school-year.

Solution
Leave the pupil-teacher ratio in Irish-medium schools unchanged in recognition of the extra work done by both teachers and pupils in these schools.

➢ A REDEPLOYMENT PANEL FOR TEACHERS IN IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS

Present Situation

The current redeployment panel for teachers doesn't recognise the needs of Irish-medium schools, which require a high standard of Irish. Practically speaking, this means that they might have to accept teachers who don't have sufficient Irish to teach through the medium of Irish.

Solution

The Department of Education and Skills should recognise the special language needs of Irish-medium schools by providing a special redeployment panel for schools teaching through the medium of Irish.

➢ IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION FOR GAELSCOIL RÁTH TÓ

Present Situation

Ratoath was recognised as an growth area where the number of primary school pupils would increase in 2010, leading to an increased demand for primary school places in the town. An application for a gaelscoil in the area was submitted (there was considerable demand for this, with 35 pupils ready to begin Junior Infants) but the Department of Education and Skills decided (on the basis of demographics) that a new school wasn't necessary. The Founding Committee of Gaelscoil Ráth Tó decided to open without departmental recognition and the school is seeking recognition for September 2011. There is no other gaelscoil in the town.

Solution

Immediate recognition for Gaelscoil Ráth Tó, ensuring that Irish-medium education is a viable option for the parents of Rath Oath who have chosen it.

➢ POLASAÍ TRÉDHEARCADH DO BHUNÚ SCOILEANNA LÁN-GHAEILGE

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Faoi láthair níl de rogha ag gach tuismitheoir ar mian leo scolaíocht lán-Ghaeilge a fháil dá gcuid páistí. Níor bunaíodh aon ghaelscoil ó 2008 i leith cé go bhfuil éileamh i go leor ceantracha sa tír. Luaitear go bhfuil sé mar aidhm ag an Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge polasaí tumoideachais náisiúnta a chur chun cinn. Tá gá le scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge nua leis an aidhm seo a chur i bhfeidhm.

Réiteach Éilithe

Soláthar sa bhunleibheál agus san iarbhunleibhéal a mhéadú agus a fheabhsú chun go mbeidh teacht ag gach dalta a bhaineann leas as oideachas réamhscolaíochta, agus bunscolaíochta lán-Ghaeilge ar sholáthar cuí dara leibhéil trí chur chuige comhaontaithe leis na páirtithe leasmhara uilig agus trí ghlacadh agus feidhmiú na héilithe atá leagtha amach i bPlean Bunaithe Gaelscolaíochta GAELSCOILEANNA TEO.

➢ AN GHAEILGE MAR CHROÍ-ÁBHAR DON ARDTEIST

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Faoi láthair tá an Ghaeilge aitheanta mar chroí-ábhar san Ardteist ach tá roinnt daoine ag éileamh go mbeadh sí roghnach agus go bhfuil gá aithbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar an siollabas. Tá deiseanna fostaíochta níos fearr ar fáil do dhaoine a bhfuil Gaeilge acu.

Réitigh Éilithe

Is gá an cúrsa a athrú seachas é a dhéanamh roghnach! Éilíonn Gaelscoileanna Teo. go mbeadh cúrsa croí ábhair ann don Ghaeilge – 'teanga na Gaeilge' agus cúrsa roghnach ag an ardleibhéal do 'litríocht agus saíocht na Gaeilge' (a mhúinfí go comhtháite le 'teanga na Gaeilge'). Léiríonn an Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge gur aidhm dó cumas i nGaeilge a leathnú. Bheadh Gaeilge mar chroí-ábhar Ardteiste de dhíth leis an aidhm seo a bhaint amach.

➢ SIOLLABAS ARDLEIBHÉAL ARDTEISTE CUÍ SA GHAEILGE

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Tá athraithe á chur i bhfeidhm don siollabas Gaeilge Ardteiste do 2012 a chiallaíonn nach bhfuil an dúshláin céanna bainteach le Gaeilge ard leibhéil is a bhí go dtí seo (ní bheidh gá staidéar a dhéanamh ar leabhar iomlán i nGaeilge mar shampla, agus tabharfar 40% nó 50% de na marcanna don bhéaltriail). Gan an dúshlán seo tiocfaidh laghdú ar leibhéal Gaeilge na ndaoine óga sa tír.

Réiteach Éilithe

Tá sé riachtanach go gcuirfear cúrsa eile ar fáil ag leibhéal na hArdteiste, 'saíocht agus litríocht na Gaeilge' a thabharfaidh deis do dhaltaí ard-scileanna i scríobh agus i léamh na teanga a fhorbairt ionas go mbeidh siad in ann oideachas ceart a fháil sa Ghaeilge, go mbeidh na scileanna acu le tabhairt faoi na hábhair acadúla eile trí mheán na Gaeilge agus le bheith i ann feidhmiú trí Ghaeilge sa saol oibre.

➢ A TRANSPARENT PROCESS FOR THE FOUNDING OF NEW IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS

Present Situation

At present, the option of Irish-medium education is not available to every parent. No gaelscoil has been granted recognition by the Department of Education since 2008, despite the considerable demand and interest in many areas. The 20 year Strategy for the Irish Language lists the promotion of Irish-medium education as one of its aims. New Irish-medium schools need to be founded and developed in order to bring this aim to fruition.

Solution

Increase and improve Irish-medium provision at primary and post-primary level so that every pupil who enjoys the benefits of Irish-medium pre-school and primary education will be able to progress to suitable post-primary provision. This will be achieved through agreement between the relevant bodies and by following the demands outlined in GAELSCOILEANNA TEO.'s Plan for Founding Schools.

➢ IRISH AS A CORE SUBJECT FOR THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Present Situation

At present, Irish is recognised as a core subject for Leaving Certificate but some people are demanding that it be made optional and that a review of the syllabus is necessary. Irish speakers have better employment prospects.

Solution

The course should be changed rather than made optional! GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. demands a compulsory 'Irish language' subject and an optional higher level subject 'literature and learning' (which could be integrated with 'Irish language'). Increased proficiency in the Irish language is one of the aims of the 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language. Irish as a compulsory Leaving Certificate subject is necessary if this aim is to be realised.

➢ AN APPROPRIATE SYLLABUS FOR HIGHER LEVEL IRISH IN THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Present Situation

Changes have been proposed to the 2012 Leaving Certificate Irish syllabus which will mean that the higher level course will not be as challenging as it previously was (pupils won't study entire books in Irish for example and 40-50% of the marks will be allotted to the oral examination). Without this challenge, the standard of Irish of young people in this country will decrease.

Solution

Another course at Leaving Certificate level, 'literature and learning' which would afford pupils an opportunity to develop advanced writing and reading skills and give them a rounded education in Irish. This, in turn, would equip them for studying other subjects through the medium of Irish and enable them to work through Irish.

➢ OILIÚINT CUÍ DO MHÚINTEOIRÍ AG MÚINEADH TRÍ MHEÁN NA GAEILGE

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Níl soláthar dóthanach do mhúinteoirí leis an oiliúint chuí ar shainriachtanais bhreise earnáil na gaelscolaíochta ná níl raon oiriúnach cláir oiliúna réamhseirbhíse, inseirbhíse agus insealbhaithe san earnáil. Tá bearna idir an teoiric agus an cleachtas go ginearála sna cláir oiliúna do mhúinteoirí, agus tá an bearna seo níos leithne fós d'earnáil na gaelscolaíochta mar gheall ar shainriachtanais bhreise na hearnála nach bhfuil freastal á dhéanamh orthu i mbealach struchtúrtha ná cuimsitheach.

Réitigh Éilithe

(i) Modúil éigeantacha ar an ngaelscolaíocht agus ar mhúinteoireacht trí mheán na Gaeilge i ngach coláiste oiliúna, le cleachtadh múinteoireachta i ngaelscoil lárnach ann

(ii) Tréimhse éigeantach, fiúntach agus strúchtúrtha le caitheamh ag ábhair oidí sa Ghaeltacht

(iii) Clár insealbhaithe cuí do gach múinteoir agus príomhoide nua i scoil lán-Ghaeilge móide clár cuimsitheach inseirbhíse ar shainriachtanais mhúinteoirí san earnáil lán-Ghaeilge.

(iv) Ionad náisiúnta d'fhorbairt ghairmiúil múinteoirí trí mheán na Gaeilge a fhorbairt mar atá geallta sa Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge.

➢ AITHEANTAS CUÍ DO NA HAONAID LÁN-GHAEILGE AG AN DARA LEIBHÉAL

An Comthéacs Reatha

Bíonn an-chuid dúshláin roimh na nAonad agus go háirithe roimh na múinteoirí i bhfeighil orthu ó thaobh stádais, neamhspleáchais ón mháthairscoil, acmhainní, struchtúr agus tacaíocht ghinearálta. Faoi láthair tá rath na nAonad ag brath ar dhea-thoil na bPríomhoidí / bPríomhoifigigh na gCoistí Gairmoideachais agus ar sholáthar inmheánach oidí na mórscoile.

Réitigh Éilithe

Go dtabharfaí aitheantas cuí do na hAonaid lán-Ghaeilge atá ag feidhmiú trí feidhmiú a dhéanamh ar na moltaí atá ag GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. ina polasaí ar na hAonaid lán-Ghaeilge agus go mbeadh struchtúr buan curtha fúthu.

➢ APPROPRIATE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS TEACHING THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF IRISH

Present Situation

There is an insufficient number of teachers with the appropriate training in the particular needs of the Irish-medium education sector, and an insufficient number of pre-service, in-service and orientation programmes in the sector. There is a gap between theory and practice in general in the training programmes for teachers, and this gap is wider still for the Irish-medium education sector due to the particular needs of the sector, which are not being served in any structured or comprehensive way.

Solution

(v) Compulsory modules on Irish-medium education and teaching through the medium of Irish in every teacher-training college, with teaching practice in an Irish-medium school central to the module

(vi) Student teachers should spend a compulsory, structured and worthwhile period in the Gaeltacht

(vii) Appropriate orientation programme for every new teacher and principal in an Irish-medium school and a comprehensive in-service programme on the particular needs of teachers working in the Irish-medium sector

(viii) National centre for the professional development of teachers through the medium of Irish, as pledged in the Government's 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language.

➢ PROPER RECOGNITION FOR IRISH-MEDIUM UNITS IN POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Present Situation

Irish-medium units face many challenges, especially for the teachers in charge of the units in terms of recognition, independence from the parent school, resources, structure and general support. At present, the success of Irish-medium units depends on the goodwill of the principals/CEOs of the Vocational Education Committees and the supply of teachers available within the parent school.

Solution

Grant proper recognition to the Irish-medium units in operation by implementing the recommendations made by GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. in the organisation's Policy on Irish-Medium Units so that they may have a basis in a permanent structure.

➢ CÓIRÍOCHT CHÓIR DO NA SCOILEANNA LÁN-GHAEILGE

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Tá géarchéim chóiríochta in earnáil na gaelscolaíochta go leanúnach le blianta fada anuas i measc na scoileanna a bhfuil aitheantas buan faighte acu ón Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta (agus mar sin iad i dteideal cóiríocht bhuan). I measc na mbunscoileanna lán-Ghaeilge (126 scoil le haitheantas buan), tá 43% i gcóiríocht sealadach, agus i measc na n-iarbhunscoileanna lán-Ghaeilge (21 scoil le haitheantas buan) tá 48% i gcóiríocht sealadach.

Caithfear deireadh a chur leis na socraithe sealadacha mí-oiriúnacha seo agus gníomhú a éileamh ón Roinn ar thimpeallacht sláintúil agus oiriúnach foghlama a bheith ar fáil dár bpáistí.

Éilímid ar an Rialtas freagracht a ghlacadh as an easnamh ollmhór san infrastruchtúir oideachais i scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge trí:-

(i) thosaíocht a thabhairt do ghéarchéim staid na cóiríochta i scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge le haitheantas buan atá i gcóiríocht sealadach.

(ii) phleanáil réamhghníomhach a bheith ann do sholáthar suíomhanna trí struchtúr comhaontaithe idir an Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta agus na húdaráis áitiúla

(iii) dhualgas reachtúil a bheith ar an Roinn Oideachais foirgneamh buan a sholáthar do scoil laistigh de 3 bliana ó bhronntar an t-aitheantas buan ar an scoil

(iv) íoschaighdeán de chóiríocht sealadach a bheith ann do scoileanna, idir spás agus caighdeán fisiciúil, móide scála ama an tréimhse sealadaigh do gach scoil a bheith chomhaontaithe

(v) go mbeidh cúram cíosa 100% ar an Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta do gach scoil le haitheantas buan, agus

(vi) i gcás scoileanna gan aitheantas buan, aisíoc iomlán ar an difir idir 75% agus 100% tar éis don scoil aitheantas buan a bhaint amach.

➢ MAOINIÚ A CHINNTIÚ DO GAELSCOILEANNA TEO.

An Comhthéacs Reatha

Tá an eagraíocht GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. bunmhaoinithe ag Foras na Gaeilge agus tá bagairt ar an leanúnachas don mhaoiniú sin de bharr athraithe sa chóras maoinithe ag an bhForas. Tá ualach oibre na heagraíochta ag méadú go leanúnach agus tá géarghá chur le h-acmhainní daonna na heagraíochtaí chun ár gcuid spriocanna straitéiseacha a bhaint amach chun leasa forbairt earnáil na gaelscolaíochta.

Réiteach Éilithe

Bunmhaoiniú a chinntiú don eagraíocht ar bhonn ilbhlianta agus ardú suntasach a chur ar fáil chun chur le foireann na heagraíochta agus chun spriocanna straitéiseacha fadtéarmacha na heagraíochta a bhaint amach go tráthúil agus ar ardchaighdeán ar mhaithe le cur chun cinn na scolaíochta lán-Ghaeilge sa tír.

➢ APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR IRISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS

Present Situation

There is an accommodation crisis in the Irish-medium education sector for many years now amongst schools which have been granted permanent recognition by the Department of Education and Skills (and as such are entitled to permanent accommodation). Of the 126 Irish-medium primary schools with permanent recognition, 43% are in temporary accommodation and of the 21 post-primary Irish-medium schools, 48% are in temporary accommodation.

These inappropriate and temporary arrangements must come to an end and the Department must be obliged to provide a healthy and appropriate learning environment for our children.

We demand that the Government take responsibility for the gaps in the educational infrastructure in Irish-medium schools by:-

(vii) giving priority to the accommodation crisis in Irish-medium schools that are currently in temporary accommodation despite having permanent recognition

(viii) planning ahead for the provision of sites through an agreed structure between the Department of Education and Skills and local authorities

(ix) ensuring that the Department of Education is legally obliged to provide permanent accommodation for schools within 3 years of the school being granted permanent recognition

(x) providing a minimum standard of temporary accommodation for schools, to include physical space and the quality of that space as well as an agreed timescale for the period in which each school will be in temporary accommodation

(xi) obliging the Department of Education to pay 100% of the rent for schools with permanent recognition, and

(xii) repaying in full of the difference between 75% and 100% once the school has been granted permanent recognition, in the case of schools without permanent recognition.

➢ CONFIRM FUNDING FOR GAELSCOILEANNA TEO.

Present Situation

GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. is core-funded by Foras na Gaeilge and there is a threat to the continued funding of the organisation due to changes in Foras na Gaeilge's funding scheme structure. The organisation's workload is continually increasing and additional staff is necessary in order to achieve the organisation's strategic objectives and further develop the Irish-medium education sector.

Solution

Confirm core funding for the organisation on a multi-year basis and include a significant increase to allow for additional staff to be employed and for the long-term strategic objectives of the organisation to be achieved in a timely manner and to an excellent standard, in order to promote Irish-medium education throughout the country.