



European Research Centre on
Multilingualism and Language Learning

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MANX GAELIC

The Manx Gaelic language in education in the Isle of Man

| Regional dossiers series |

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Contents

Glossary	2
Foreword	3
1 Introduction.....	5
2 Pre-school education.....	28
3 Primary education	31
4 Secondary education.....	36
5 Vocational education	39
6 Higher education	40
7 Adult education.....	48
8 Educational research.....	51
9 Prospects.....	55
10 Summary statistics	58
Education system in Spain	60
Endnotes	61
References and further reading.....	62
Addresses	73
Other websites on minority languages	78
What can the Mercator Research Centre offer you?.....	79

Glossary

AS-Level	Advanced Subsidiary level
ATG	Ard Teisht Ghaelgagh
CertEd	Certificate in Education
DEC	Department of Education and Children
DHSC	Department of Health and Science
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
MNH	Manx National Heritage
TCG	Teisht Chadjin Ghaelgagh (GCSE equivalent in Manx Gaelic)
YCG	Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (Manx Gaelic Society)

Foreword

background The Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning aims at the acquisition, circulation, and application of knowledge in the field of regional and minority language education. Regional or minority languages are languages that differ from the official language of the state where they are spoken and that are traditionally used within a given territory by nationals of that state forming a group numerically smaller than the rest of the state's population. For several years an important means for the Mercator Research Centre to achieve the goal of knowledge acquisition and circulation has been the Regional dossiers series. The success of this series illustrates a need for documents stating briefly the most essential features of the education system of regions with an autochthonous lesser used language.

aim Regional dossiers aim at providing a concise description of and basic statistics on minority language education in a specific region of Europe. Aspects that are addressed include features of the education system, recent educational policies, main actors, legal arrangements, and support structures, as well as quantitative aspects, such as the number of schools, teachers, pupils, and financial investments. This kind of information can serve several purposes and can be relevant for different target groups.

target group Policymakers, researchers, teachers, students, and journalists may use the information provided to assess developments in European minority language schooling. They can also use a Regional dossier as a first orientation towards further research or as a source of ideas for improving educational provisions in their own region.

link with Eurydice In order to link these regional descriptions with those of national education systems, the format of the regional dossiers follows the format used by Eurydice, the information network on education in Europe. Eurydice provides information on the

administration and structure of national education systems in the member states of the European Union.

contents

The remainder of this dossier consists of an introduction to the region concerned, followed by six sections each dealing with a specific level of the education system. These brief descriptions contain factual information presented in a readily accessible way. Sections eight to ten cover research, prospects, and summary statistics. For detailed information and political discussions about language use at the various levels of education, the reader is referred to other sources with a list of publications.

1 Introduction

language

The Isle of Man is situated centrally in the British Isles in the Irish Sea. It is an internally self-governing dependent territory of the British Crown. It is not part of the United Kingdom, but is a member of the Commonwealth, and has a special relationship with the European Union through Protocol 3 of the 1992 act of succession of the United Kingdom to the EEC (currently known as the EU), which was negotiated through the United Kingdom which acts for the Isle of Man in international affairs.



Figure 1: Map of the Isle of Man (Source: visitisoleofman.com)

Manx Gaelic is one of the Celtic groups of the Indo-European family of languages. For hundreds of years this group, once widespread through Europe, has been spoken only in the British Isles and north-western France.

There are two branches of the Celtic languages. *Goidelic* (Gaelic) is the branch spoken in the Isle of Man, Ireland and Scotland. Related to it is Brythonic, spoken in Wales, Cornwall and Brittany. These are sometimes referred to as 'P' (Brythonic) and 'Q' (Goidelic) Celtic respectively (Q is often written as C or K in Manx), as some words in the two branches substitute the initial letter – for example, Welsh *pen* (head) becomes *kione* in Manx, and *pump* (five) becomes *queig*.

Manx Gaelic is very closely related to the now extinct Gaelic speech of nearby East Ulster (Northern Ireland) and Galloway (South-western Scotland), both of which are visible from the Isle of Man and have had close, if not always amicable, contacts in historic times. The Gaelic speech of the Isle of Man began as an offshoot of Old Irish, arriving in the fifth or sixth century of our era with colonists from Ireland. Before that time it is probable that a form of Brythonic speech existed in Mann.

Norse (Norsemen were vikings from Scandinavia) settlements were established in Mann from the ninth century onwards. Although the Norse rulers installed themselves as the ruling class, and as such had a long lasting influence on political and legal institutions, the Gaelic language survived the Norse period. The language re-asserted itself by the fourteenth century with minimal Norse influence, apart from some changed place and personal names. By 1346, the English asserted control over the Isle of Man, but the Norse constitution survived.

The Welsh born Bishop of Sodor and Mann, John Phillips, is credited with the earliest widely known written work in Manx when he had the *Book of Common Prayer* translated in manuscript form around 1610. A century later, Bishop Thomas Wilson published a Manx translation of his *Principles and Duties*

of Christianity, using a different spelling system from that of the Phillips manuscript. With this document he formed the basis of modern written Manx. The intention was that the clergy should be able to use Manx “for English is not understood by two-thirds of the Island (Thomson & Pilgrim, 1988).” For the same reason the Bible was finally translated in its entirety into Manx by the clergy and was first published in 1775.

In 1765 the *Act of Revestment* was passed, giving much more control to the British Crown over the economy of the Isle of Man. This encouraged an expansion of the use of English on the Island. This expansion occurred to such an extent that children born and brought up in the first half of the nineteenth century were mainly bilingual and the children born during the second half of the century, the majority were brought up in exclusively English. None of the known native Manx speakers who lived into the twentieth century were born after 1878.

From 1901, the decennial census (except for the one in 1981) contained various questions on Manx Gaelic, revealing a decline in its use. For example in 1902 there were 4,419 Manx speakers; 896 in 1921, and merely 165 in 1961, two of whom were native speakers. In 1946 a search was organized in order to find genuine native Manx speakers. The search resulted in the documentation of twenty native speakers. In 1974, the last native Manx speaker, Ned Maddrell, died.

By 1971 the decreasing speaker trend was reversed with 284 speakers recorded. These Manx speakers had learned the language in adulthood and predominately learned the language through the efforts of a small group of enthusiasts who had learned from native speakers themselves from the 1930s onwards. In their turn they taught others the language as well (Stowell and Bréasláin, 1996).

population

The Isle of Man's capital is Douglas, its land area is 572 sq. km, it is 54 km long and the island is 22 km at its widest, and its population is noted in the interim census of 2011 as 84,497.

This is an increase of 5.5% in comparison to the population of 80,058 that has been documented in the 2006 census (Isle of Man Census Report 2011). The population's languages are English and Manx Gaelic. The full ten-year Manx national census of 2011 (Isle of Man Census Report 2011) contained several questions for the resident population relating to Manx Gaelic:

question	Response	percentage
Do you speak, read or write Manx Gaelic?	1,823	2.16%
Do you speak Manx Gaelic?	1,662	1.97%
Do you write Manx Gaelic?	796	0.94%
Do you read Manx Gaelic?	1079	1.28%

Table 1: Number of people who speak, write, and/or read Manx Gaelic (source: Isle of Man Census Report 2011).

There was no definition of the amount, quality or fluency of Manx Gaelic spoken, written or read, and it is possible that some respondents who had a limited knowledge of the language answered in the affirmative as well as more fluent practitioners.

The results show an increase in the statistics from the 2001 census when 1,527 people (2.0% of the then resident population) were recorded as being able to speak Manx Gaelic, 1.19% able to read it and 0.92% able to write it (Isle of Man Census Report 2001).

language status In 1985 the first official, although limited, recognition of Manx Gaelic came through a resolution (Report to the Select Committee on the Greater Use of Manx Gaelic) in which Tynwald, the Island's two chamber Parliament, declared that the preservation and promotion of Manx Gaelic should be an objective of the Isle of Man Government. The Government funded Manx Heritage Foundation set up a voluntary Coonceil ny Gaelgey (Manx Gaelic Advisory Council) whose purpose was to standardise the official use of Manx Gaelic for government and local authorities.

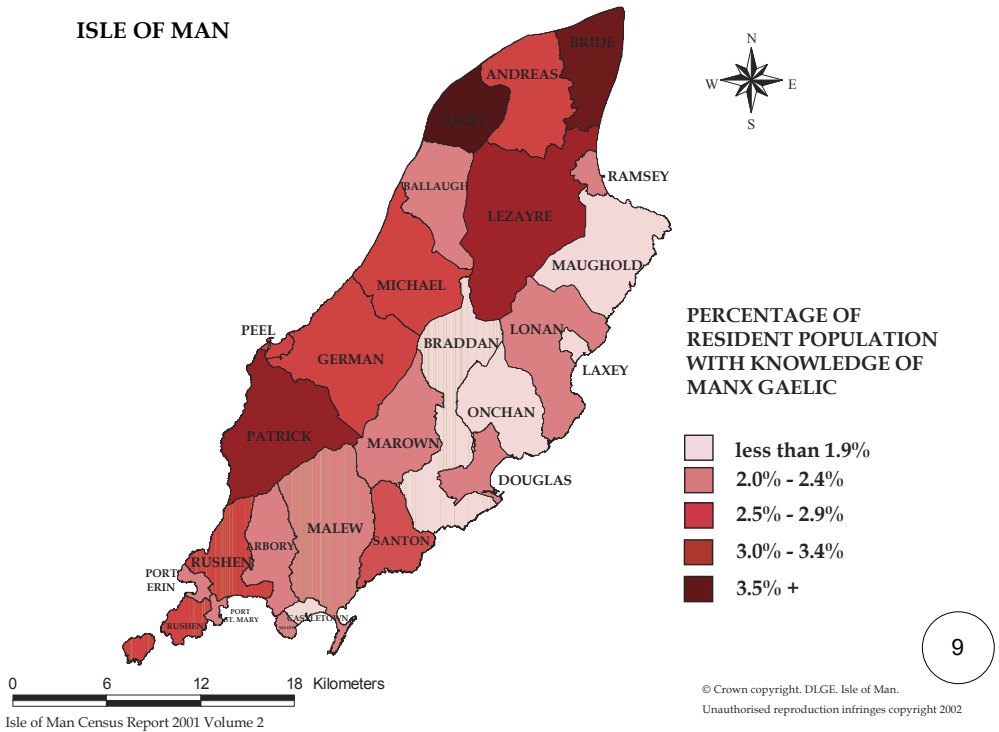


Figure 2: Isle of Man: Percentage of Resident Population with Knowledge of Manx Gaelic (2011) (Isle of Man Census report 2011, volume 2, page 37, available at: <https://www.gov.im/media/207874/2001censusreportvolume2.pdf>).

During the 1990s, much progress was made in the language’s revival, both thanks to Government initiatives, particularly in education, and the input of voluntary organisations. Educational partnerships have been very successful. Most notably the pre-school Manx Gaelic group Mooninjer Veggey (“Little People”), which has secured considerable support and funding from the Department of Education and the Manx Heritage Foundation.

In April 2003 the Manx Government signed the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, thereby agreeing to extend the Charter at Part Two protection level to the Isle of Man. The objectives and principles pursued in accordance with Article 2 are:

“In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

- the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth; the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;
- the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;
- the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;
- the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;
- the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;
- the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;
- the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;
- the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.
- The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or

development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

- The Parties undertake to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.
- In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.
- The Parties undertake to apply, *mutatis mutandis*, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to non-territorial languages. However, as far as these languages are concerned, the nature and scope of the measures to be taken to give effect to this Charter shall be determined in a flexible manner, bearing in mind the needs and wishes, and respecting the traditions and characteristics, of the groups which use the languages concerned.”

Part Three (in particular Part III, Article 8, 1.a. iv, 1.b. iv, 1.c.iv) has much more specific requirements for regional or minority language provision. In practice many of these requirements are already being met by Isle of Man Government, particularly with regard to education and heritage. Some of the pre-school education is available through the medium of the Manx language. There is one Manx medium (where the teaching is done in Manx) primary school where the curriculum is taught through the Manx language. Additionally, there is a pool of peripatetic teachers which provides a half an hour Manx class a

week to English-speaking primary schools from the age of 8 (A peripatetic teacher is one who travels from school to school in order to offer a service. A Manx peripatetic teacher thus goes to several schools in order to be able to teach children in their own setting, rather than getting the pupils to travel to the teacher). At one of the island's secondary schools, some lessons are taught through the medium of Manx. Manx is available as a subject to non-Manx speakers in some of the secondary schools, leading to a General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE). A-level Manx is also available at these schools. The Charter's requirements for Part Three are being kept under review. Government agencies that work with the language meet on a quarterly basis, and a bi-annual review is prepared. There is no plan to fully move towards meeting the provisions of Part Three at the present time.

The Isle of Man Government's Business Plan for 2005-8 identified a sense of 'National Identity' as one of the six overall aims to be achieved through the work of government departments and authorities. One specific target of this aim is to increase the number of people involved with Manx Gaelic. There has only been a small increase in the number of Manx speakers (noted in the 2011 census). Next to this increase, in addition to Manx's increasing visibility in Government contexts through for example multilingual signage, there is little concrete evidence of progress.

**status of
language
education**

Although Manx Gaelic has been taught as an optional subject in primary schools since 1991, this was not part of the Department of Education's departmental policy. Thus although the teaching of the language contributes to the language's development, it does not give Manx a legal status to build on. The only Act of Tynwald which refers specifically to minority language education is the *Education Act* (Isle of Man) of 2001, which states in the section relating to the curriculum:

"The Department (of Education) shall by order prescribe a curriculum for all registered pupils of compulsory school age at provided schools and maintained schools. The curriculum

shall include provision for the following matters - the teaching of Manx Gaelic and the culture and history of the Island.”

The subsequent Education (Curriculum) Order of 2004 includes in the general principles for the prescribed curriculum for pupils aged from 5-14 years, and from 14-16 years, the following:

“A range of [other] subject options shall be available for those pupils and shall include Manx Gaelic.”

Manx Gaelic has since been made available as a time-tabled option in some school years, at some secondary schools. Where the subject is not offered as a curricular subject, provision is in place to offer it as an extra-curricular subject.

**education
system**

The Department of Education and Children (DEC) manages 32 primary schools, including a Manx Gaelic medium school, which was a unit attached to a neighbouring primary school until September 2006, when it was given its own independent status. Additionally, the Department manages five secondary schools in addition to the Isle of Man College of Further and Higher Education. There were 6,358 pupils in primary schools and 5,429 in secondary schools in 2014.

The Manx National Curriculum is based on its English equivalent, although there are some differences. Compulsory education in the Isle of Man is from 5-16 years. Subject areas included in the prescribed curriculum are English (Literacy), Mathematics (Numeracy), Science, Design Technology, Information and Communication Technology, History, Geography, Art and Design, Music, Physical Education, Manx Culture and History, (which may be taught through other subjects), and a Modern Foreign Language. Religious Study is classed as a compulsory subject. The main difference with the English curriculum is that Manx Gaelic (optional; from age 8) is included in the Manx National Curriculum.

Manx Gaelic is available to all pupils who can study it half an hour per week (from age 8 onwards) on an optional basis, with an internally validated examination available at both General Certificate of Secondary Education and Advanced Level General Certificate of Education (A level) equivalents. Since the *Education Act* (2001) came into force, there has been a general statutory requirement for all pupils of compulsory school age (five to sixteen) to be taught elements of Manx Gaelic, and of Manx history and culture in all subject areas where practicable.

To work towards the incorporation of these specifically Manx elements in language, history and culture the Department appointed a Curriculum Development Officer in 2002 (now an Advisory Teacher for the Manx Curriculum). This officer has initiated the introduction of Manx elements into initial subject areas in the primary curriculum, i.e. History and Geography, with a longer term rolling programme for the remaining broad areas of the Arts (including Literacy) and the Sciences (including Numeracy), and into the secondary curriculum. Individual schools may choose whether to use these Departmental guidelines, but they must, by law, provide an equivalent or higher use and quality of Manx elements within their curriculum.

**private and
public**

There are currently two preparatory schools and one secondary school in the private sector, but none of them has a provision for Manx Gaelic in the curriculum, although the private secondary school has arranged ad hoc Manx lessons in the past.

The privately run Mooinjer Veggey organisation runs playgroups and nurseries specifically to introduce Manx Gaelic and Manx culture to very young children. The organisation also manages the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh (Manx Gaelic-medium primary school) in partnership with the Department of Education and Children.

The public school system is mentioned above. There are 32 primary schools, 5 secondary schools, and the Isle of Man College.

bilingual education forms Bilingual education is now offered to students at Key Stage 3, which is the first part of secondary education, for students from 11-14 years old, at one secondary school: Queen Elizabeth II High School. Manx speaking pupils are taught two subjects per year through the medium of Manx Gaelic.

administration The Isle of Man Department of Education and Children is responsible for all education matters in the public education system, including the introduction of relevant legislation to Tynwald. It is headed by a Minister for Education, who is a member of the Isle of Man Council of Ministers. Its officers, including the CEO and the Director of Education, are members of Isle of Man Civil Service. Schools' teaching and ancillary staffs are in the Public Service of the Island.

inspection In the recent past, the inspection of schools, the Isle of Man College, and the Isle of Man Department of Education and Children, had been carried out by the English Office for Standards in Education inspectorate. This has been superseded by an a self-inspecting system that schools can undertake themselves. This system is led by the Isle of Man Department of Education and Children. In addition to this self-inspecting system, an independent inspector from England checks the results each time a school's judgments are validated.

support structures A full-time Manx Language Officer was appointed in 1992, as a result of public pressure. This officer has set up lessons in Manx in primary schools. The officer's current job entails ensuring that Manx is in the public forum and is developed for the future. The public pressure was partly based on a public opinion poll in 1991 on the quality of life in the Isle of Man. In this poll, 36% of the respondents were interested in achieving Manx Gaelic provision within schools for children. Before 1992, the language learning options for Manx Gaelic were available on a sporadic voluntary basis in some schools. This provision was largely dependent on the interests and availability of individual teachers who were Manx Gaelic speakers and were prepared to run language clubs outside of the timetabled curriculum.

The Manx Language Officer was appointed to the Isle of Man Department of Education and Children. Additionally, two full-time teachers were also employed on a peripatetic basis and Manx Gaelic was made available on an optional basis to all children aged 7 and upwards in both primary and secondary schools. The demand for the lessons provided by this team was greater than expected and the team was reorganized under the title: Unnid Gaelgagh (a Manx Language Peripatetic Teachers' Unit)). This team consists out of the Manx Language Officer and four full-time teachers.

Next to activities concerned with compulsory education, several organisations and institutions are involved with Manx Gaelic, both public and private. Public institutions include the Isle of Man Department of Education and Children and Manx National Heritage. The latter holds Manx Gaelic archives in the National Library and offers educational support to the Department of Education and Children for Manx Gaelic, culture, and history teaching.

The partly publicly funded Culture Vannin (a group which supports and promotes Manx culture) provides funding for a Manx Language Development Officer and the production of materials to support learners. The focus of the majority of Culture Vannin's work for the language is in developing resources for adult learners and speakers. Additionally, Culture Vannin appointed a part time translator. This position offers free service to anyone who requires a translation into Manx, including government departments.

Mooijer Veggey (Pre-school Manx Gaelic Education) is a private organisation which runs nurseries and playgroups. Additionally, the organisation works with the Manx language. In 1996, Mooijer Veggey was founded as a Manx Gaelic Playgroup Association. More recently it became a registered educational charity, as well as a company limited by guarantee. The company was preceded by two relatively short-lived Manx Gaelic playgroups, Beeal-arrish and Kied Chesmad.

Mooijer Veggey has become an associate member of the Scottish Gaelic Pre-school Council from whom it receives training, support and advice. Private charitable organisations Yn Çheshaght Ghailckagh and Caarjyn ny Gaelgey publish literature in Manx Gaelic and its members run voluntary adult language classes.

The NGO pressure group Pobble campaigns in support of the language. Additionally, Pobble is developing a network of events and social occasions for learners.

2 Pre-school education

target group The Isle of Man Department of Education and Children's policy is that all children can start primary school in the year when they become 5. Pre-school care and education is offered by private providers with the Department of Education and Children and the Department of Health and Science (DHSC). These parties assist all parents with nursery credits in the pre-school year.

structure There are two nurseries run by Mooinjer Veggey situated in the east and south of the island with 2.2 full time child care post equivalents. In these nurseries, all the staff is given training in child care, teaching methods, linguistic development and Manx Gaelic. Interested parents are given such training as well when possible. Mooinjer Veggey employs a full-time Support Officer. This officer also spends time within Bunscoil Ghaelgagh (Manx Gaelic primary School) and the Mooinjer Veggey nurseries. Most funding is done by means of fees, donations and fund-raising.

All nursery care and education is provided privately with parents paying for that provision. However, where nursery education is available within a primary school, it is free of charge to parents who live within the school's area. Most provision is in premises rented or owned by the nurseries. Some private providers operate within units or classrooms on school premises under DEC fixed term contracts. These nurseries are run completely separately from the schools.

Mooinjer Veggey currently works with one group on school premises and one in a building leased from the DEC. Teaching is not done through the medium of Manx Gaelic, but children learn Manx Gaelic songs, words and phrases and learn about Manx culture through their educational activities.

Pre-school care is regulated by the DHSC under the *Regulation of Care Act* of 2013 and the 2014 Child Day Care Standards. Providers are expected to follow the Early Years Foundation

Stage curriculum. A Department of Education pre-school curriculum document for 3 to 4 year-olds is provided for all. However in premises other than schools, the Isle of Man Department of Health and Social Care is responsible for standards of nursery provision.

In the past, nursery education provision has been a successful extension of Mooinjer Veggey's work because the Department of Education and Children had expanded its nursery provision within its primary schools. Teaching was not being done through the medium of Manx Gaelic but, as in the playgroups, children learned about Manx Gaelic and Manx culture through their educational activities. Staff were employed by Mooinjer Veggey and earned salaries that were the same as those for teaching and classroom assistant staff within the Department. However, government funding was removed and whilst they tried to uphold their nursery provision, there were not enough places filled in order to make it viable. Currently, there are two pre-school groups which are run by Mooinjer Veggey, one in the South at Ballasalla School and one in the East at Braddan.

To oversee Mooinjer Veggey's pre-school provision, with particular emphasis on Bunscoill Ghaelgagh and the nurseries, an Education Officer is employed for three days a week. The post involves much liaison with the Department of Education and promotion of the work of the organisation, in addition to providing teaching cover for staff and acting as line manager.

legislation

The Isle of Man Department of Education and Children is responsible for standards of pre-school education within its schools' premises. However, in all premises other than DEC, the Isle of Man DHSC is responsible for standards of private nursery provision. There is no statutory provision for pre-school education for all.

language use

The only pre-school organisation which uses Manx Gaelic as a subject is Mooinjer Veggey, where the language is taught on an incidental basis in one of its playgroups in DEC premises. The

language is also used on an incidental basis in those nursery units run by Moinjer Veggey in DEC schools.

Manx Gaelic is not offered in other pre-schools as children have no family background in the language for the most part. However, children learn about Manx Gaelic and Manx culture through play, language games, songs, stories and craft activities.

**teaching
material**

Moinjer Veggey staff produce their own teaching materials that they use in their playgroups and nursery units. Currently, publicly available pre-school teaching resources in Manx Gaelic include a CD of songs and rhymes created by their Education Officer and translations of “The Gruffalo” and “The Gruffalo’s Child”, made available in 2013 and 2014.

statistics

There are no statistics available

3 Primary education

target group Children start primary school in the academic year, starting 1st September, in which their 5th birthday falls and finish primary school when they are around 11.

structure There are 32 primary schools in The Isle of Man and of these DEC primary schools, one is a Church of England maintained primary school and one is a Roman Catholic maintained primary school. There is one Manx Gaelic medium primary school: Bunscoill Ghaelgagh; it was overseen by the Head Teacher of its neighbour, St. Johns primary school until September 2006, but is now a school in its own right. It is centrally located in the Island at St. John's, the site of the Island's historic annual open-air Tynwald ceremony. This is where Bills passed by Tynwald, the Manx Parliament, finally become Statutes after receiving royal assent and being read aloud in Manx Gaelic and English from Tynwald Hill. From September 2006, Bunscoill Ghaelgagh became a separate primary school, catering for children up to age eleven. The school has its own Head Teacher and is managed by Moonjer Veggey and maintained by the DEC. Additionally, there is one private fee-paying primary school in the Island, the Buchan School, but no Manx Gaelic is taught at this school.

The Manx primary school curriculum, including that of Bunscoill Ghaelgagh, mostly follows that of England. The curriculum has some amendments to reflect the Manx context however. Schools have the freedom to deliver this content in a creative way, which engages and motivates children to become independent learners. In addition, there is a statutory requirement for schools to deliver an agreed religious education syllabus to all pupils. The Manx language is available as a course on an optional basis from age 8 onwards.

legislation The Isle of Man *Education Act* (2001) states that “The Department (of Education) shall by order prescribe a curriculum for all registered pupils of compulsory school age at provided schools and maintained schools. That the curriculum shall include

provision for the following matters - the teaching of Manx Gaelic and the culture and history of the Island." Manx Gaelic thus has to be included in schools' curriculum by law. This inclusion is reinforced by the *Education (Curriculum) Order* (2004), which includes in its general principles for the prescribed curriculum for pupils aged from 5-11 years that "a range of subject options shall be available for those pupils and shall include Manx Gaelic."

language use

Manx Gaelic as a subject is taught by Unnid Gaelgagh. The Manx Language Officer who heads Unnid Gaelgagh has a team of four peripatetic teachers. These teachers operate in all DEC primary and secondary schools. Primary school pupils can opt to start a three year modular course at age eight (i.e. year four of seven years of primary school education). This enables the course to progress straight on into the secondary schools at age eleven. The course operates for half an hour weekly for two terms out of three, and is intended to be an introduction to Manx Gaelic in primary schools, while enabling progression to greater fluency at secondary level.

The numbers of pupils whose parents wished them to study Manx in school was initially very high. This number ranges from 800 to 1,300 students per year. The figure in 2014 was 1,268 representing about 49% of all English medium pupils in the relevant year groups (source: Statement by Robert Teare (2015), head of Unnid Gaelgagh).

Secondary school provision for Manx Gaelic has expanded in recent years. However, it has also become more difficult for the existing number of peripatetic teaching staff to cover all primary school provision. A training programme was started in 2007 for Manx speaking teachers who were already working at primary schools, in order for them to be able to teach the Manx Gaelic curriculum within their individual schools. In September 2007, this provision was put into working in three primary schools, this number increased to eight in September 2008. Funding for this programme was not renewed thereafter.

Before 2012, Manx Gaelic was taught in all three terms. In 2012 however, the number of primary school lessons provided by Unnid Gaelgagh's peripatetic team was reduced by one third (lessons are now provided for only two out of three terms). In contrast, the number of pupils being taught in secondary schools has increased.

Bunscoill Ghaelgagh (a Manx Gaelic Medium School) was established in September 2001. It is a unit in an existing primary school, with five Reception (the first year of primary education, preceded by nursery and followed by Year One) children (age 4-5) and four Year One children (ages 5-6), and one teacher with one classroom assistant. In the autumn of 1999 a parents' pressure group, Sheshaght ny Paarantyn, had been established in close liaison with the then playgroup organisation Mooinjer Veggey, to lobby the DEC to provide facilities for their children to learn through the medium of Manx Gaelic. Prior to 1999, primary school pupils were offered classes taught in Manx Gaelic for one afternoon a week by the Unnid Gaelgagh peripatetic team.

A public-private partnership was set up for Bunscoill Ghaelgagh, for which the DEC provided premises and funding for materials. Teaching staff, classroom assistant staff, and administrative staff are employed by Mooinjer Veggey, funded by the Department of Education and Children. The school is now (since September 2006) managed by its own Head Teacher, and provides all-Island Manx medium education for children age 4-11. In the early years, all the teaching is done through the medium of Manx Gaelic. As pupils grow older, a greater percentage of the curriculum is taught in English, in preparation for secondary school

Sheshaght ny Paarantyn has remained a very active and supportive Parents' Association. Their main role now revolved around fund raising and organising social events and activities for children and parents.

**teaching
material**

No existing Manx language teaching materials were available for pupils' use in primary or secondary schools and these had to be prepared by peripatetic teaching staff and Bunscoill's staff. Staff then used desk-top publishing and other computer programmes as the cheapest and most effective means of producing adaptable materials in quantity. A Manx Language Unit (Unnid Gaelgagh) was set up in a part of a former school building where this work could be carried out. In 2003, the Unit moved to the same building as Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. This enabled close liaison between the two Manx Gaelic educational providers within schools and the establishment of a central resources area. Resources for pupils' use are still provided by teaching staff, but a major improvement to the system is that there is now a defined progression in language learning from primary to secondary schools.

In order to assist with the translation and production of materials for Bunscoill Ghaelgagh classroom use, the Manx Heritage Foundation and the DEC funded, from 2005, a full-time post for a writer/ translator. This writer/translator spends the greater part of the time working on classroom materials in Manx Gaelic and is based within Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. This was an urgent necessity as all teaching and classroom materials had to be produced, mostly by the teaching staff. Some funding for translation work on educational materials has been made available since the founding of Bunscoill Ghaelgagh, again through the Manx Heritage Foundation. However this provision was unable to fill the expanding and increasingly complex needs of the pupils until the appointment was made. With the cuts in 2012 it has become more difficult to find the budgetary means to continue funding for this project but means to overcome these financial setbacks are being sought.

Teachers save and share translations of material on a password protected site. It is usually not possible to make this material available without copyright permission. Items that are publicly available can be accessed at a Culture Vannin website for learners called LearnManx.

statistics

In the 2014/2015 academic year, 1,268 children took weekly 30 minute lessons in Manx at the English medium primary schools for two of the three terms (source: Statement by Robert Teare (2015), head of Unnid Gaelgagh).

The following table shows the development of Bunscoill Ghaelgagh's pupil numbers.

year (autumn)	number of pupils
2002	15
2003	25
2004	28
2005	43
2006	47
2007	54
2008	53
2009	64
2010	62
2011	69
2012	61
2013	69
2014	70
2015	70

Table 2: Number of pupils in the Manx Gaelic medium school, Bunscoill Ghaelgagh 2002-2015 (source: Bunscoill Ghaelgagh's administration).

Over the years, Bunscoill Ghaelgagh's pupil numbers have increased. As the pupil age range became wider and numbers increased, more teaching staff was employed. In the beginning there was only one teacher and one classroom assistant, but at the moment four teachers and one head teacher are employed in addition to one full-time and one part-time classroom assistant. Besides, in January 2003 Bunscoill Ghaelgagh moved into much larger vacated school premises, next to new primary school facilities, some of which they share with the former occupants of their building. By autumn 2006 the pupils were accommodated

in three classes with a full age range. The demand for places at Bunscoil Ghaelgagh remains healthy. Since 2006 the school has run lessons for all ages across three classes.

4 Secondary education

target group Compulsory secondary education starts at age eleven and ends at age 16. Pupils may opt to return to secondary schools to study for external examinations from ages 16 to 19.

structure The Isle of Man's five DEC public secondary schools are comprehensive, with each having a number of feeder primary schools in their area.

There is a public examination, which is called Ard-Teisht Ghaelgagh (A-level equivalent in Manx Gaelic, with an AS level equivalent after the first year of study), set and validated within the Isle of Man, available for students aged 16-19 and for adult learners.

There is one private fee-paying secondary school which caters both for boarders and for Manx resident pupils, King William's College. At compulsory secondary education level it also follows GCSE examination courses. No lessons on Manx Gaelic are given on a regularly basis, but students can ask for lessons. In the past, Unnid Ghaelgagh has supplied learning materials free of charge, and, when possible, a teacher.

King William's College pupils of ages 16-19, follow courses leading to the International Baccalauréat. Individual pupils could also opt to follow Ard-Teisht Ghaelgagh in Manx Gaelic, but this would have to be studied privately.

legislation The *Education (Curriculum) Order* 2004 includes in its general principles for the prescribed curriculum for pupils aged from 11-16 years that "a range of subject options shall be available for those pupils and shall include Manx Gaelic."

There is no legislation referring to Manx Gaelic in secondary education for pupils aged from 16-19 years.

language use In all secondary schools, students are offered a three year course in Manx Gaelic at Key Stage 3, still on an optional basis, which leads on to the Teisht Chadjin Ghaelgagh (TCG, GCSE equivalent in Manx Gaelic). In the five secondary schools the total numbers of pupils learning Manx at this age was 83 in 2012 (source: Statement by Robert Teare (2015), head of Unnid Gaelgagh). As no Manx Gaelic is offered as a subject by the private secondary school, these students are all learning Manx in one of the other four schools.

Pupils may opt for 20 or 50 minutes weekly Manx Gaelic lessons in secondary schools and some may progress through to the examination level in the subject with a greater time allocation.

In one school Manx Gaelic for Key Stage 3 is timetabled against Personal and Social Education, enabling students to have a full lesson of 50 minutes per week. The other two schools use class registration time (when students greet their tutors and register their attendance) for Manx, so that pupils have 20 minutes per week.

A small number of pupils, nine in 2012, passed the TGC in Manx Gaelic at age 16. About 50% of pupils who opt to learn Manx as a time tabled subject at Key Stage 3 continue to take the subject at TCG level. It is not compulsory to study a Modern Foreign Language to the GCSEs. In England and Wales the most popular language, French, is only studied at this level by 30-35% of students and fewer than 50% of pupils study any Modern Foreign Language at all.

In one school Manx is timetabled against other subjects, which enables students to have three 50 minute Manx lessons per week. The remaining four schools only offer Manx as an extra subject, and the language class is not timetabled in the school day. Manx lessons at these schools are either at lunchtime or after school. Pupils receive the equivalent of two lessons per week at these schools. Because numbers are small, this has

not posed any major problems. However, this could soon be the case as more pupils opt for Manx Gaelic at Key Stage 3.

The two-year course is modular and has course work and examinations at Foundation (compulsory core subjects) and Higher levels. It is a version specifically designed for this age group of pupils. It has been designed, set, marked, moderated and validated within the Isle of Man with the help of expert speakers, both within and outside of the DEC. The DEC will eventually issue the certificates.

The Ard-Teisht Ghaelgagh (ATG, the Manx Gaelic A-Level equivalent) was introduced and approved by the Department of Education in 2002. However, it still is a course that appears to be designed for adults, as the developers were under the impression that the numbers of pupils in full-time education would initially be extremely low. It is a modular course, with no final examination, designed to cover two years within a full-time education framework, with an Advanced Subsidiary level (AS-level, the first part of the A level) after the first year of study.

In 2010, three pupils from different schools and one adult learner successfully completed the ATG by taking after-school classes at Isle of Man College. In 2011, one pupil successfully completed the ATG after taking timetabled lessons. Additionally, four adult learners successfully passed the course after taking evening classes. In 2012 and 2013, one pupil per year passed the ATG taking timetabled classes. In 2014, there were five pupils that passed the ATG after taking timetables lessons. In 2014/2015 there were three pupils enrolled in the ATG course, all taking timetabled lessons in school. Moreover were there three adults who are learning Manx independently.

Queen Elizabeth II High School in Peel is the secondary school that is nearest to Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. In September 2007, the school offered pupils that moved from Bunscoill Ghaelgagh to Queen Elizabeth II High School to have three subjects taught through the medium of Manx Gaelic. These courses were History,

Geography and Religious Studies. Of the five pupils concerned, two opted to go to a secondary school that offered no instruction in Manx Gaelic medium instruction, and the remaining three opted to attend Queen Elizabeth II High School. In September 2008, these pupils continued to be partially taught through the medium of Manx Gaelic during Year 8 (age 12-13), namely in History and Information and Communication Technology. They have also successfully completed their TCG examinations in Manx Gaelic in 2008. The DEC's minimal provision for this instruction in Manx Gaelic from Years 7-9 (ages 11-14), is two hours weekly. Additionally, teaching classes in Manx Gaelic must be done by qualified teaching staff, which thus must be available for the respective classes. In 2014/2015, there were 12 pupils (out of the total of 70 students) taking Manx Medium classes in Key Stage 3 (11-14) at Queen Elizabeth II High School.

**teaching
material**

Teaching material for Manx Gaelic courses for pupils aged 11-14 have been produced by the Unnid Gaelgagh teachers.

30

The TCG examination level course has been approved by the DEC for use in Isle of Man secondary schools. The initial version has been modified by Unnid Gaelgagh teachers in order to match their requirements more effectively. Certification is done by the Isle of Man Department of Education. This is also the case for the Ard-Teisht Ghaelgagh.

Course materials that were written in English have now also been translated into Manx Gaelic. The following textbooks are available for different learning stages: Key Stage 3: Manx: Our Own Language', Key Stage 4 (for students from 14-16 years old): 'Hoin Roin!' Key Stage 5 (for students from 16-18 years old): 'Ecstasy as Skeealyn Elley', 'Amlaght', 'Y Çhelg', and 'Lioar-Lhaih Ghaelgagh'.

statistics

There are no annual statistics published by the Department of Education. Unofficial statistics for the academic year 2013-2014 are as follows:

THE MANX GAELIC LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION IN THE ISLE OF MAN

school	Year	pupils in Manx Gaelic education	
		as a subject	as a medium of instruction
	2014		
secondary schools: Ramsey Grammar School, St. Ninian's High School and Castle Rushen High School. (Manx Gaelic on an optional basis)	7 (age 11-12)	37	4
	8 (age 12-13)	15	3
	9 (age 13-14)	7	7
	TCG (age 14-16)	2	
	ATG (age 16-18)	0	
Queen Elizabeth II High School (Manx Gaelic timetabled against German)	7 (age 11-12)	0	
	8 (age 12-13)	1	
	9 (age 13-14)	4	3
	TCG (age 14-16)	1	
	ATG (age 16-18)	3	
Ballakermeen High School (Manx Gaelic timetabled against German)	7 (age 11-12)	9	
	TCG (age 14-16)	1	
	ATG (age 16-18)	0	

Table 3: Number of pupils in Manx Gaelic education (2013-2014). Data can be requested at the administration of the respective schools. [Unpublished].

5 Vocational Education

target group The DEC offers full-time and part-time vocational courses for students from age 16 and upwards, including adult students..

structure Isle of Man College is an affiliated College of the University of Liverpool (England) and its two associated University Colleges -Liverpool Hope University College and Chester University College. Isle of Man College offers A level courses in Manx, many of which are not available in, or do not attract sufficient numbers in individual secondary schools..

The Isle of Man College offers full-time and part-time courses for students entering trades, professions or businesses. Some Foundation Level vocational courses are offered so that students can complete initial training in the Isle of Man for the first one or two years before progressing on to a University or College in the U.K. In conjunction with Chester University College (England), there is one course offered on Manx Studies, which can be taken by History and Heritage Management students. This course does not contain any specific Manx Gaelic provision.

legislation Part 4 of the *Education Act* (2001) deals with higher and continuing education. There is no legislation referring to Manx Gaelic in vocational education in this act.

language use No courses are offered that would lead to qualifications in Manx Gaelic for students aged 16-19 or for adults. The medium of instruction of all courses is English.

teaching material No teaching material has been specifically produced for vocational education students.

statistics There are no available statistics.

6 Higher education

structure Many people who are studying Manx Gaelic progress to Higher Education, either on or off the Island. The Isle of Man's DEC pays student fees and offers a maintenance grant on a sliding scale related to parental income. Approximately 1100 Further and Higher Education and 100 post-graduate students are supported by the Department each year. Isle of Man College offers a number of Foundation courses in order to prepare students for University entrance. In 2012, the Isle of Man College and the Isle of Man International Business School merged. The new institution was named: the Isle of Man College of Further and Higher Education. Since the merger the Isle of Man College offers a range of undergraduate and post-graduate degrees, none of which are taught through Manx, and none of which include the study of the language to any significant depth.

legislation Part 4 of the *Education Act* (2001) deals with higher education, however there is no legislation referring to Manx Gaelic in higher education in this act.

language use There is no institution which offers instruction through the medium of Manx Gaelic. Post-graduate students may study for a Diploma or Master of Arts degree at the Centre for Manx Studies. This is a small centre in the Isle of Man with a tripartite governing structure – the Isle of Man Department of Education and Children, the Manx National Heritage (the national museums' service) and the University of Liverpool. There is an optional study module for fluent Manx speakers offered at the Centre for Manx Studies; this module focuses on Manx Gaelic literature and on the position of Manx Gaelic in relation to the other Gaelic languages.

In Britain there are a number of universities which have Celtic/Gaelic Studies Departments e.g. University of Aberdeen; University of Edinburgh (School of Scottish Studies); University of Glasgow; Queen's University, Belfast; University of Wales, Aberystwyth and Lampeter; and University of Cambridge. A few

courses offer minimal undergraduate acquaintance with Manx Gaelic. There are no undergraduate degree courses specialising in Manx Gaelic, or offering it as a subsidiary subject. In Ireland there are many universities with Celtic Studies Departments, but only post-graduate students from the Isle of Man occasionally study at Irish Universities, usually only when no suitable study programme is offered in Britain. In 2007, a post-graduate student completed a dissertation on Manx medium education at the Centre for Manx Studies (see chapter 8) and a student at Aberystwyth University is currently (2016) working on a PhD thesis on the Manx Language Revival.

teacher training A two year Diploma in a Child Care and Education course is provided by the Isle of Man College which enables holders to work with children from 0-8 years in nurseries, schools or hospitals. Some trained infant teachers have moved into pre-education in recent years, most notably to Mooinjer Veggey.

As a pathway to a qualified teacher status, one can ascertain a diploma in 'Skills and Learning.' One person completed this course in 2014. There is currently one unqualified teacher that is aligned with Unnid Gaelgagh enrolled on this course, and one unqualified teacher being sponsored by Culture Vannin training for teaching adult classes. After achieving the 'Skills and Learning' diploma, unqualified teachers can attain qualified teacher status by undertaking a short training course.

There is no subject specific training available for Manx Gaelic teachers. In 2006, one Manx Gaelic trainee teacher completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Education in Scottish Gaelic, but there are no equivalent courses available for Manx Gaelic.

In 2007, Unnid Gaelgagh, with DEC funding, offered six places to present primary school teachers with some knowledge of Manx Gaelic in a twenty day training course. This course was designed to enable the delivery of a set Manx Gaelic curriculum for primary schools within each individual's school. Three schools made use of these trained teachers and six additional

places became available during the 2007/2008 school year. Eight primary schools then had qualified Manx Gaelic teachers. Two of the teachers trained in this program are still teaching Manx, the other left classroom teaching. The funding for the training programme was not continued.

There is no training course available for teachers who wish to specialize in teaching Manx Gaelic at any level. For prospective teachers there are a number of routes one can take in order to ascertain a qualified teacher status. One can for example take a Post Graduate Certification of Education at a university, of Certificate in Education (CertEd) at Isle of Man College, followed by Assessment Only accreditation through a university. There are no courses that include assessment of subject knowledge of Manx Gaelic.

statistics

Teacher training is organised on an ad hoc basis. In 2014, one newly qualified teacher took the course and in 2015 one unqualified teacher took a CertEd course.

7 Adult education

**structure and
language
courses**

There is a small number of adult students who would like to study for the TCG and ATG during evening classes. However, no classes are currently available at Isle of Man College due to the small class sizes. Teachers and / or private study materials are provided by volunteer groups as well as by Culture Vannin. Culture Vannin's Manx Language Development Officer runs about 9-10 adult classes and the organisation also employs a part-time language teacher who runs another 4 adult classes. Culture Vannin has developed a new language programme entitled Saase-jeeragh, which forms the basis of their classes. Culture Vannin has also produced two Manx language apps, a new podcast, a '1000 words' challenge for 2014, a video-a-day in 2014 and an extensive YouTube channel with over 500 videos either in the Manx Gaelic language or about it. The aim of all of these resources is to develop a systematic approach in regard to teaching Manx Gaelic to adults. The Language Officer at Culture Vannin is presently working on further adult language courses and is developing a professionally administrated and ran adult language programme.

Adult education courses in Manx Gaelic (evening classes) are available through the Isle of Man College. In recent years this was usually one class. The number of voluntary groups and individuals offering Manx Gaelic classes is quite high, however the locations of these groups and individuals are mostly very spread out over the Island. Caarjyn ny Gaelgey and Banglane Twoaie are two voluntary organisations which run adult classes for students at varying levels of language proficiency, in premises rented for this specific purpose from the Isle of Man Government.

Since 2005, there has been a series of day long Manx language familiarisation courses for Isle of Man Government employees on a voluntary basis started and paid for by Culture Vannin and run by its Manx Language Development Officer in Government owned premises. The Language officer continues to run a

number of classes and introductory sessions for both the public and private sector.

There are opportunities for adult learners to achieve a qualification in Manx Gaelic at TCG or Ard-Teisht Ghaelgagh levels. These are modular courses which do not require attendance at classes and have no course expenses, except for the study materials' costs. Additionally, adult learners can join voluntary groups of Manx speakers, who meet for conversation practise in either public or private houses. The newly formed organisation Pobble moreover, is working towards developing a year-long series of social activities for learners of the language.

language use Adult education courses in Manx Gaelic are mainly run with English as medium of instruction, but some teachers prefer the immersion method of teaching directly through Manx Gaelic. With regard to the proficiency of the group, the teacher usually decides what the main instruction language of the classes will be.

statistics As most classes are run by voluntary organisations, it is not possible to get accurate statistics. An unofficial collection of data estimated the student numbers to be around 70-80 adults in 2013/2014.

8 Educational research

There are no scientific publications in Manx Gaelic. Little research has been done to date on Manx Gaelic in education. There is one post-graduate student at the Centre for Manx Studies who completed a dissertation in 2007 called “An Examination of Manx-medium Immersion Education in the Isle of Man”, and was based at Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. Additionally, in 2009 Marie Clange MA, from the Centre of Manx Studies, published a paper on “Manx Language Revitalization and Immersion Education,” which was published in the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*.

There have been studies done by students on language revitalisation and attitudes of the students at Bunscoill Ghaelgagh to Manx. After an initial intensive study as to why parents sent their children to tBunscoill Ghaelgagh., one Canadian professor visits the school every two years with a group of students. The goal of this visit is to see how the school and the language have been developing by looking at all aspects of Manx language learning through different age groups.

9 Prospects

Currently, a shift in the average age of fluent Manx Gaelic speakers is occurring, thanks to the increasing number of pupils at Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. However, there is as yet limited provision for the continuation of this success within the secondary and further education sectors. Expansion is hindered by a lack of qualified teachers, who are fluent in Manx Gaelic, in these sectors and there is no effective means as yet of redressing this shortage.

Unnid Gaelgagh now offers Manx Gaelic provision for pupils aged 11-14 in two secondary schools. These children must follow a course in a modern foreign language, and Manx Gaelic is offered as one of the language options at Key Stage 3. Unless the numbers of staff can be increased there will not be enough teachers to satisfy this potential demand. A potential impulse could be if the remaining three secondary schools which currently do not offer Manx Gaelic as a subject, would do so in the future.

Pupils who enjoyed primary education at Bunscoill Ghaelgagh are for certain subjects being taught through the medium of Manx Gaelic, within one of the secondary schools. This provision will probably need to be increased as these pupils progress through secondary education and are joined by younger year groups from Bunscoill Ghaelgagh.

The current gaps for providing even limited Manx Gaelic learning within the years of compulsory education are within the age group 4-8 years, except concerning Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. There is also a significant drop in the number of pupils who choose to continue formal lessons in Manx from the age of 13 onwards. This is probably because the Ard Teisht Ghaelgagh (A-Level equivalent qualification) is not awarded by a UK qualifications body, and it therefore does not garner the necessary qualifications (so-called UCAS points) for university entry.

An increasing number of adults is achieving high levels of spoken Manx due to the strong volunteer culture of informal teaching. Also the adult language learning opportunities provided by Culture Vannin and the growing network of learners brought together by Pobble are contributing to this increase.

Culture Vannin has worked towards producing an increasing number of publications suitable to fluent speakers and adult learners alike. Recent publications include *Tomato Cain*, *Kemmyrkagh*, *Slane Lhiat*, *Vabban* as well as two ebooks, *Peter Pan* and *The Jungle Book*. The aim of these publications is to increase the fluency levels of adults.

Manx public opinion is now more favourable to Manx Gaelic provision in education. Together with the prospect of continuing government financial support for learning the Manx language; its future seems much brighter than was the case only a few years ago.

10 Summary statistics

Level	number of schools	Manx teachers	pupils	age pupils
pre-school	5 (private)	6.5	180 (some Manx Gaelic)	3-5
primary school	33 (public)	2.7 (peripatetic)	1,104 (Manx Gaelic as an optional subject)	8-11
	Bunscoill Ghaelgagh	4 (+1.5 classroom assistants)	69 (Manx Gaelic medium)	4-11
secondary school	5 (public)	2	83 (Manx Gaelic as an optional subject)	11-14
			17 (TCG)	15-16
			2 (ATG)	17-19

Table 4: Manx Gaelic in education in the Isle of Man at the different levels of education for 2012-2013. Data requested at the administration of the respective schools. [Unpublished].

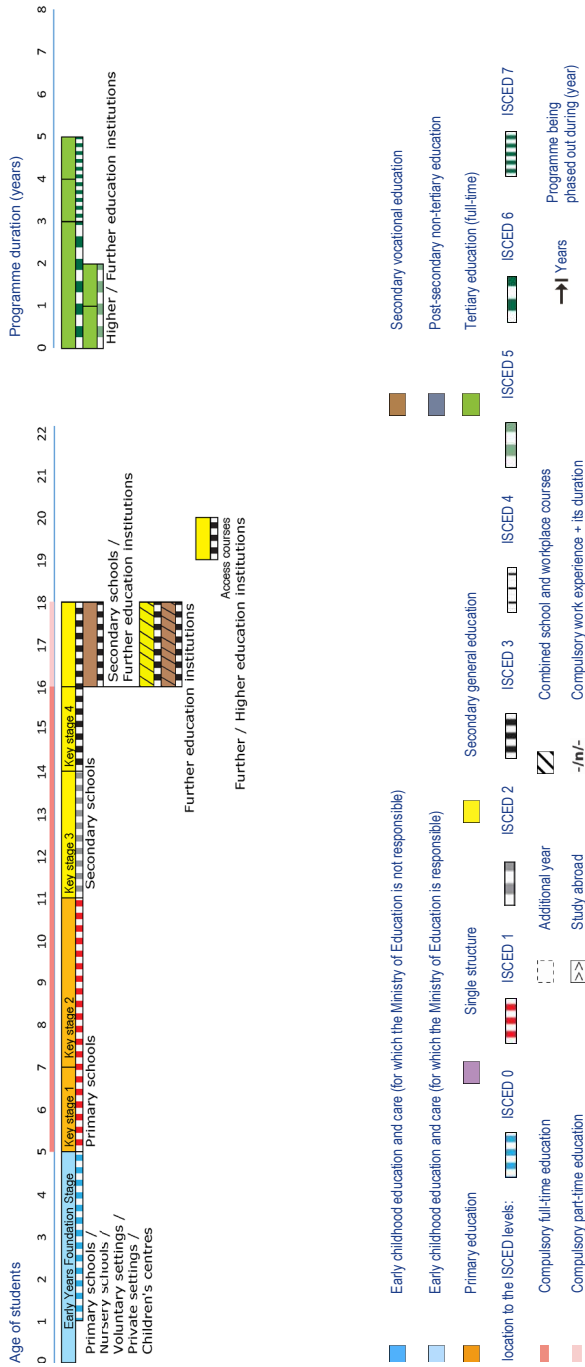
year (autumn)	number of pupils
2002	15
2003	25
2004	28
2005	43
2006	47
2007	54
2008	53
2009	64
2010	62
2011	69
2012	61
2013	69
2014	70
2015	70

Table 5: Number of pupils in the Manx Gaelic medium school, Bunscoill Ghaelgagh 2002-2015 (source: Bunscoill Ghaelgagh's administration).

School	year	pupils in Manx Gaelic education	
		as a subject	as a medium of instruction
secondary schools (Manx Gaelic on an optional basis)	7 (age 11-12)	20	
	8 (age 12-13)	15	
	9 (age 13-14)	12	
	T.C.G. (age 14-16)	15	
	A.T.G. (age 16-18)	8	
Queen Elizabeth II High School (Manx Gaelic timetabled against German)	7 (age 11-12)	7	2
	8 (age 12-13)	5	5
	9 (age 13-14)	8	3
Ballakermeen High School (Manx Gaelic timetabled against German)	7 (age 11-12)	5	

Table 6: Number of pupils in Manx Gaelic education (2013-2014). Data can be requested at the administration of the respective schools. [Unpublished].

The structure of the education system in the United Kingdom (England) 2015/2016



Source: Eurydice (2016)

Note: There is no Eurydice overview available for the Isle of Man, as the structure of education is similar to the one in the United Kingdom, the structure of the education system in the United Kingdom is shown here.

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Kirk Andreas IM7 2RW
Isle of Man

Unnid Gaelgagh

Peel Clothworkers School
Derby Road
Peel IM5 1HP
Isle of Man

Bunscoill Ghaelgagh

[Manx Gaelic School, the Manx medium primary school]

St. John's Old School

Main Road
St. John's IM4 3MA
Isle of Man
W www.bunscoill.iofm.net

**Sheshaght ny Paarantyn (SnyP) [The Parents' Society, a support
group of the parents of children attending Bunscoill Ghaelgagh],**

St. John's Old School
Main Road
St. John's IM4 3MA
Isle of Man

Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh

This ny Gaelgey

[The Manx Gaelic Centre, used for adult language classes],

St. Judes
Kirk Andreas IM7 2EW
Isle of Man
W www.ycg@iofm.net

Mooinjer Veggey

42 Broogh Wyllin ,
Kirk Michael, Isle of Man, IM6 1HU
W www.mooinjerveggey.org.im

Queen Elizabeth II High School

Douglas Road
Peel
Isle Of Man
IM5 1RD

Isle of Man College

Homefield Road,
Douglas,
Isle of Man
IM2 6RB
W www.iomcollege.ac.im/

Pobble

The Chambers
5 Mount Pleasant
Douglas,
Isle of Man
IM1 2PU

**Additional
websites**

Manx Gaelic (information on a wide range of Manx Gaelic subjects)
www.learnmanx.com

Manx Gaelic apps
www.culturevannin.im/cms/page_288619.html

Manx Gaelic on Youtube
www.youtube.com/channel/UCV0Z7iLQCvQKCW6VcWHM5oA

Manx Gaelic on Facebook
www.facebook.com/LearnManx

Twitter account for Manx Language Development Officer of Culture
Vannin:

twitter.com/greinneyder

Other websites on minority languages

- Mercator Research Centre** www.mercator-research.eu
Homepage of the Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning. The website contains the series of Regional dossiers, a database with organisations, a bibliography, information on current activities, and many links to relevant websites.
- Mercator Network** www.mercator-network.eu
General site of the Mercator European Network of Language Diversity Centres. It gives information about the network and leads you to the homepages of the network partners.
- European Commission** <http://ec.europa.eu/languages>
The website of the European Commission gives information about the EU's support for language diversity.
- Council of Europe** <http://conventions.coe.int>
European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (1992) and Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1995). European Treaty Series 148 and 157, Strasbourg.
- Eurydice** <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice>
Eurydice is the information network on education in Europe. The site provides information on all European education systems and education policies.

What can the Mercator Research Centre offer you?

mission & goals The Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning addresses the growing interest in multilingualism and the increasing need of language communities to exchange experiences and to cooperate in a European context. The centre is based in Ljouwert/Leeuwarden, the capital of Fryslân – the bilingual province of the Netherlands – and hosted at the Fryske Akademy (Frisian Academy). The Mercator Research Centre focuses on research, policy, and practice in the field of multilingualism and language learning. The centre aims to be an independent and recognised organisation for researchers, policymakers, and professionals in education. The centre endeavours to promote linguistic diversity within Europe. The starting point lies in the field of regional and minority languages. Yet, immigrant languages and smaller state languages are also a topic of study. The centre's main focus is the creation, circulation, and application of knowledge in the field of language learning at school, at home, and through cultural participation.

partners In 1987 Mercator Education started cooperation with two partners in a network structure: Mercator Media hosted at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth and Mercator Legislation hosted at the Ciemen Foundation in Barcelona. This network has developed into the Mercator European Network of Language Diversity Centres, which consists of the three aforementioned partners as well as Stockholm University in Sweden and the Research Institute for Linguistics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Hungary. Besides, the Mercator Research Centre, the successor of Mercator Education, expands its network in close cooperation with a number of other partner organisations working in the same field. This cooperation includes partners in Fryslân, as well as partners in the Netherlands and in Europe. The provincial government of Fryslân is the main funding body of the Mercator Research Centre. Projects and activities are funded by the EU as well as by the authorities of other regions in Europe with an active policy to support their regional or minority language and its culture.

research

The Mercator Research Centre develops a research programme on the basis of the data collections available. Research activities focus on various aspects of bilingual and trilingual education, such as interaction in multilingual classrooms, language proficiency in different languages, and teachers' qualifications for the multilingual classroom. Whenever possible, research will be carried out in a comparative European perspective. Research results are disseminated through publications and conferences in collaboration with European partners.

conferences

The Mercator Research Centre organises conferences and seminars on a regular basis. Themes for the conferences include: measurement & good practice, educational models, development of minimum standards, teacher training, and the application of the Common European Framework of Reference. The main target groups for the Mercator Research Centre are professionals, researchers, and policymakers from all member states of the Council of Europe and beyond.

q&a

Through the Question and Answer service available on our website (www.mercator-research.eu) we can inform you about any subject related to education in minority or regional languages in Europe. The specialists in our extensive database of experts can also provide relevant information.

Available in this series:

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