

## ***Letter to parents interested in participating in FLW2010***

### **Family Learning Event at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig**

A (Bhana) charaid,

You may be aware that Gaelic-speaking families from across the country have been offered the opportunity in previous years to take part in a Family Learning Event at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (SMO) in Sleat, Isle of Skye.

This letter is to advise you of plans for this year's event and to invite you to apply for a place at this year's event, which will run during the week of **5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> July 2010**. As last year, the college will be dedicated to the event so that the environment can be as "family-friendly" as possible.

Similar events in previous years have been successful in allowing children who are in Gaelic-medium education, and their parents, to learn together in an all-Gaelic environment and to mix with families from a similar background from different parts of the country.

Parents will take part in one of the summer short courses offered by the college - these courses will be run at a variety of levels, appropriate to the needs of participants.

School-age children will take part in a range of supervised activities such as sport, drama, arts and crafts during the day. There is provision for a creche for children aged 4 and under.

Activities will also be arranged for the evenings, allowing parents and children to come together in a Gaelic-speaking, social environment.

### ***This year's event***

#### **Activities for parents**

Language courses will be run at a variety of levels, appropriate to the language skills of participants. Guidance regarding the interpretation of these levels is given below, but in case of doubt you should consult your class teacher or the Short Course Team at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (**01471 888240 or [cg@smo.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:cg@smo.uhi.ac.uk)**).

You must indicate, on the application form, the appropriate level for each adult participating.

#### **Activities for children**

Children aged 4 and under will attend the creche facility at Fàs Mòr near to the college.

Children attending Sgoil Àraich or Bun Sgoil will take part in a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities which are organised during the week.

The organisers of the event will provide formal supervision of children during the creche and playscheme *and parents will be expected to be responsible for the supervision of their children at all other times*

You must indicate, on the application form, the name and date of birth of each child participating.

#### **Activities for families**

A range of activities will be arranged for each evening enabling parents and children to come together in a relaxed, social, Gaelic-speaking environment. There will be a family cèilidh on the Thursday evening.

#### **Costs**

As in previous years, the bulk of the 'core' costs of the event (Playscheme, creche etc.) are being met by the Community Learning and Development Review Group for Gaelic (CLAD).

Families will be responsible for the costs of - course fees for adults; a contribution (£20 per child) towards the costs of children's activities; accommodation; and transport to Skye.

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### **Costs (continued)**

**Course fees** – The CLAD subsidy will reduce the cost of the adult course fee to **£100**. However, many parents will be eligible for financial support from ILA Scotland to meet this cost. Adults earning less than £22,000 p.a. can apply for an Individual Learning Account (ILA), which may be used to meet the course fee.

ILA Scotland can be contacted on Freephone 0808 100 1090 or at [www.ilascotland.org.uk](http://www.ilascotland.org.uk).

You must make your application for an ILA as soon as possible, to determine your eligibility before submitting your application for the Family Learning Event. Applications received without a valid ILA account number will be treated as being ineligible for ILA.

**Children's activities** - costs for provision of child-care facilities and Playscheme activities continue to rise and comprise a significant element of the event's costs. A (nominal) fee of **£20** per child will be charged to help towards covering the costs of the event.

**Accommodation** – Families may make their own arrangements for accommodation on the island, or may choose to stay in college accommodation or camp at the college. The following information is given by way of guidance for those wishing to stay in the college :

Adults	£100 for 5 nights	Extra nights £30
Children 5+	£75 for 5 nights	Extra nights £20
Children under 5	FREE	
Family room (3 people)	£185 for 5 nights	Extra nights £50

*All rooms have en-suite facilities and tea/coffee making facilities. Prices are inclusive of full cooked breakfast.*

Please complete the Accommodation section of the form to indicate your requirements. Note that, if you wish to bring a cot for the use of an infant, you should indicate this in the appropriate section. This will enable SMO staff to allocate accommodation appropriate to your needs.

Confirmation of the total accommodation costs (if appropriate) will be given by the college once your family has been allocated a place. Thereafter, payment may be made at any time prior to commencement of the Family Week event.

### **Next steps**

If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, please complete the attached pro-forma and send, together with the relevant amount payable (*see application form*),

**to arrive no later than 12<sup>th</sup> March** to :

Project Co-ordinator, Gaelic Family Learning Event, Community Learning Services, Renfrewshire Council, Brediland Road, Linwood, PA3 3RA.

The Co-ordinator may also be contacted by e-mail at [flw.clad@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:flw.clad@yahoo.co.uk)

***In the event that more applications are received than can be accommodated, places will be allocated by ballot.***

If you are successful in obtaining a place, you will be contacted, early in April, with further details regarding the event. Unsuccessful applicants will have their payments returned, but if your application is successful, your payment is non-refundable thereafter.

Should you have any questions about the event, do not hesitate to contact myself or the Project Co-ordinator.

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### ***Undernote***

#### **Cùrsaichean Goirid – SMO Short Course levels**

1,2 (Beginners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speaking Our Language (SOL) 1</li><li>• Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) I</li><li>• Siuthad I</li><li>• Clì Gàidhlig I</li><li>• An Cùrsa Inntrigidh Earrann 1</li></ul>
3,4 (Lower Intermediate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SOL 2</li><li>• SQA II</li><li>• Siuthad II</li><li>• Standard Grade</li><li>• Intermediate I</li><li>• Clì Gàidhlig II</li><li>• An Cùrsa Inntrigidh Earrann 2</li></ul>
5,6 (Upper Intermediate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SOL 3</li><li>• SQA III</li><li>• Siuthad III</li><li>• Clì Gàidhlig III</li><li>• Higher (Learners)</li><li>• Intermediate II</li><li>• An Cùrsa Inntrigidh Earrann 3</li></ul>
7,8 (Advanced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SOL 4</li><li>• Siuthad IV</li><li>• Clì Gàidhlig IV</li><li>• Advanced Higher</li></ul>