



# E-SGOIL NEWS

OUR TERMLY NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2022

## Welcome to our December Newsletter.

Term 2 has been another busy term with lots happening for learners at all levels. National e-Learning Offer programmes continue to evolve and respond to learner needs, building on the success of previous years. In addition to this and other core business we have worked on one-off projects such as Our National Discussion live sessions which ran during the month of November with 26,000 learners taking part from across Scotland.

None of this would be possible were it not for our innovative and talented staff team. Their commitment to young people is admirable and this, along with stakeholder feedback, is what drives improvement.

This newsletter gives a snapshot of some of the work that has been done this session.

Please see our **website** or **contact us** directly should you require more information. If you would like to have our newsletter delivered straight into your inbox you can sign up to our mailing list using the **form here**.

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## Early Years & Primary

### OUT AND ABOUT WITH DUG

Our intrepid explorer Dug has been travelling around West Lothian visiting Early Learning and Childcare settings. He's had so much fun learning through play as he explores his world with the boys and girls.

Just some of his West Lothian adventures included making Christmas trees at the woodworking bench at Our Lady's Primary School & ELC in Stoneyburn. At Bankton Nursery he played in the snow, building a sleigh to travel the frosty streets, and at Dedridge Primary & Glenvue Nursery they noticed he'd lost a button – the only solution was for the boys and girls to teach him to sew!



You can follow Dug on his adventures on Twitter  
**@BeingMeWithDug**

Our interactive learning space "Dug's Discovery Den" provides plenty of playful ways for all children to join Dug in his adventures. Available in both English and Gaelic you can find them **here**

## EARLY YEARS GAELIC MEDIUM STEM PROJECT

As part of the Education Scotland Enhancing Professional Learning in STEM initiative, e-Sgoil was awarded grant funding to raise Gaelic Medium Early Years practitioner confidence in, and awareness of, STEM and to build on the underlying principles of Realising the Ambition.

This e-Sgoil project was piloted within Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) and aims to:

- Develop an online programme of support
- Coach, support and help Early Years Gaelic Medium staff to engage confidently in STEM experiences
- Assist Early Years Gaelic Medium staff in identifying and sharing good practice
- Further develop training materials to deliver Gaelic Medium STEM experiences to Early Years settings



Muriel Macleod -  
Project lead



## What was done?

- A survey was produced and used to gather baseline information and to identify CLPL needs
- A 100% response rate was achieved from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Early Years settings
- The programme that was developed is now being offered to all Early Years settings in Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
- An Early Years Gaelic Medium STEM Microsoft Team group was created, as a space for learning, discussion, professional development and for sharing resources, ideas and activities
- Gaelic specific links and relevant CLPL opportunities were also shared through the group
- Early Years Gaelic Medium settings requested STEM activities for a range of topics e.g. Outdoor Learning, Space, Birds, Under the Sea
- A workshop on Outdoor Learning, was delivered to a cluster of Early Years practitioners with further sessions planned
- Early Years practitioners who have taken part in the workshops, have rated all aspects of the CLPL opportunities, highly



Outdoor Learning at Stornoway Primary Nursery





## Senior Phase Study Support

e-Sgoil's Study Support evening webinars are now in full swing, with a total of fifty different webinars up and running each week during term time. The number of youngsters registering continues to climb, with lots of people coming onboard just now in the run up to prelims. We currently have 2946 learners registered with a total of 11.6 thousand individual webinar sign-ups. There's still plenty of room, though, because the webinars take place on Microsoft Teams through Glow, so we're able to accommodate hundreds on a call for some of the most popular subjects.

English, Maths, Sciences and Social Subjects are all represented in our timetable, as well as a range of Languages (including Gaelic for learners and fluent speakers), PE, a suite of Business Studies webinars, Music and Art and Design, to name but a few. We cater for a range of levels from N4, through N5 and H to AH. Click on our timetable graphic below for details of the full programme.

Study Support 2022/23			National e-Learning Offer		
TIME	SUBJECT	LEVEL	TIME	SUBJECT	LEVEL
MONDAY	5pm English	Advanced Higher	TUESDAY	4pm Maths	National 4
	5pm Physics	National 5		5pm Modern Studies	Higher
	6pm Maths	National 5		5pm Geography	National 5
	6pm RMPS	National 5		5pm Music	National 5
	6pm Physics	Higher		5pm Maths	Higher
	6pm Physics	Advanced Higher		5pm English	National 4
	6pm Human Biology	Higher		6pm Chemistry	National 5
	6pm Business Management	National 5		6pm Gaelic (learners)	National 5
	7pm Application of Maths	Higher		6pm Spanish	Higher
	7pm Business Management	Advanced Higher		6pm Maths	Advanced Higher
	7pm PE	Higher		6pm Business Management	Higher
	7pm Biology	Higher		6pm Music	Higher
WEDNESDAY	7pm Computing Science	Higher	THURSDAY	5pm PE	National 5
	7pm Biology	Advanced Higher		5pm English	Higher
	7pm Computing Science	National 5		5pm Engineering Science	National 5
	7pm Biology	National 5		6pm Engineering Science	Higher
	7pm RMPS	Higher		6pm Chemistry	Higher
				6pm Art & Design	National 5/Higher
THURSDAY	5pm German	Higher		7pm Graphic Communication	National 5
	5pm Graphic Communication	Higher		7pm History	National 5
	5pm Geography	Higher		7pm Health & Food Technology	National 5/Higher
	5pm Applications of Maths	National 5			
	6pm Graphic Communication	National 5			
	6pm Gaidhlig	Higher			
FRIDAY	6pm Design & Manufacture	National 5			
	6pm Gaidhlig	National 5			
	7pm Design & Manufacture	Higher			

We ask participants to evaluate their experience termly, and we're delighted to report that young people have recently rated the 'overall quality of webinar experience' at 4.5 out of 5. This is a great endorsement, and testimony to the commitment of the e-Sgoil Study Support team. Participants enjoy the sense of an online learning community, and the positive relationships that develop between learners and teachers as the year progresses. We also offer a 'Your Questions' channel, where youngsters can post questions about revision or their work through the week between webinar times. 'Your Questions' is monitored, and suggestions and tips are provided by specialist teaching staff.

Study Support is freely available to all senior phase learners via Glow, including for young people whose Local Authority doesn't routinely use Glow – we can provide clear support for easy access.



It's been a very busy Term 2 for the DYW Live team and the extensive network of partner organisations, companies and volunteers who inspire, inform and upskill learners across Scotland in work-related topics.

Almost every week this term there have been themed webinars in addition to the 39 courses currently offered via MS Teams. The themed week webinars are usually streamed via the e-Sgoil website and recordings for the following events are now available to view on demand. Click the images below for more information.



**World Space Week**



**Scottish Careers Week**



**COP27 programme**



**Social Care Careers Week**



**Winter Pathways Week**

The programme continues to strike a chord across the country, with teachers from 29 out of Scotland's 32 local authority areas having registered for either provision for their learners, or CLPL for themselves, so far this year.

One highlight from this term was a partnership with National Galleries of Scotland, who arranged for guest artists to run Experimental Drawing sessions across two evenings with Senior Phase learners considering applying to art school. This was the first opportunity for learners themselves to register and join DYW Live sessions. The young artists' work will be showcased in a digital display in the Scottish National Gallery next year. Having received great feedback from learners and the teachers supporting them, we hope to expand this model to other areas of skills development.

As this newsletter goes to press, DYW Live is also supporting an innovative online pilot, with learners from 7 schools in the Scottish Borders aiming to achieve a SCQF Level 4/5 Work Placement with NHS Borders. If successful, DYW Live intends to widen this type of work placement offer to learners across the country, with a variety of job sectors to choose from. Watch this space...!

In the meantime, we hope that you and your learners can join us after a well-earned Christmas break for some of the great range of high quality, free, work-related learning on offer. Among Term 3's highlights will be the massively popular **Talk to a Farmer** series, which will run from 6-10th February this session.

Please visit the DYW Live section of the e-Sgoil website by clicking on the logo opposite for more information and to sign up for any of our sessions, either for learners or CLPL.





# Gaelic

## NATIONAL 5 & HIGHER COURSES 2022-23

The number of people studying Gaelic at Advanced Higher, Higher and Nat 5 levels through e-Sgoil continues to rise. Currently there are over 140 individuals from across Scotland involved in such classes. The vast majority are adults who find that this flexible delivery approach suits their circumstances.

Some of them are teachers or people working in education who are interested in introducing Gaelic as a 1+2 language option in their own schools and local authorities.

Pupils whose schools do not provide Gaelic or who aren't able to take Gaelic in school column structures have an alternative option through the e-Sgoil offer.

Those studying these courses with e-Sgoil come from the length and breadth of Scotland.




## NATIONAL 5 & HIGHER COURSES

Learn Gaelic, Scotland's oldest National Language, online with other students from across Scotland via e-Sgoil.

Notes of interest and provisional registration are now sought from schools and learners for N5 & Higher Gaelic classes which are offered free of charge. These will begin in August 2023.

Delivery of these courses is in partnership with UHI Outer Hebrides



# LEARN GAELIC

Learn Gaelic, Scotland's oldest National Language, online  
with other students from across Scotland via e-Sgoil.

## When & where


Twice weekly lessons  
online via  
Microsoft Teams

## Courses Available

- N5 Gaelic (Learners)
- H Gaelic (learners)
- N5 Gàidhlig (Fluent speakers)
- H Gàidhlig (Fluent speakers)

For more information and  
to register your interest visit

[www.e-sgoil.com/gaidhlig/](http://www.e-sgoil.com/gaidhlig/)



OUTER HEBRIDES  
INNSE GALL



## GLPS - GAELIC LANGUAGE IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

From January 2023, e-Sgoil will launch GLPS sessions to support schools with their L2 and L3 development as part of their 1 + 2 delivery.

This offer will give P5 – 7 pupils the chance to learn Gaelic with a Gaelic speaking teacher using Microsoft Teams. The timing and frequency of the sessions can be flexible, to suit the needs of your pupils.



### GAELIC LANGUAGE IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

First sessions  
beginning  
January/  
February 2023

**ONLINE GAELIC  
(LEARNERS)  
SESSIONS FOR  
P5-7 PUPILS**

**MORE INFO**  
[www.  
e-sgoil.com/  
gaidhlig](http://www.e-sgoil.com/gaidhlig)

Further information on any of our Gaelic programmes and expression of interest forms for each of those noted above can be found on our website **here** or click on any of the graphics in this section of the newsletter to be redirected.

## e-Sgoil out and about



e-Sgoil went on tour in October & November. Our staff participated in the Connected Learning for All Conference, organised by Glasgow City Council, and visited the School Leaders Scotland Conference in St. Andrews.

It was great to connect with new and old friends of e-Sgoil and to chat about what we can offer schools and learners. If you didn't get a chance to chat with us, and want to know more, **get in touch!**





## Supply teaching across the nation

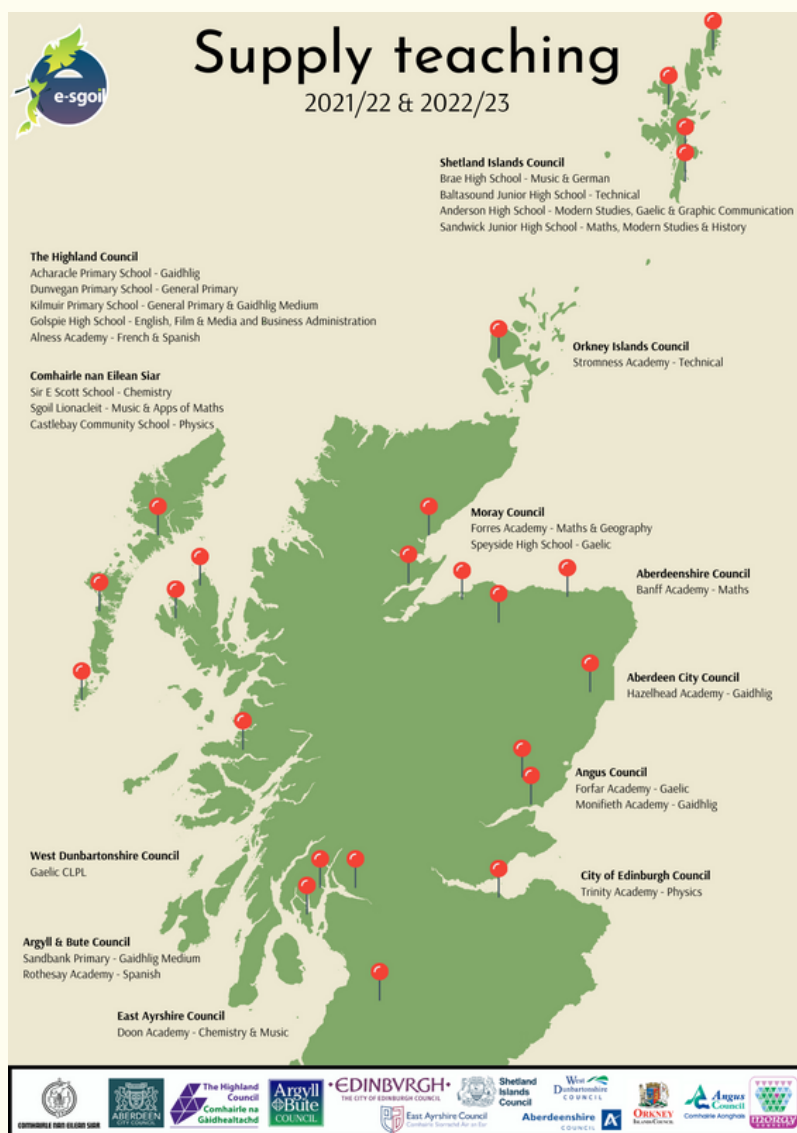
One of the original reasons for e-Sgoil coming into being was to provide learners with the opportunity to continue with their studies in situations where specialist staff were unavailable in their own schools. These situations can occur for a variety of reasons including staff absence, maternity leave, illness or when learners transfer into a school that does not currently offer all of their preferred curriculum.

Pupils quickly adjust to the new way of being taught and are very appreciative of the opportunity to continue their learning in this way. Pupil feedback is very positive and one pupil said 'it is great being able to access a course that would not otherwise be available in our school'

e-Sgoil supply staff are ready and willing to deliver learning across the country. Currently, e-Sgoil staff are delivering sessions in Gaelic, Maths, German, History, Modern Studies, Business Studies, Administration, English and Graphic Communication. Learners from BGE to Advanced Higher level are accessing courses they might not otherwise be able to take part in.

Click the image opposite to expand the map and see where we have provided supply cover during the last two academic sessions.

Click the icon below to watch a short video from Kirsty Hair, PT Digital Literacy and Enterprise at Doon Academy, East Ayrshire Council, who reached out to us for supply cover.



If you would like to explore options if you are looking for some specialist supply just complete this **form** and we will get back to you.





## Our National Discussion

As part of the listening phase of the National Discussion on Education, e-Sgoil delivered live, interactive sessions to schools across Scotland.

These national broadcasts took place between 16th & 25th November and saw an estimated 26,000 learners take part. The live sessions were designed to start the process of getting young people thinking about school and education so that they could then engage in the main National Discussion process.

Presenters Tom Webster & Gavin Oattes were joined by BSL interpreter Sabine Zielinska for non-stop, action packed sessions which allowed young people to have their say and share their hopes & ideas for the future.

In addition to the main sessions, a number of Spotlight sessions were also scheduled. These focussed on a range of different learner groups, themes and questions allowing young people to really concentrate on one group or one element.

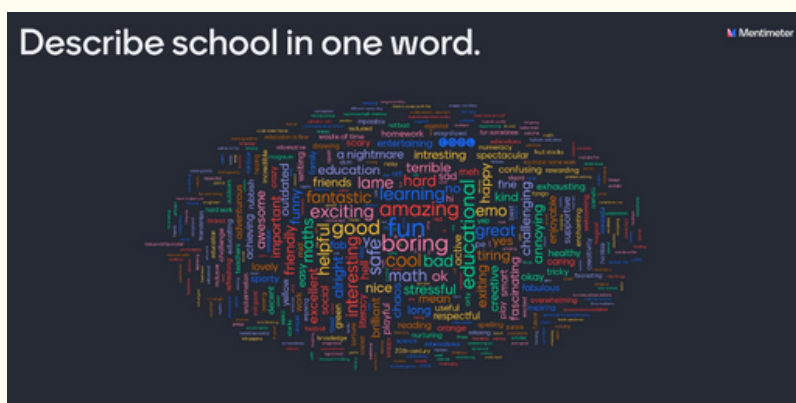
Click the graphics below to view recordings of the main sessions.



## Primary

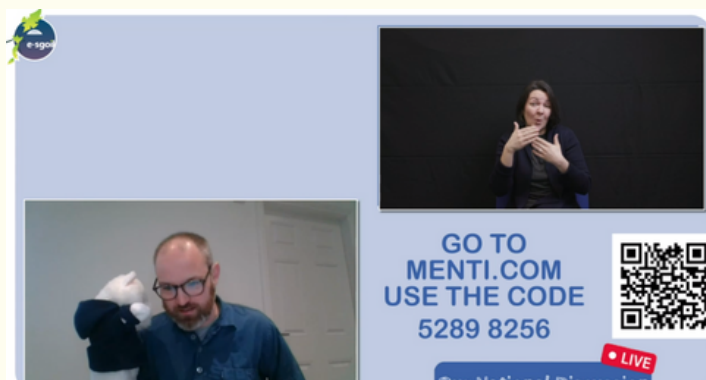


## Secondary



“We loved the interaction and enthusiasm from the speaker, and integrating the dog into the session. Very child friendly and they all loved this!”

“We loved the use of Menti to gather children’s responses, all learners were really engaged!”





In each edition of our newsletter we will introduce you to some of the members of the e-Sgoil team. This time we meet **Laura Howitt** - Digital DHT and **Alex Kuryluk**, Business Studies teacher.

## Meet the team



I am the Gaelic Digital Depute at e-Sgoil, having spent 9 years in Gaelic Medium Education in a variety of different roles including working at Local Authority level in my home area of Argyll and Bute. My subject background is Gaelic, Spanish and RMPS and I have lived and studied in Spain.

My e-Sgoil role sees me working closely with primary and secondary colleagues to promote and create opportunities for Gaelic Medium, Gaelic Learner and Adult learners of Gaelic and it is something I am very passionate about.

e-Sgoil has been a perfect opportunity for me to have a wider impact on Gaelic pupils and it still offers me the chance to keep up my Spanish and RMPS skills.

In my personal time I love to travel. I recently spent a month in the United States and I am making plans to visit Peru as it has always been a dream to visit Machu Picchu.

My name is Alex Kuryluk, teacher of Business Education subjects at e-Sgoil since January 2020.

I was attracted to apply to e-Sgoil for several reasons. Following a long career as a Principal Teacher of Business Education I decided to become a supply teacher and help schools who were having difficulties recruiting a Business teacher. I was also extremely interested in developing skills in on-line teaching. The pandemic reduced the opportunities for supply but increased on-line opportunities and I was fortunate to be selected by e-Sgoil and have been fairly active since then.

I was involved in teaching of all the Business subjects to all levels during lockdown, as well as creating content for the Big Questions & Learning Spaces.

I also managed to get involved in delivering evening Study Support webinars and Easter Study Support webinars. This year I am also delivering into a school as a supply teacher on-line - teaching Higher Business Management at Golspie High School.

What I really like about e-Sgoil is that you can make suggestions and, if possible, they will try to deliver. I was really pleased when my suggestion that the teaching of Beginner's English to forcibly displaced Ukrainians could be delivered using e-Sgoil's platform became a reality during the summer of 22.

Outside of all of this teaching - I love to spend time with my family, go to the football, walk, visit real-ale pubs, sing in our Edinburgh Ukrainian choir, teach beginners Ukrainian, study politics and economics, rest and relax.





## National e-Learning Offer

The National e-Learning Offer complements the delivery of teaching and learning by schools and settings, local authorities and Regional Improvement Collaboratives in Scotland.



The NeLO is made up of three elements - live, recorded and supported resources.

Live resources include interactive, online classes. Recorded resources are available to watch at any time. Supported resources include assessments, practical experiments, revision resources and more.



All resources have been created by educators for educators to support the development of learning opportunities across the curriculum, from the beginning of the Broad General Education through to the Senior Phase.

Click on the NeLO & West OS logos above to find out more and search the resource banks.

COMING  
UP  
IN TERM 3

- **Updated Senior Phase Learning Spaces**
- **Easter Study Support launch**
- **New DYW Live offers and themed weeks**

Keep an eye on our website and social media channels for more information and updates on all our programmes.

## KEEP IN TOUCH WITH E-SGOIL



Every Friday during term time we publish details of what's coming up the following week along with a detailed timetables for the live Study Support webinars showing the topics to be covered.

These are published on the homepage of our **website** as well as on our social media channels. Click on the logos below to be directed.



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