

High School provisions. Plus many schools offering Gaelic Language in the Primary School (GLPS).

There are also many community groups and provisions in Argyll and Bute. They range from Bookbug sessions for parents and toddlers to choirs, Fèisean, language classes and conversation groups.

Bilingualism is shown to have health benefits and increases a persons ability to pick up other languages.

4.4 Relevance of Gaelic today

570,000 Scottish Gaelic learners signed up to Duolingo in the first year of the course. This is one demonstration of the level of interest and relevance of Scottish Gaelic to people across Scotland and beyond.

The Gaelic Tourism Strategy highlights Gaelic language and culture as a unique selling point. It also shows the interest from those abroad who have Scottish heritage.

4.5 Heritage of Argyll and Bute

Gaelic has been spoken in Argyll and Bute since the 5th Century. It is present in many place names and can often be used to help interpret the landscape.

In the 2011 Census Argyll and Bute had the third highest number of people aged over three with some Gaelic language skills (6%). It had the fourth largest number of people for a council area.

4.6 Argyll and Bute Gaelic Language Plan

Argyll and Bute Council have a commitment to produce and deliver on a [Gaelic Language Plan](#) as part of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act, 2005 and the National Gaelic Language Plan. The plans use three main sections which cover a wide range of engagements and initiatives:

- Using Gaelic
- Learning Gaelic
- Promoting Gaelic

5. Conclusions

Gaelic is a great asset for Argyll and Bute, one that offers a great deal across many domains.

There is opportunity to link to Gaelic development by taking part in and promoting the Gaelic survey and looking for ways to promote and support Gaelic more widely.

The Gaelic development worker can be contacted on crisatie.moore@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

6.0 SOA Outcomes