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TUMOIDEACHAS SA BHUNSCOIL GHAELTACHTA:

EOLAS DO THUISMITHEOIRÍ AGUS DO CHAOMHNÓIRÍ

IMMERSION EDUCATION IN GAELTACHT SCHOOLS:

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Gaeloideachas
Guth don Oideachas lán-Ghaeilge agus Gaeltachta

www.gaeloideachas.ie

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Gaeloideachas
Guth don Oideachas lán-Ghaeilge agus Gaeltachta

Tá Gaeloideachas maoinithe ag Foras na Gaeilge chun seirbhísí tacaíochta a chur ar fáil do scoileanna Gaeltachta ag an mbunleibhéal agus ag an iarbhunleibhéal, ar a n-áirítear:

- Comhairle agus tacaíocht ó Oifigigh Forbartha Gaeltachta agus ón ionadaíocht Gaeltachta ar Bhord Stiúrtha Gaeloideachas
- Cruinnithe agus cuairteanna comhairliúcháin le scoileanna Gaeltachta
- Cur i láthair agus cruinnithe ar bhonn aonair do na boird bhainistíochta, foirne scoile agus tuismitheoirí scoileanna Gaeltachta ar fheidhmiú an luath-thumoideachais
- Forbairt ghairmiúil leanúnach a chur ar fáil tríd an Tionól Forbartha i gcomhar le COGG, agus trí sheimineáir oiliúna
- Forbairt ghairmiúil agus tacaíocht do scoileanna Gaeltachta sa réimse Riachtanais Speisialta Oideachais
- Guth na scoileanna Gaeltachta a chur chun cinn trí ionadaíocht agus abhcóideacht a dhéanamh ar a gcuid riachtanas

Gaeloideachas is funded by Foras na Gaeilge to support the development of Gaeltacht schools at primary and post-primary level, including;

- Advice and support from Gaeltacht Development Officers and Gaeltacht representatives on the Gaeloideachas Board of Directors
- Consultations and school visits for Gaeltacht schools
- Presentations and meetings with school boards, staff and parents on the implementation of early immersion education
- Providing continuous professional development through an annual conference in partnership with COGG, and other training events
- Providing professional development and support to Gaeltacht schools regarding Special Educational Needs
- Giving a voice to Gaeltacht schools through representation and advocacy regarding their needs

www.gaeloideachas.ie
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Céard é Tumoideachas sa Bhunscoil Ghaeltachta?

Sna Naíonáin Bheaga agus sna Naíonáin Mhóra, is trí Ghaeilge amháin a bheidh na daltaí ag foghlaim ón tús. Beidh siad ag caint, ag canadh, ag foghlaim rannta, ag spraoi, ag cur lena stór focal agus frásaí Gaeilge. Foghlaimeoidh siad a gcuid scileanna léitheoireachta agus scríbhneoireachta trí Ghaeilge. I ndiaidh na Naíonán Mhóra, tosóidh siad ag foghlaim léitheoireacht agus scríbhneoireacht an Bhéarla. De réir an taighde idirnáisiúnta trasnóidh na scileanna léitheoireachta agus scríbhneoireachta a d'fhoghlaim siad trí Ghaeilge go nádúrtha go dtí an Béarla.

Cúlra

Tá meascán teangacha anois sa phobal agus sa seomra ranga Gaeltachta. Bíonn difríochtaí móra sa chaighdeán Gaeilge a bhíonn ag páistí ag teacht ar scoil. Is cainteoirí dúchais cuid acu ó theaghlaigh lán-Ghaeilge, bíonn beagán Gaeilge ag cuid eile agus bíonn roinnt páistí nach mbíonn aon Ghaeilge acu. Go minic dírítear an mhúinteoireacht ar an dalta is lú Gaeilge, ar mhaithe lena thabhairt go dtí caighdeán na ndaltaí eile sa rang ach sa chás sin tá an chontúirt ann nach mbeadh forbairt á déanamh ar an dalta a bhfuil Gaeilge ar a thoil aige.

Is é cur chuige an tumoideachais atá leagtha amach mar chur chuige oideachais sa **bPolasaí don Oideachas Gaeltachta 2017-2022.** Tá sé cruthaithe go hidirnáisiúnta gurb é seo an bealach is fearr chun caighdeán Gaeilge an chainteora dúchais agus an fhoghlaimeora Gaeilge a threisiú. Cuideoidh an cur chuige seo leis an gcainteoir dúchais agus leis an bhfoghlaimeoir caighdeán ard oideachais a bhaint amach trí mheán na Gaeilge. Is léir dúinn go bhfuil ag éirí go han-mhaith leis an gcóras tumoideachais sna scoileanna Gaeltachta ina bhfuil sé i bhfeidhm cheana.

What is Immersion Education in a Gaeltacht School?

Students learn everything through Irish from the beginning of Junior Infants through to the end of Senior Infants. They do this by talking, singing, learning rhymes, playing, adding to their vocabulary and their phrases in Irish. They learn the skills they need to read and write in Irish. After Senior Infants, they learn to read and write in English. International research shows that the skills they've learned to allow them to read and write in Irish transfer naturally to English.

Background

Gaeltacht classrooms reflect the mix of languages found in Gaeltacht communities. The standard of Irish that children have when they start school varies a lot. Some of them are native speakers from Irish-speaking families, some have a little Irish and some have no Irish at all. Often, the teaching of Irish is directed at the student with the least amount of Irish, to bring them to the level that the other students have, but this can mean that the student proficient in Irish is not sufficiently challenged in his/her language skills.

Immersion education is the approach recognised in **The Policy on Gaeltacht Education 2017-2022** that schools with Gaeltacht recognition must implement.

The Policy on Gaeltacht Education 2017-2022 recommends the practice of immersion education. International studies have shown that this is the best way to develop the fluency of both the native speaker and the child learning Irish. Immersion education will help both to achieve a high standard of education through the medium of Irish. The immersion education method is very successful where already practiced in some Gaeltacht schools.

An bhfuil ceisteanna eile agat?

Oifigigh Forbartha Gaeltachta:
Niamh De Búrca | 087 9155114 |
niamh@gaelscoileanna.ie
Peigí Ní Chonghaile | 087 9452452 |
peigi@gaelscoileanna.ie

Príomh Oifig:
01 8535195 | oifig@gaelscoileanna.ie

Tá eolas cuimsitheach maidir leis an eagraíocht agus an córas oideachais lán-Ghaeilge ar fáil ar www.gaeloideachas.ie, agus foilsítear ábhar go rialta ar Twitter.com/gaeloideachas agus Facebook.com/gaeloideachas chomh maith.

Do you have other questions?

Gaeltacht Development Officers:
Niamh De Búrca | 087 9155114 |
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Peigí Ní Chonghaile | 087 9452452 |
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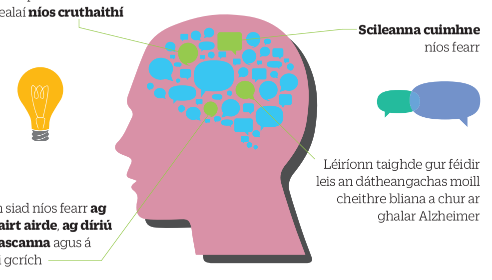
Main Office:
01 8535195 | oifig@gaelscoileanna.ie

You'll find comprehensive information about the organisation and about Irish-medium education on our website, www.gaeloideachas.ie, and you can get regular updates on Twitter.com/gaeloideachas and Facebook.com/gaeloideachas.

Buntáistí an Tumoideachais

Cad is fiú an tumoideachas don pháiste? Cad a deir an taighde in Éirinn agus go hidirnáisiúnta?

Buntáistí cognaíocha



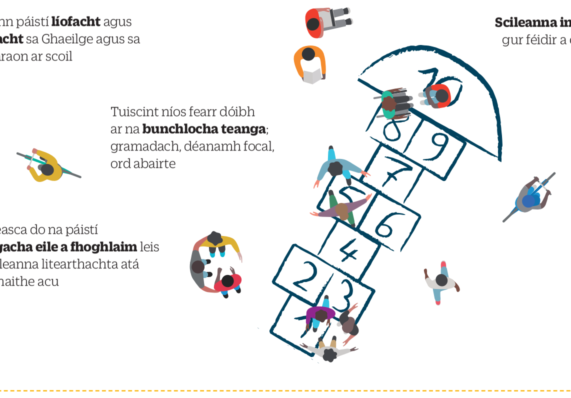
Éiríonn le páistí smaoineamh ar bhealaí **níos cruthaithí**

Scileanna cuimhne níos fearr

Léiríonn taighde gur féidir leis an dátheangachas moill cheithre bliana a chur ar ghalar Alzheimer

Bíonn siad níos fearr **ag tabhairt airde**, **ag díriú ar thascanna** agus á gcur i gcrích

Líofacht agus litearthacht in dhá theanga



Forbraíonn páistí **líofacht** agus **litearthacht** sa Ghaeilge agus sa Bhéarla araon ar scoil

Scileanna inaistrithe iad seo gur féidir a chur i bhfeidhm i dteangacha eile

Tuiscint níos fearr dóibh ar na **bunchlocha teanga**; gramadach, déanamh focal, ord abairte

Níos éasca do na páistí **teangacha eile a fhoghlaim** leis na scileanna litearthachta atá sealbhaithe acu

Scileanna éisteachta agus **cumarsáide** níos éifeachtaí ag páistí

Níos fearr in ann **iad féin a chur in iúl**, agus níos fearr in ann daoine eile a thuiscint

Scileanna cumarsáide

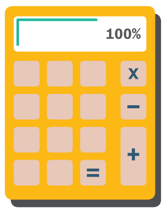
Muinín agus féiniúlacht

Níos mó teagmhála ag na páistí le cultúir éagsúla agus bíonn **meas níos mó** acu orthu

Spreagtar **ilchultúrachas** níos doimhne agus níos lú ciníochais

Tuiscint níos fearr do na páistí ar a gcuid féiniúlachta féin — bíonn **féinmheas** níos mó acu

Gnóthachtáil san oideachas



Gnóthachtáil níos airde sa Bhéarla agus sa mhata araon ag páistí i scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge i gcomparáid lena bpiarghrúpa i scoileanna meán-Bhéarla

Is mó seans go gcuirtear **curaclam níos leithne** ar fáil i mbunscoileanna lán-Ghaeilge ná mar a chuirtear ar fáil i scoileanna eile

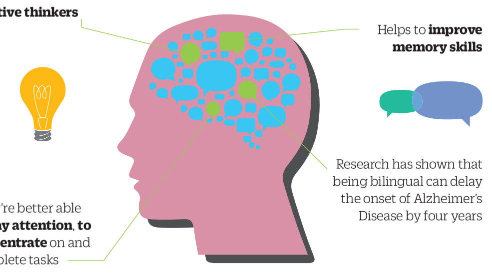
Is féidir go mbronnfar **marcanna breise** ar iarrthóirí a fhreagraíonn scrúdú scríofa Ardteiste trí Ghaeilge

Fianaise uait? Tuilleadh eolais maidir leis na buntáistí agus na tagairtí taighde lena mbaineann ar fáil ar **www.gaeloideachas.ie**

Advantages of Immersion Education

What is the value of immersion education for a child? What does the Irish and international research say?

Cognitive advantages



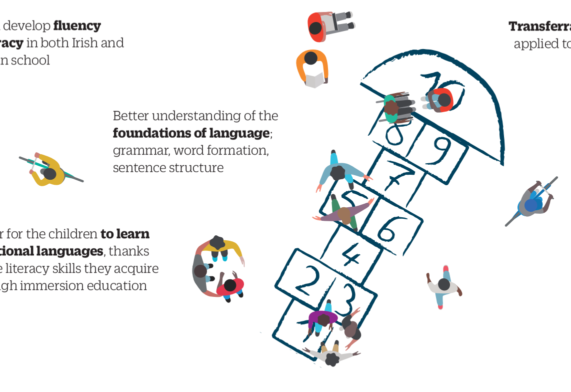
Children can become **more creative thinkers**

Helps to **improve memory skills**

Research has shown that being bilingual can delay the onset of Alzheimer's Disease by four years

They're better able **to pay attention**, **to concentrate** on and complete tasks

Fluency and literacy in two languages



Children develop **fluency** and **literacy** in both Irish and English in school

Transferrable skills can be applied to other languages

Better understanding of the **foundations of language**; grammar, word formation, sentence structure

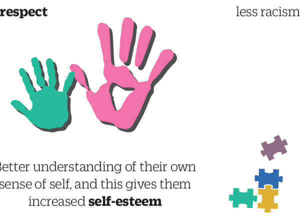
Easier for the children **to learn additional languages**, thanks to the literacy skills they acquire through immersion education

Develop more effective **listening** and **communicative skills**

Better able to **express themselves**, and better able to understand others

Communication skills

Confidence and identity

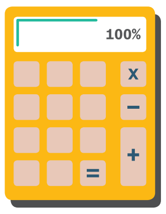


Receive broader exposure to other cultures and develop a **greater respect** for them

Promotes deeper **multiculturalism** and less racism

Better understanding of their own sense of self, and this gives them increased **self-esteem**

Increased educational attainment



Attain higher grades in standardised tests both in English and in maths than their peers in English-medium schools

Irish-medium primary schools are more likely to provide a **broader curriculum** than other school types

Candidates who answer in Irish in the written examination in certain Leaving Certificate subjects may be given **bonus marks**

Want evidence? Further information on these benefits, as well as research references, is available at **www.gaeloideachas.ie**

Ceisteanna Coitianta

Cén chaoi a gcuidíonn an dá bhliain luath-thumoideachais leis na cainteoirí dúchais?

- Saibhríonn sé a gcumas Gaeilge agus tógann sé air.
- Láidríonn sé a scileanna cumarsáide, tuisceana, ceistiúcháin agus anailíse.
- Bíonn sé níos éasca acu teangacha eile a fhoghlaim.

Cén chaoi a gcuidíonn an dá bhliain luath-thumoideachais le foghlaimeoirí na Gaeilge?

- Cuireann sé bonn láidir faoina gcumas Gaeilge le go mbeidh siad in ann a gcuid scolaíochta ar fad a dhéanamh trí Ghaeilge i mbealach níos éifeachtaí.
- Láidríonn sé a gcumas labhairt lena chéile trí Ghaeilge lasmuigh den seomra ranga.

An mbeidh sé deacair ar pháiste nach bhfuil aige ach Béarla ag tosú sa Scoil Ghaeltachta?

- Úsáidfidh na múinteoirí comharthaíocht choirp, pictiúir, gothaí, agus tuin chainte chun brí a chur in iúl agus cumarsáid a dhéanamh leis na páistí. Úsáidfidh siad amhráin, frásaí úsáideacha, cantaireacht agus rímeanna chun na páistí a mhealladh agus a spreagadh.
- Piocann páistí suas teangacha go héasca.
- De réir a chéile, tosóidh na páistí ag úsáid na Gaeilge go nádúrtha faoi stiúir an mhúinteora.

An bhfuil tumoideachas lán-Ghaeilge oiriúnach do dhaltaí le riachtanais speisialta?

- Tá taighde ann a léiríonn go bhfuil sé chomh hoiriúnach céanna, fad is go bhfuil na tacaíochtaí cuí ar fáil.
- Tá na buntáistí oideachais céanna sa tumoideachas do scoláirí le riachtanais speisialta.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does two years of early immersion education benefit native speakers of Irish?

- It helps to enrich their Irish.
- It strengthens their skills in communication, comprehension, interrogation and analysis.
- It makes it easier for them to learn other languages.

How does two years of early immersion education benefit students learning Irish?

- It gives them a strong foundation in the language so that they will be better able to complete their education through Irish.
- It helps them to be better able to speak to one another in Irish outside the classroom.

Will it be difficult for a child who only speaks English to start in a Gaeltacht school?

- Teachers will use body language, pictures, gestures and tone of voice to make themselves understood and communicate with the children. They'll use songs, useful phrases, singing and rhymes to inspire the children.
- Children acquire languages easily.
- In time, the children will start to use Irish naturally, under the guidance of their teacher.

Is Irish-medium immersion education suitable for students with special educational needs?

- Research shows that it is equally beneficial, provided appropriate supports are in place.
- Students with special educational needs get the same educational benefits from immersion education as their peers.

Buntáistí an Luath-Thumoideachais Ghaeltachta don Dalta

- Is é an tumoideachas an córas is oiriúnaí don scoláire arb í an Ghaeilge a theanga dhúchais, agus don fhoghlaimeoir atá ag foghlaim na Gaeilge.
- Is é an córas is fearr é chun an dara teanga a mhúineadh agus a fhoghlaim ar scoil.
- Beidh scoláirí na Gaeltachta dátheangach agus déliteartha. Beidh siad líofa i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla agus beidh siad in ann léamh agus scríobh sa dá theanga.
- Cabhróidh sé leo chun teangacha eile a fhoghlaim.
- Beidh scileanna cumarsáide, tuisceana agus ceistiúcháin níos fearr acu.
- Beidh scoláirí na Gaeltachta níos cumasaí chun tabhairt faoi dheiseanna fostaíochta sa Ghaeltacht, ar fud na hÉireann agus thar lear.

The advantages of Early Immersion Education for students in Gaeltacht schools

- Immersion education is the most suitable method for students who speak Irish as their native language, and also for students learning the language.
- It is the best way to teach and learn a second language at school.
- Gaeltacht pupils will be bilingual and biliterate. They will be fluent in Irish and English and able to read and write in both languages.
- It will help them to learn other languages.
- They will have better skills in communication, comprehension and interrogation.
- Gaeltacht students will be better able to take up employment opportunities in the Gaeltacht, elsewhere in Ireland and abroad.

Céard faoin mBéarla?

An mbeidh páistí na Gaeltachta faoi mhíbhuntáiste muna dtosaíonn siad ag foghlaim léitheoireacht agus scríbhneoireacht an Bhéarla go dtí tar éis na Naíonáin Mhóra?

- I Rang a hAon, tosóidh siad ag foghlaim léitheoireacht agus scríbhneoireacht an Bhéarla. De réir an taighde idirnáisiúnta agus náisiúnta trasnóidh na scileanna léitheoireachta agus scríbhneoireachta a d'fhoghlaim siad trí Ghaeilge go nádúrtha go dtí an Béarla.
- Úsáidfidh siad na scileanna atá foghlamtha acu sa Ghaeilge sa Bhéarla anois agus beidh sé níos éasca acu an Béarla a fhoghlaim.

Cén chaoi ar féidir le tuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí cúnamh a thabhairt?

- Meon dearfach agus spreagúil a léiriú maidir leis an scoil agus an nGaeilge.
- An méid Gaeilge atá agat a úsáid le do pháiste sa bhaile agus ar scoil.
- Leas a bhaint as an acmhainn www.irishforparents.ie a chabhróidh leat Gaeilge a labhairt le do pháiste agus tabhairt faoin obair bhaile.
- Do chuid páistí a chur chuig an naíonra áitiúil (más ann dó) chun go mbeidh tumadh breise acu sa Ghaeilge sula bhfreastalaíonn siad ar an scoil Ghaeltachta áitiúil.

Eagraíochtaí Pleanála Teanga

- Beidh ranganna agus imeachtaí cultúrtha agus sóisialta trí Ghaeilge á n-eagrú ag an gCoiste Pleanála Teanga áitiúil. Is féidir teagmháil a dhéanamh le Údarás na Gaeltachta chun eolas a fháil maidir le do Choiste Pleanála Teanga áitiúil : http://www.udaras.ie/teagmhail/

What about English?

Will Gaeltacht children be at a disadvantage if they don't learn to read and write in English until they've finished in Senior Infants?

- In First Class, they'll begin to learn to read and write in English. International and Irish research has shown that the reading and writing skills they have already learned in Irish will transfer naturally to English.
- They will use the skills they learned in Irish and this will make it easier for them to learn English.

How can parents and guardians help?

- Show a positive and encouraging attitude to school and to Irish.
- Use what Irish you have with your child, at home and in school.
- Use the resources on www.irishforparents.ie to improve your Irish and to help your child with homework.
- Enrol your children in the local naíonra (where available) so that they will enjoy a longer period of immersion before they enrol in their local Gaeltacht school.

Language Planning Organisations

- Your local Language Planning Committee will be running classes, social and cultural events. You can contact Údarás na Gaeltachta for information on your local committee: http://www.udaras.ie/teagmhail/

An Polasaí don Oideachas Gaeltachta & Ardchaighdeán Oideachais

Tá an Polasaí don Oideachas Gaeltachta á chur i bhfeidhm i scoileanna Gaeltachta ó Mheán Fómhair 2017. Sna scoileanna atá agus a bheidh aitheanta mar scoileanna Gaeltachta, beidh dhá bhliain den luath-thumoideachas á chur i bhfeidhm iontu. Is í mórsprioc an Pholasaí:

"a chinntiú go bhfuil eispéireas oideachais ardchaighdeáin agus ábhartha trí mheán na Gaeilge ar fáil do na daoine óga uile atá ina gcónaí i limistéir Ghaeltachta agus, ar an mbealach seo, tacú le húsáid na Gaeilge mar phríomhtheanga na dteaghlach agus na bpobal Gaeltachta."

Polasaí don Oideachas Gaeltachta 2017-2022, lch. 7

The Policy on Gaeltacht Education & Excellence in Education

The Policy on Gaeltacht Education is being implemented in Gaeltacht schools from September 2017. In schools that have been or will be granted recognition as Gaeltacht schools, an early immersion period of two years is being practiced. The aim of the Policy is:

"to ensure the availability of a high quality and relevant Irish-medium educational experience for all young people living in Gaeltacht areas and in this way to support the use of Irish as the main language of families and of Gaeltacht communities."

Policy on Gaeltacht Education 2017-2022, pg. 7

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