

ISLANDS GAELIC RESEARCH PROJECT (IGRP) TEENAGERS' LANGUAGE USE SURVEY

The Islands Gaelic Research Project (IGRP) will study the levels of use of Gaelic in a number of key locations in the Western Isles. We believe that the language usage of younger members of our community is an important element in terms of assessing current and future community and cultural vitality.

The IGRP is being conducted by Soillse, a research collaboration led by the University of the Highlands and Islands. A central research objective of Soillse is to develop a meaningful partnership with the Gaelic communities of Scotland and elsewhere.

We greatly appreciate your support in answering the following questions. Please do not write your name on the questionnaire. Your responses will be treated with full confidentiality and only the researchers will see the answers that you give. Tapadh leibh uile.

Note: for clarity, the terms 'Mother' and 'Father' in this survey refer to your parents or guardians, etc., and could mean step-mother, step-father, foster-parents, etc.

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR EDUCATIONAL HISTORY (Tick the relevant boxes):

Primary	Primary	Gaelic as a	Secondary	Secondary	Gaelic as a
schooling	schooling via	learner's	schooling	schooling via	learner's
through Gaelic	English	subject in	through Gaelic	English	subject in
medium	medium	primary school	medium	medium	secondary

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Reference Number	Fieldwork date/Researcher	Date of data entry/Worker	Date of data validation/Worker	Output Area Reference

SECTION A - BACKGROUND DATA

1. Gender		2 (a). Age		years		
Female [☐ Male ☐	2 (b). Scho	ool year	(i.e. 4 th , 5 th , 6 th year)		
3. Home	area			(village/township)		
				(local area)		
				(island)		
4 (a) Hav	e you lived somewhere else	before no	w? Tick (V) "yes"	or "no"		
Yes	☐ If "yes" go to 4 (b)					
No	☐ If "no" go to question !	5				
4 (b) Wh	ere did you live previously?		Tick (V) all that o	аррју		
Elsewher	e in this island (please speci	fy)	<u> </u>			
Elsewhere in the Western Isles (please specify)		e specify)				
Elsewher	e in the Highlands (please sp	ecify)	<u> </u>			
Elsewher	e in Scotland (please specify)				
Elsewher	e in the UK (please specify)		<u> </u>			
Another	country (please specify)					
4 (c) Wha	at age were you when you n ?	noved to		years old		
5. Where	do/did your parents come	from?	Mother	Father		
The local	area		<u> </u>			
Elsewhere in this island (please specify)		fy)	<u> </u>			
Elsewhere in the Western Isles area (specify)		specify)	<u> </u>			
Elsewhere in the Highlands (please specify)		ecify)	<u> </u>			
Elsewher	e in Scotland (please specify)	<u> </u>			
Elsewher	e in the UK (please specify)		<u> </u>			
Another	country (please specify)					
I don't kr	10W		П	П		

6. How would you describe your parents' ability in the Gaelic language? Tick (V) one category for each parent	Mother	Father
Fluent Gaelic (native speaker ability)		
Fluent Gaelic (learnt in school or later in life)		
Good Gaelic		
Reasonable Gaelic		
A little Gaelic		
No Gaelic		
I don't know		
N/A (Not Applicable)		
7. Where was the primary school that you attended? If you attended more than one primary school, please answer with regard to the school where you completed your primary education	Tick (v)	one answer
In my local area (please specify)		
Somewhere else in this island (please specify)	<u> </u>	
In another Western Isles school (please specify)	<u> </u>	
Somewhere else in the Highlands (please specify)	<u> </u>	
Somewhere else in Scotland (please specify)	<u> </u>	
Somewhere else in the UK (please specify)	<u> </u>	
8. When you were in primary school, in what language were the subjects, other than Gaelic, taught? If you attended more than one primary school, please answer with regard to the school where you finished your primary education	Tick (V)	one answer
Through Gaelic only		
Through Gaelic mostly		
A mixture of Gaelic and English, with more Gaelic than English		
A mixture of English and Gaelic, with more English than Gaelic		
Through English mostly		
Through English only		

PART B: YOUR ABILITY IN THE GAELIC LANGUAGE

9. How would you describe your ability in spoken Gaelic?	Tick (v) one answer
I have fluent native-speaker ability in Gaelic	
I have fluent Gaelic (learnt in school)	
I have good ability in Gaelic	
I have reasonable ability in Gaelic	
I have only a little Gaelic	
I have no Gaelic	
10. If you can speak Gaelic, from whom did you	Tick (v) all that apply
acquire your ability in Gaelic?	
acquire your ability in Gaelic? From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your father)	
From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your	☐ Father ☐ Mother ☐
From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your father)	
From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your father) From one of your parents (mother OR father)	Father Mother
From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your father) From one of your parents (mother OR father) From your grandmother	Father
From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your father) From one of your parents (mother OR father) From your grandmother From your grandfather	Father
From your parents (from BOTH your mother AND your father) From one of your parents (mother OR father) From your grandmother From your grandfather From other relatives	Father Mother

11. How would you describe your ability in both Gaelic and English in relation to the following skills? Tick (V) one answer for each skill	Very good	Good	Reasonable	Poor	Very poor
Ability to understand Gaelic					
Ability to understand English					
Spoken Gaelic ability					
Spoken English ability					
Reading ability in Gaelic					
Reading ability in English					
Writing ability in Gaelic					
Writing ability in English					
Pronunciation of Gaelic sounds					
Pronunciation of English sounds					

12. Please describe your ability to hold a conversation in Gaelic	Tick (V) one answer
I can hold a conversation comfortably in Gaelic	
I can hold a conversation in Gaelic relatively well	
I can hold a reasonable conversation in Gaelic	
I can say a few words in Gaelic	
I cannot hold a conversation in Gaelic	
13. Please compare your ability to hold a conversation in Gaelic and English	Tick (V) one answer
I can hold a conversation fluently in both English and Gaelic	
I can hold a conversation more comfortably in English than in Gaelic	
I can hold a conversation more comfortably in Gaelic than in English	

14. Please indicate whether or not you have difficulty in the following situations Tick (V) one answer in each case	I have no difficulty	I have some difficulty	I have a lot of difficulty	I rarely discuss this topic
Discussing music in Gaelic				
Discussing music in English				
Discussing sport in Gaelic				
Discussing sport in English				
Discussing computers and gaming in Gaelic				
Discussing computers and gaming in English				
Discussing homework in Gaelic				
Discussing homework in English				
Discussing your social life in Gaelic				
Discussing your social life in English				
Discussing films, etc. in Gaelic				
Discussing films, etc. in English				

15. Please indicate whether or not you have difficulty in expressing the following emotions in English or in Gaelic Tick (V) one answer in each case	I have no difficulty	I have some difficulty	I have a lot of difficulty
Anger in Gaelic			
Anger in English			
Love in Gaelic			
Love in English			
Happiness in Gaelic			
Happiness in English			
Sadness in Gaelic			
Sadness in English			
Anxiety in Gaelic			
Anxiety in English			
Frustration in Gaelic			

Frustration in English		
Impatience in Gaelic		
Impatience in English		
Jealousy in Gaelic		
Jealousy in English		

PART C: USING THE GAELIC LANGUAGE

16. What language do the following people speak to you? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
Your mother/guardian						
Your father/guardian						
Older brother(s)/sister(s)						
Younger brother(s)/sister(s)						
Other people living in your house						

the lang	foll gua _l en y	at language do you speak to owing people now and what ge did you speak to them you were younger? (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
	dian	At present						
With your	mother/guardian	When you were: 12-15 yrs						
Nith	her/{	9-11 years						
	mot	5-8 years						
	ian	At present						
your	father/guardian	When you were: 12-15 yrs						
With your	er/g	9-11 years						
>	fath	5-8 years						

er r(s)	At present			
r olde siste	When you were: 12-15 yrs			
you	9-11 years			
With your older brother(s)/sister(s)	5-8 years			
er ter	At present			
With younger brother(s)/sister	When you were: 12-15 yrs			
th yo her(s	9-11 years			
Wi	5-8 years			

18. What language do you speak with the following people now, and what language did you speak with them when you were younger? Tick (V) one answer in each case		Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
ds	At present						
With your friends	When you were: 12-15 years						
ith yo	9-11 years						
8	5-8 years						
	At present						
With your neighbours	When you were: 12-15 years						
9-11 years							
	5-8 years						

19. What language do you speak in the following places and at the following events? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
At school						
With friends after school						
During school sports events						
During other sports events						
At social events, for example at cèilidhs, dances, clubs, etc.						
In friends' houses						
In your own house						
In the village/town nearest you						

Answer question 20 if you have fluent or good Gaelic, if not go to question 21								
20 (a) Do you speak English on a regular basis to anyone who can speak good or fluent Gaelic?								
Yes □ No □ (If "No", go to Question 21)								
20 (b) If "yes", to whom do you speak English despite their having good/fluent Gaelic? Tick (V) all that apply								
Your mother/guardian								
Your father/guardian								
Your grandmother								
Your grandfather								
Younger brothers/sisters								
Older brothers/sisters								
Most of your friends								
Around half of your friends								
A small group of your friends								
Most of your neighbours								
Around half of your neighbours								
A small group of your neighbours								
The bus driver								
People working in local shops								
The local clergy								
Manager/trainer of the football/sports team								
Other (please specify)								

20 (c) If "yes", why do you speak <u>English</u> to these people who can speak <u>Gaelic</u> ?	Tick (√) all that apply
All my friends do the same	
I feel it would be old-fashioned to speak Gaelic to this person/these people	
I don't like speaking Gaelic outside my home	
I don't like speaking Gaelic outside school	
I feel that this person/these people don't wish to speak Gaelic to me	
I feel that my Gaelic is not good enough to speak Gaelic to this person/these people	
I don't like speaking Gaelic	
I first got to know this person/these people through English	
I would feel uncomfortable speaking Gaelic to this person/these people	
These people always speak English to me	
I am used to speaking English to these people	
I don't know	
Other (please specify)	
20 (d) If "yes", describe how you feel about speaking English to people who have Gaelic?	Tick (v) one answer
I prefer to speak Gaelic to people who have Gaelic	
It doesn't bother me to speak English to people who have Gaelic	
I don't know	
Other (please specify)	

21. What language do the following people in your family speak to each other? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
Mother and father/guardians together						
Mother/guardian and children together						
Father/guardian and children together						
Children amongst themselves						
Parents with their family/relatives						
Parents with their friends						
22. What language is spoken during the following family occasions? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
Normal day-to-day conversation in the home						
Discussing schoolwork						
When helping with housework						
When arguing/fighting						
During meal times						

23. How often do you do the following? Tick (v) one answer in each case	Very often	Often	Now and again	Seldom	Never
Listen to Radio nan Gàidheal					
Watch BBC Alba					
Visit BBC Alba website					
Read books in Gaelic					
Tweet in Gaelic					
Text in Gaelic					
Post in Gaelic on Facebook					

24. What is your opinion on the following	Strongly	Agree	Indifferent	Disagree	Strongly
statements?	Agree				Disagree
Tick (√) one answer in each case					
My secondary school has encouraged me to					
speak more Gaelic					
I speak more Gaelic at school than I do at					
home					
This school has a strong Gaelic					
ethos/atmosphere					
There are enough Gaelic language textbooks					
available for island schools					
The textbooks that are available in Gaelic for					
the various subjects being taught through					
Gaelic are very suitable for the courses					
involved					
More money should be spent on providing					
Gaelic language textbooks for island schools					
I prefer using English language textbooks to					
Gaelic language textbooks					

25. What language do you speak in the following situations at school? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another Language
Speaking to teachers in the classroom						
Speaking to teachers outside the						
classroom						
Speaking to friends in the classroom						
Speaking to friends outside the						
classroom with a teacher present						
Speaking to friends outside the						
classroom with no teacher present						
Speaking to your friends at school						
events organised outside school hours,						
e.g. school clubs, etc.						

26. What language do your neighbours speak with the following people? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Always Gaelic	Mainly Gaelic	Gaelic and English mix, roughly even	Mainly English	Always English	Another language
Your neighbours with each other						
Your neighbours with your family						
Your neighbours when speaking to you						

27 (a). As far as you know, are the following services available through the medium of Gaelic in the community where you live? Tick (V) one answer in each case					27 (b). Would you prefer these services to be available through Gaelic or English in your community? Tick (V) one answer in each case				
	Yes	No	I don't know	This service is not available in Gaelic or English	Through Gaelic	Through English	Through Gaelic and English	I am not bothered	
Preschool									
Church services									
Local shops/Post Office									
Community events									
Health services									
Bank services									
The local police									
Transport services									
Community groups/local committees									

28 (a). Which lange the community (w places? Tick (V) one	here you	live) USIN	28 (b) Which language do YOU mainly use in the following places? Tick (V) one answer in each case				
	Gaelic	English	I don't know	This service is not available where I live	Gaelic	English	I don't use this service
Preschool							
Church							
Local shops/Post Office							
Community events							
Health services							
Bank services							
The local police							
Transport services							
With community groups/local committees							

PART D: YOUR OPINIONS ON THE GAELIC LANGUAGE AND ITS FUTURE

29. To what degree are you personally in favour of Gaelic?	Tick (√) one answer
I am strongly in favour of the Gaelic language	
I am in favour of the Gaelic language	
I don't care one way or the other	
I am a little against the Gaelic language	
I am strongly against the Gaelic language	
If you are not in favour of the Gaelic language, go to question 31	

30. If you are in favour of the Gaelic language, what are the reasons for this?	Tick (V) all that apply
Having Gaelic improves my employment opportunities	
There are advantages to being bilingual	
I am committed to my family's linguistic heritage	
I am committed to my community's linguistic tradition	
Gaelic is important to the economy of the Western Isles	
I want to play a role in strengthening the Western Isles as a Gaelic-speaking area	
The Gaelic language is very important to me personally	
The Gaelic language is very important to Highland identity	
The Gaelic language is very important to Scottish identity	
I don't know how to explain it	
Other (please specify)	
31. If you are not in favour of the Gaelic language, please indicate why.	Tick (√) all that apply
I don't use Gaelic in my everyday life	
I don't like studying Gaelic at school	
I don't feel part of the Gaelic language community in this area	
The Gaelic language is too difficult	
I would prefer to receive my education through English	
There is too much emphasis on the Gaelic language in this area	
I don't think Gaelic is important	
I don't know how to explain it	
Other (please specify)	

32. How would you feel if the following things	Very	Нарру	Don't	A little	Very
were to occur?	happy		care	unhappy	unhappy
Tick (V) one answer in each case					
If no children were being brought up through					
Gaelic in the Western Isles in the future					
If English was the only language spoken in the					
Western Isles in the future					
If Radio nan Gàidheal was to cease					
broadcasting					
If education through Gaelic was no longer					
available in the area where you live					
If BBC Alba was to cease broadcasting in Gaelic					

33. In your opinion, to what extent do the following people support Gaelic in your area OR to what extent do they weaken the language? Tick (V) one answer in each case	Give a positive number if you think they strengthen the language. Give a negative number if you think they weaken the language. Tick 0 if you think they have no effect on Gaelic in your area.				
	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
You					
Your friends					
Your brothers/sisters					
Your parents					
Your relatives					
Local people who speak Gaelic					
Local people who do not speak Gaelic					
People who have moved into the area who speak Gaelic					
People who have moved into the area who do not speak Gaelic					
Local businesses					
Local community groups					
Gaelic development bodies					

34. How would you describe the area where you live?	Tick (V) one answer
A strongly Gaelic-speaking area	
A moderately strong Gaelic-speaking area	
An area where about half of the population speaks Gaelic	
An area where some of the population speak Gaelic	
An area where few people speak Gaelic	

35. Please indicate how you feel about the following statements regarding the Gaelic language	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't care	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Gaelic is of no use					
Young people shouldn't bother learning Gaelic					
I like Gaelic					
Gaelic classes should be provided for anyone without Gaelic who lives in the Western Isles					
I am happy to participate in groups for young people which support the Gaelic language in my area					
If two parents are fluent speakers, they should raise their children with Gaelic					
If I have children I will bring them up speaking Gaelic, even if my partner is not a Gaelic-speaker					

36. Please indicate how you feel about the following statements regarding the use of the Gaelic language Tick (V) one answer in each case	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't care	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Schools in this area should teach through Gaelic only					
I am not going to speak any Gaelic after leaving school					
It would be good if more young people spoke Gaelic among themselves in this area					
I speak Gaelic at every opportunity					
All programmes broadcast on BBC Alba should be in Gaelic					
Every police officer working in the Western Isles should have Gaelic					
Everyone living in the Western Isles should have good Gaelic					
Every primary school teacher in the Western Isles should be teaching through Gaelic only					
Every secondary school teacher in the Western Isles should be teaching through Gaelic only					
All signs (road signs, etc.) in the Western Isles should be in Gaelic only					
Youth clubs and other events for young people in the Western Isles should be run through Gaelic only					
I would love if young people in the Western Isles had more opportunity to speak Gaelic to one another					
After I leave school, Gaelic will be the language I will speak mostly					

37. In your opinion, in 20 years will the Gaelic language be stronger or weaker in the area in which you live?	Tick (√) one answer
A lot stronger	
A little stronger	
Just the same	
A little weaker	
Much weaker	
38. What would you be personally willing to do to ensure that this area remains Gaelic-speaking?	Tick (v) each answer that applies
I would be willing to speak Gaelic to everyone who has Gaelic	
I would get involved in a local group to support the language in this area	
I would be willing to write to local representatives demanding services through Gaelic in this area	
I would encourage people who live locally without Gaelic to learn the language	
I would protest against a development that was a threat to the Gaelic language in my area	
I would be willing to stay living in the area and to be active in the community	
I would be willing to always speak Gaelic to my parents	
I would be willing to always speak Gaelic to my brothers and sisters	
I would be willing to speak Gaelic to my friends at all times	
I would be willing to speak Gaelic to my boyfriend/girlfriend at all times	
I would be willing to continue living in the area and work through the medium of Gaelic	
Other (please specify)	

39. If you have children in the future, do you intend to raise them through Gaelic? Tick (√) one answer			
Yes			
No			
SECTION E – IDENTITY			
40. Do you consider yourself to be a Gael?			
☐ Yes☐ No			
☐ Prefer not to answer			
41. Do you consider the following people to b	be Gaels? (Tick each answer that applies)		
People who speak Gaelic and live in the Weste	ern Isles		
People who don't speak Gaelic but live in the Isles	he Western		
People living in the Western Isles			
Gaelic learners in the Western Isles			
Gaelic learners in the rest of Scotland			
42. What is your identity? (Tick each answer t	that applies)		
Gael			
Local e.g. Leòdhasach, Hearach, Siarach, Sgalpa	ach \square		
Scottish			
British			
Something else			
Prefer not to answer			

43. Have you any other thoughts or recommendations regarding Gaelic in the Western Isles?
If so, please give details here: