



Roinn nan Cànan  
Language Department  
Sprachabteilung

Gaelic (Learners)

National 5

## Course information

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

There are two units to be completed for the course:

- Understanding Language
- Using Language

Pupils will develop the skills of **Listening and Talking** and **Reading and Writing** which will allow them to:

- **understand** written and spoken Gaelic within a range of specified contexts: **Society, Learning, Culture and Employability,**
- **apply and adapt** familiar language in written and spoken Gaelic to make themselves readily understood,
- **demonstrate** language skills by means of an externally assessed paper.



### Assessment:

- This course will be formally assessed by means of external examinations set by SQA in the skills of Listening, Reading and Writing.
- In addition, the course assessment for Talking will be assessed through individual presentations of a chosen topic followed by questions. This will be conducted by teaching staff and is subject to verification by SQA.
- Regular formative assessment will continue.
- Talking will be assessed through role play/transactional tasks/group discussions and/or through conversations between pupil and teacher.
- Reading and Listening will be assessed through pupils' responses to written and spoken texts in Gaelic.
- Writing will be assessed regularly with pupils preparing a selection of pieces which may include reports/ reviews and/or informative texts such as e-mails or contributions for a web-page.

## Assessment Summary

### Internal Unit Assessment – marked on a pass/fail basis

#### Understanding Language

- One Reading Assessment
- One Listening Assessment

#### Using Language

- One Writing Assessment
- One Talking Assessment

There are four internal unit assessments in total

### Course Assessment (Exam) – 100 marks

#### Listening paper

### Course Assessment – 100 marks

#### Paper 1: Reading and Writing

- 1 hour and 30 minutes
- 50 marks

#### Reading:

- Read three Gaelic text and answer questions in English – 30 marks
- Dictionary permitted

#### Writing:

- Write a job application
- There are 20 marks available and a dictionary is permitted.

#### Paper 2: Listening

- 25 minutes
- 20 marks

#### Listening:

- Listen to a short monologue in Gaelic and answer questions in English – 8 marks
- Listening to a conversation and answer questions in English – 12 marks

## Talking Exam

- This is worth 30 marks in total
- Candidates will prepare a presentation on a topic of their choice. The presentation is worth a maximum of 10 marks
- Candidates will then engage in a follow-up conversation based on the presentation. The conversation is worth a maximum 20 marks.

## Progression Pathway:

- Pupils who attain a National 5 award at Grade A or B should be able to advance to Higher. Pupils are encouraged to discuss their progress with the Languages' Department.

## Resources:

- Pupils have access to core vocabulary and notes in the form of booklets linked to a range of topic.
- Audio files to assist with the learning of vocabulary are also available online.
- Links to useful websites are shared with pupils.
- Traditional dictionaries and grammar reference books are supplemented by online versions.
- 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.
- The invaluable resources all around in the community i.e. speakers of the language.
- BBC Bitesize has been updated in line with National Courses.
- Valuable educational material available on [www.bbc.co.uk/alba](http://www.bbc.co.uk/alba).
- Free access to Gaelic as is spoken by proficient speakers of the language is available through the Gaelic television channel BBC Alba and Radio nan Gàidheal.

## Hints for success:

- Regular learning, revising and applying of key points of vocabulary and grammar is essential in order to make progress in any language.
- Regular completion of homework of all kinds is essential.
- Recognition of the invaluable resources available in the community i.e. speakers of the language.