



Roinn nan Cànan  
Languages Department  
Sprachabteilung

# COURSE INFORMATION

## Gaelic Learners, Higher

The aim of the course is to encourage communicative competence in Gaelic.

Pupils will continue to develop their Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening skills through the specified contexts of Culture, Society, Learning and Employability.

It is expected that pupils will have a sound grasp of language structures and vocabulary which have been taught in S1-S4.

### ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

**Candidates who are not going to sit the final exam may achieve individual units. These units are assessed internally and marked on a pass/fail basis. There are 5 internal unit assessments in total.**

#### Unit 1: Understanding Language

1. One Reading assessment
2. One Literature assessment
3. One Listening assessment

#### Unit 2: Using Language

1. One Writing assessment
2. One Talking assessment

#### RESOURCES:

PUPILS HAVE ACCESS TO CORE VOCABULARY AND NOTES IN FORM OF BOOKLETS LINKED TO A RANGE OF TOPICS.

LINKS TO USEFUL WEBSITES ARE SHARED WITH PUPILS. ACCESS TO A RANGE OF WEBSITES ALLOWS UP-TO-DATE TOPICS TO BE STUDIED FOR PERSONAL INTEREST AND ENJOYMENT E.G. CURRENT STORIES IN THE NEWS. Such as [LearnGaelic](#)

TRADITIONAL DICTIONARIES AND GRAMMAR REFERENCE BOOKS ARE SUPPLEMENTED BY ONLINE VERSIONS

THE INVALUABLE RESOURCES ALL AROUND IN THE COMMUNITY I.E. SPEAKERS OF THE LANGUAGE.

BBC BITESIZE HAS BEEN UPDATED IN LINE WITH THE NEW HIGHER COURSE.

FREE ACCESS TO GAELIC AS IT IS SPOKEN BY PROFICIENT SPEAKERS OF THE LANGUAGE IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE GAELIC TELEVISION CHANNEL BBC ALBA AND RADIO NAN Gàidheal.

## Course Assessment – 120 marks

<p><b>Paper 1: Reading and Directed Writing</b> <b>  2 hours   50 marks</b></p> <p><b>Reading   30 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read a Gaelic text and answer questions in English – 20 marks</li><li>• Gaelic to English translation – 10 marks</li><li>• Dictionary permitted</li></ul> <p><b>Directed Writing   20 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Choose one writing question from a choice of two.</li><li>• A dictionary is permitted.</li></ul>	<p><b>Talking Exam   10 minutes   30 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is worth 30 marks in total</li><li>• Candidates will take part in a discussion using detailed and complex language on at least two different contexts. The exam will last approximately 10 minutes.</li><li>• The exchange of information is mainly of a factual basis but will also include ideas and opinions.</li></ul>
<p><b>Writing Assignment   20 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Candidates must produce one piece of writing (200-250 words) using detailed and complex language based on one of the following contexts: Society, Employability, Learning or Culture.</li><li>• The piece of writing should be discursive in nature. Candidates should express/discuss different viewpoints. They should give reasons for their opinions and draw conclusions.</li><li>• The piece of writing will be submitted to SQA in March for marking.</li></ul>	<p><b>Paper 2: Listening   30 minutes   20 marks</b></p> <p><b>Reading   30 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listen to a short monologue in Gaelic and answer questions in English – 8 marks</li><li>• Listening to a conversation and answer questions in English – 12 marks</li></ul>
	<p><b>Progression Pathway ▼</b></p>

Pupils who achieve an A or B grade at Higher should be able to progress to Advanced Higher. Pupils are encouraged to discuss their progress with a member of the department.