



*Campbeltown
Grammar School*
Fortnightly
Update

4th September 2026

Committed to success

Aim High

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Below is the information we previously shared regarding Parentsportal.

We highly encourage you to sign up for Parentsportal if you have not already done so. This platform is our primary method for sharing essential data checks and permission forms.

We have now issued the following digital forms to all registered Parentsportal users:

- Annual Data Checks
- General Walking Consents
- Privacy Notice Consents

Please log in to your account to complete these forms as soon as possible. If you experience any issues or need assistance, please contact the school office directly.

Thank you for your continued support.



GREAT NEWS!

We are delighted to advise that parentsportal.scot is now live.

Parents/carers will be able to use parentsportal.scot to

Read pupil reports.

Authorise permission slips

Report pupil absences

Annual data check.

What do I need to do?

In previously issued communication to you, we have asked you to sign up for mygovscot myaccount. mygovscot myaccount is the simple and secure sign-in service for accessing online public services in Scotland such as Parentsportal. You can sign up at mygovscot.org

You will be able to use your mygovscot myaccount to enter the parentsportal.scot and link to your child or children.

Where can I find more information?

For more information visit parentsportal.scot. More information can be found on the Argyll and Bute Council website at <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/parentsportal>

The privacy notice for parentsportal.scot is also available on our school website Privacy-Notice-Parents-Portal-v0.1.pdf

If you have any questions or need help linking pupils to your mygovscot myaccount, please contact the school office.

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up.





Eight visiting musicians from MoK Music Festival held some music workshops for our S4-S6 music pupils; including a range of vocal, brass, pipes, woodwind, piano and guitar. Well done to all of our CGS pupils, you all performed amazingly across the weekend and are a credit to us



**Below is copy of the Ruby Shaw's English Folio peice that she emailed the to Scottish Governement
earlier this year and their reply**

Introduction

Bu chòir do sgoilearan Albannach a bhith air an teagasg sa Ghàidhlig san sgoil: if that opening sentence left you confused it already illustrates a problem modern Scots are facing today: most Scottish people cannot understand a simple phrase in their heritage language- this is because Gaelic is a dying language now, with only approximately 1% speaking it in the modern world, despite that in the 11th century until around the 13th century, Gaelic was the most prominent language in Scotland; for centuries it held prestige. Considered 'the language of kings'. It was used in court by early Scottish monarchs, but as political power shifted southward, English overcame the beautiful language, this was not a gradual overcoming but something that was taken from us with force, which is exactly why we should reclaim it and introduce it into schools again. And in the likely case you could not translate my opening sentence, in my opinion all pupils in Scotland should learn Gaelic. Scotland has a rich cultural history that is often not taught in schools or looked over and Gaelic is one of the most significant casualties of neglect. A lot of this is due to the final loss of the Jacobites in the battle of Culloden, though this was a long time ago, it took place on the 16th of April 1746. I will come back to this at a later point.

As a Scot, I am very passionate about wanting Gaelic to be included in our curriculum in school, and the reasons behind why we should be taught it. Ireland gives a strong example of how this could work. In Ireland every pupil has to sit a spoken Irish exam and 40% of Ireland can speak their native tongue and seem to 'embrace' their culture more. Shouldn't Scotland have the same patriotism? If all pupils were to learn Gaelic as a core subject and sit a National 4 level qualification then they could have the choice to carry it on to national 5 or Higher. By making it a compulsory subject, we start to normalise it, and make it commonly heard rather than niche and optional. It's not just about learning the language, it's about Scotland reclaiming a history that was taken from us and making people proud to be Scottish again. It would allow young people to feel connected to their country in a deeper way and would ensure Scotland's linguistic heritage is preserved and not lost.

So where did Gaelic go? In 1746 a law was passed called The Prescription Act, more commonly known as 'the dress act.' It was a direct consequence of the Jacobites losing the battle of Culloden and forbid Scots to wear tartan, kilts or their highland dress and a couple other garments. However, this act went far beyond clothing; the bagpipes and speaking Gaelic were also banned, both of which were central to cultural expression, storytelling, and community identity. By criminalising these practices, the government aimed to systematically dismantle Highland society and force submission to British authority. Rather than addressing political grievances they chose to suppress a whole culture. This act was reinforcing an earlier law made in 1715: the 'Disarm the Highland Act' which sought to remove weapons from highlanders following the earlier Jacobite risings. Together, these laws formed a coordinated attempt to strip Highlanders not only of their ability to rebel, but of their whole identity. The result that the English were hoping for was complete assimilation and loyalty to the crown. The consequences for not following the legislation were severe.

Punishments included imprisonment, fines, children in school were beaten and then further beaten if they did not reveal who else was speaking it, thus creating fear and shame around Gaelic. Finally in the most severe cases, you could be transported to America unwillingly and become a servant for more prosperous people, stripped of freedom and sent far from your homeland. This is just tyrannical and severely oppressive. While these laws no longer exist, their objectives may still be being fulfilled. By not



learning, speaking or valuing Gaelic today we are passively acquiescing to the very legislation that sought to destroy it. The decline of the language needs to be seen as not only a historical injustice but an ongoing consequence that is still happening right now.

Today such barbarism would be recognised as cultural persecution. Understanding this history is vital, not only to acknowledge past injustices, but to recognise why reclaiming Gaelic and Highland culture today is an act of restoration rather than nostalgia. These measures bred long lasting resentment and trauma as highland culture was viewed as inferior, criminal or even shameful. The suppression of Gaelic and traditional dress did not merely prevent Scots from speaking their native tongue or outlaw clothing; it severed generational connections to history, identity and pride. Much of Scotland's lost culture today is a direct consequence of this deliberate repression.

Alongside legal punishments, highland culture was also undermined through social shaming and ridicule. One clear example of this is the word 'Teuchter' which has long been used as a derogatory term for Gaelic speakers and highlanders. Words like 'teuchter' were used as a weapon to silence and shame highlanders. This word became a way to portray people from the highlands as unruly, uneducated and inferior, reinforcing the English aim of making Gaelic something to feel embarrassed of. This kind of language being used played a powerful role in discouraging people from speaking Gaelic as many feared mockery or discrimination. Gradually this stigma became internalised with Gaelic speakers and highlanders distancing themselves from their previous way of life in order to be accepted and fit into the new standard. This is wrong because it denies people the right to their cultural identity and perpetuates inequalities rooted in historical oppression. Allowing such attitudes to exist is validating the prejudices that endeavoured to erase a whole language. That is why challenging this stigma is essential.

Scotland's place names, songs, stories and landscapes are all deeply rooted in Gaelic tradition and without knowledge of language we lose the ability to fully understand those connections. A good example of this is Inverness which came from 'Inbhir ness' meaning 'mouth of the river ness' or Scotland's largest mountain Ben Nevis which came from 'Beinn Nibheis' meaning 'mountain of danger, this is a great display of how Gaelic speakers understood and interacted with the land. These names have become labels rather than meaningful descriptions weakening the connection between language, landscape and history. Teaching Gaelic in schools would help Scotland heal from centuries of cultural suppression and allow future generations to feel pride in being Scottish- not just politically, but culturally and linguistically. In conclusion, the decline of Gaelic is not just an outdated language naturally fading out, but the direct result of centuries of deliberate suppression, punishment and shame imposed on Scottish people. From The Dress Act to the ridicule of the highlanders, Gaelic was systematically targeted in an attempt to erase an entire culture and force assimilation. This history makes it clear that reviving Gaelic today is not about romanticising the past but correcting an injustice and restoring what was taken. By making Gaelic a compulsory subject in Scottish schools we would normalise it, preserve a vital part of our national identity and allow young people to reconnect to their heritage. Gaelic medium education has also started an attempt at Gaelic revival, helping to normalise the language and battle the stigma. Expanding Just as Ireland has successfully revitalised its native language, Scotland has the opportunity to reclaim its own. Teaching Gaelic in schools, again would ensure Scotland's rich history is no longer neglected, but protected for future generations- so that next time someone reads 'Bu chòir do sgoilearan Albannach a bhith air an teagasg sa Ghàidhlig san sgoil' they won't sigh, skip it, or mutter 'what does that even mean?' they will nod in enthusiastic agreement.





21 Lùnastal 2026

Ruby Shaw chòir,

[English below]

Mòran taing airson na h-aiste agad mu eachdraidh na Gàidhlig. Chaidh a cur air adhart thugamsa agus mo cho-obraichean ann an Roinn Ghàidhlig agus Albais Riaghaltas na h-Alba. 'S e misneachd a th' ann a bhith a' faicinn Albannach òg a' togail uimhir a dh'ùidh sa chànan.

Dh'fhaodadh e a bhith na thlachd dhut ionnsachadh mu na h-oidhirpean eadar-dhealaichte a tha an-dràsta an sàs gus taic a chur ris a' Ghàidhlig. San aiste agad tha thu ceart ann a bhith a' comharrachadh a' chroin a-rinn laghan eachdraidheil ris a' chànan. Gu fortanach, san latha an-diugh faodaidh sinn beachdachadh air mar a chaidh laghan a chur an gnìomh gus a glèidheadh. Samhradh an-uiridh, mar eisimpleir, chuir Pàrlamaid na h-Alba taic gu tur ri Achd nan Cànan Albannach. Bhuilich seo inbhe oifigeil air a' Ghàidhlig – agus Albais – taobh a-staigh na h-Alba. Tha e cuideachd air neartachadh an taic a gheibh Gàidhlig ann an sgoiltean.

Tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus buidhnean eile leithid [Bòrd na Gàidhlig](#) a' cur taic ri measgachadh mòr de phròiseactan às leth a' chàinain. San aiste agad nochd thu ùidh shònraichte ann an ainmean-àite. 'S mathaid gu bheil fios agad mu [Ainmean-àite na h-Alba](#)? Seo an stòr-data oifigeil airson ainmean-àite Gàidhlig na dùthcha. Bidh iadsan a' leantainn rannsachadh a tha deatamach ann a bhith a' tarraing a-mach dualchas dòmhainn na Gàidhlig ann an Alba is chithear fianais na h-obrach aca air soidhnichean dà-chànanach air feadh na dùthcha.

A dh'aindeoin 's gun robh an riaghaltas anns an 18mh linn a' cur casg air cultar na Gàidhlig, tha Riaghaltasan na h-Alba agus na Rìoghachd Aonaichte san latha an-diugh ag obair gu dlùth gus a bhrosnachadh. Chithear seo as follaisiche ann am [BBC ALBA](#), ris a bheil sinn a' cur taic tron bhuidhinn

[MG ALBA](#). A thuilleadh air a bhith a' toirt àrd-ùrlar do cheòl, litreachas agus spòrs na Gàidhlig, tha MG ALBA cuideachd a' cur taic ri iomadach seirbheis eile. Nam measg tha [SpeakGaelic](#) agus an fharpais bhliadhnail airson filmichean goirid, [FilmG](#). Tha buidhnean eile leithid [An Comunn Gàidhealach](#), am [Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail](#) agus [Fèisean nan Gàidheal](#) a' cuideachadh Albannaich òga ann a bhith a' togail sgilean ciùil agus taisbeanaidh gu tur tron Ghàidhlig.

Tha sinn a' guidhe gach soirbheachadh dhut san ionnsachadh a tha romhad agus sinne cuideachd a' cumail ris an dòchas agad gum bi an cothrom aig tuilleadh agus a' chòir de dh'Albannaich a bhith ag ionnsachadh, a' bruidhinn agus a' coinneachadh ris a' Ghàidhlig.

Thank you for sharing your essay on Gaelic's history. It has been forwarded to me and my colleagues within the Scottish Government's Gaelic & Scots language division. We are encouraged to see a young Scot demonstrating such enthusiasm for the language.



You may be interested to learn of various efforts currently being undertaken to support Gaelic's future. In your essay you correctly identify the role of historical legislation in undermining the language. Luckily, in the modern age we can cite more positive examples of laws being passed to uphold it. Last summer the Scottish Parliament voted unanimously in favour of the Scottish Languages Act. This gave Gaelic – as well as Scots – official status within Scotland. It also increased support for Gaelic in schools.

The Scottish Government and other organisations like [Bòrd na Gàidhlig](#) support a range of projects on behalf of the language. Your essay demonstrated a particular interest in place-names. You might be aware of [Ainmean-àite na h-Alba](#) (The Gaelic Place-names of Scotland)? This is the official database for Scotland's Gaelic place-names. They pursue vital research unearthing the country's deep Gaelic heritage – the evidence of their work can be seen on bilingual roadsigns across the country.

Where government in the 18th century acted to prohibit Gaelic culture, the Scottish and UK Governments today work closely to encourage it. This is seen most clearly in [BBC ALBA](#) which we support through the organisation [MG ALBA](#). As well as providing a platform for Gaelic music, literature and sport, MG ALBA also supports a variety of other services. These include [SpeakGaelic](#) and the annual [FilmG](#) shortfilms contest. Other organisations like [An Comunn Gàidhealach](#), the [Royal National Mòd](#) and [Fèisean nan Gàidheal](#) help young Scots acquire skills in music and performance entirely in Gaelic.

We wish you well in your future studies and share your hope that more and more Scots have the opportunity to learn, speak and engage with Gaelic.

Le dùrachdan,

Niall Bartlett

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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www.gov.scot



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We invest in people Silver



welcome S1!

Our S1 pupils are settling in well and took part in their first Buddy Walk and Talk with S5 and S6 pupils.

We would like to say thank you to Fyne Homes who donated stationary starter kits for our S1 pupils



Prize Giving

More to follow.....

On 27 th August we celebrated Prize Giving at CGS.
It was a wonderful evening celebrating our young
people. We will share a Prize Giving Edition with
our community next week.

Dates for your Diary



KSPB Street Performance	5 th September	7pm (Main Street)
S1 Parents' Evening	29 th September	
School Holiday	5 th October - 16 th October	Pupils return on Monday 19 th October

