Submission from Dawn Maclean

Education (Scotland) Bill 2015 – Gaelic Medium Education

Thank you for giving the parents involved in G.M.E. an opportunity to respond to this legislation.

I have a few comments that I would like to submit.

- I am concerned that there is no official Regulator to oversee that the Council are following these guidelines. In Aberdeen, the Gaelic unit is never promoted by the school, and in some cases is actively stifled by the school. Schools with Gaelic units receive funding regardless of how well each school deals with G.M.E. There is no way to enforce legislation. I fear that some schools are happily taking the additional funding without fully providing what is expected. I would like to recommend that Bord na Gaidhlig receive more authority to act as a Regulatory Body in these instances, rather than just an Advisory Body.

- My second concern is the onus on requesting G.M.E. being placed on the parent. This does not seem reasonable. Perhaps they could at least be directed to BnG or their nearest Comann nam Parant group, who could support them with this.

- The request for provision should extend to nursery and high school levels.

- Finally, one of the main issues is the promotion of teachers. This is a vital matter which needs to be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

Thank you for your support of G.M.E. Please contact me if you have any queries regarding the above.

Yours faithfully,

Dawn Maclean
Parent Advisor & Secretary, Comann nam Parant