

GAELOILIÚINT

THE COUNCIL FOR IRISH-MEDIUM EDUCATION (CIME)

AN COISTE

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Résumé ar an Oideachas Lán-Ghaeilge sna Sé Chontae i 1996

Tosaíodh a theagasc trí Ghaeilge sna Sé Chontae chomh fada siar le 1970 agus tá fás mór tagtha ar earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta ó shin. Bunaíodh Gaeloiliúint (GO), an Chomhairle don Oideachas Lán-Ghaeilge, i 1991.

- * Tá 28 náiscoil lán-Ghaeilge ann anois ó Inis Ceithleann go Béal Feirste;
- * Tá 12 bunscóil lán-Ghaeilge ann;
- * Tá 2 mheánscoil lán-Ghaeilge ann;
- * Tá chóir a bheith 2000 páiste anois ag fáil a gcuid oideachais trí Ghaeilge anseo;
- * Tá foc héim oideachais agus cúrsa oiliúna iarchéime don Ghaelscolaíocht i gColáiste Mhuire;
- * Tá cúrsa oiliúna do mhúinteoirí náiscoil do Gaeloiliúint (Coláiste Oscailte);

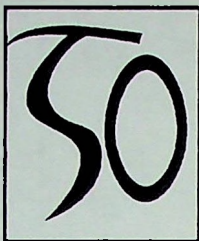
Is í an náiscoil bunchloch na Gaelscolaíochta. Tagann formhór mór na bpáistí as cúlra aonteangach Béarla agus ag aois 3 tosaíonn siad ar chlár tomhaiste tumoideachais ina labhraíonn na múinteoirí leo go saoráideach i nGaeilge amháin. Tá an córas náiscolaíochta anseo agus sa Bhreatain Bheag bunaithe ar theicnic de thumoideachas iomlán (mar a mhol Lambert agus Tucker, Montreal 1972). Is náiscoilleana cearta iad na náiscoilleana Gaeilge, agus ní grúpaí súgartha, ach níl aitheantas cuí rialtais ag an chóras go fóill.

Leanann an náiscoil lán-Ghaeilge curaclam beacht ina dteagasctar scileanna tuisceana agus eochairfhocail trí úsáid na modhanna seo: pictiúir, geáitsíocht, rólimirt, rannta, ceol agus teanga choirp. De réir a chéile tuigeann an leanbh bun-Ghaeilge chumarsáide agus tosaíonn a dhéanamh aithris uirthi sin. Coinníonn na múinteoirí taifead ar fhorbairt na bpáistí agus iad ag foghlaim trí: saorshúgradh, súgradh struchtúrtha, ceardaíocht, obair ar théamaí agus ar scileanna réamhlitearthachta agus réamhuimhris. Bíonn sprioc le gach gníomhaíocht agus bíonn siad uilig comhordaithe mar chuid den churaclam. Músclaítear suim san fhoghlaim i bpáistí agus tugtar aird duine le duine a mhíne agus is féidir. Leantar den tumoideachas lán-Ghaeilge sa bhunscóil. Tosaítear ar léamh agus scríobh an Bhéarla a theagasc go foirmiúil ag deireadh Rang 3. Ní fada go mbíonn na scileanna Béarla uilig ag dalta Gaelscoile agus a bhíonn ag daltaí i scoil aonteangach Bhéarla. Bunaíodh an t-eagrais Altram ar na mallaibh le freastal ar riachtanais na náiscolaíochta lán-Ghaeilge.

Is scoileanna iad seo a chruthaigh an pobal agus mar sin de tá dlúthbhaint idir forbairt phobail agus fás na Gaelscolaíochta i gceantar. Tugann an Ghaeilge ábhar bróid, féinmheasa, muiníne, misnigh agus dóchais do dhaoine. Is amhlaidh a bhíonn siad níos cumasaí i gcúrsaí eacnamaíochta, fiontraíochta agus cumarsáide.

Léiríonn an fhianaise idirmáisiúnta, agus taithí na hÉireann sna Gaelscoileanna iarbhuoideachas, go bhfuil buntáistí nach beag ag baint le gach gné den dátheangachas. Mar gheall ar an luathfhorbairt choigneolaíoch a roinneann leis an Ghaelscolaíocht, bíonn páistí sna scoileanna seo níos géire, níos cumasaí, níos gaiste agus níos muiníní agus iad ag plé le fadhbhuascailt sa mhataimic nó san fhísic nó le coincheapa casta sa stair nó sa tíreolaíocht. Is saibhre agus is éagsúla a gcumas ealaíne agus ceoil agus is réidhe a thógfaidh siad teangacha eile. Tá bunús na scoileanna seo oscailte do gach creideamh agus tá iarrachtaí ar siúl an Ghaelscolaíocht a nascadh leis an Oideachas Iomlánaithe i gceantair áirithe.

Le haghaidh tuilleadh eolais, déan teagmháil le:
Cathal Ó Donnghaile
Rúnaí GAELOILIÚINT.



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A Résumé of Irish Medium Education (I.M.E.) in the North of Ireland in 1996

Irish Medium Education in the North began as far back as 1970 and since then this sector of education has developed considerably. Gaeloiliúint (GO), the Council for Irish Medium Education, was founded in 1991.

- * There are now a total of 28 Irish Medium Nursery schools throughout the North;
- * There are 12 Irish Medium Primary schools (Bunscoil);
- * There are two Irish Medium Secondary schools (Meánscoil);
- * There are now approximately 2000 children here who receive their education through Irish;
- * There is a BEd. and a full-time post-graduate course for I.M.E. in St Mary's Training College;
- * Gaeloiliúint provide a part-time training course for Nursery school teachers each year.

The 'Naíscoil' (Nursery school) is the starting block of I.M.E. The majority of children attending the above schools come from an English-speaking background and, at the age of 3, they begin a carefully planned immersion programme throughout which the teachers converse with them solely in Irish. The programme here, as in Wales, is based on the total immersion technique devised by Lambert and Tucker in Montreal in 1972. The Naíscoilanna are Nursery schools in their own right and not play groups, however the system has not yet been fully recognised by the DENI.

The I.M. Nursery follows a precise curriculum in which comprehension skills and key lexical items are taught using the following methods: pictures, gestures, role play, rhymes, music and body language. Gradually the child understands the basics of communication in Irish and begins to imitate them. Teachers keep records and progress reports on the children's development as they learn through free and structured play, craft, themework, and pre-literacy and pre-numeracy activities. Every activity has an aim and an objective and is part of the overall co-ordinated curriculum. The children are encouraged to participate and are given as much one-to-one attention as possible. The same immersion programme is continued throughout the Primary sector. Reading and writing in English are not formally taught until P3. The children then quickly acquire all the English skills known to their counterparts in monolingual English Medium schools. The organisation Altram has recently been established to help in the development of the Irish Medium Nursery sector.

I.M. schools wherever they exist, be it in Enniskillen or in Crumlin, have been created by the community and community development is an integral part of the Irish Language Movement. The language gives individuals and communities a sense of pride, self-respect, confidence, courage and hope. These qualities help to create the skills necessary for success and happiness in business, communications, enterprise and industry.

International evidence and our own experience in Ireland reveal many of the advantages of bilingualism to society. Because of the early cognitive development I.M.E. entails, children attending these schools are often more perceptive, more capable, quicker and more confident than monolinguals when undertaking problem solving in maths or physics, or when grasping new concepts in history and geography. They often show a richer, more vivid imagination in art and music and they can easily pick up other languages. Most of the Irish Medium schools here are open to every religious group and attempts are being made to combine I.M.E. with Integrated Education in certain areas.

For further information, contact:

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Rúnaí GAELOILIÚINT.