

Gàidhlig sa Choimhearsnachd ann am Baile a' Chaisteil

Gaelic in the Castlebay Community (Translated from Gaelic)

Amelia

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today.

As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools in Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. There are 5 classes in the primary school in Castlebay, with 3 GME (Gaelic Medium Education) classes and 2 English-medium classes. The pupils in Eoligarry learn Gaelic as a language. Eight out of nine of the primary teachers speak Gaelic, and thirteen out of nineteen teachers in the secondary school speak Gaelic. We speak Gaelic at the knitting club, on the trip to Edinburgh, at the Cuach na Cloinne football competition, at the Mòd, and in the choir.

Gaelic in the Community

In the community, I speak Gaelic with Kerry when we are at dance classes. I see Gaelic on road signs.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I speak Gaelic every day, all day at school.

When I am making pipes at school, I speak to the piping teacher in Gaelic, and I play the fiddle with a Gaelic speaker outside of school.

My mum doesn't speak Gaelic, but my dad does, and we often speak Gaelic at home.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is strong and that it is an important part of the culture of our islands. ♥

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

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Gaelic in the School

We have two schools in Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. We have 3 Gaelic Medium Education classes in the primary school in Castlebay. The English-medium classes in Castlebay Primary and Eoligarry Primary learn Gaelic as their second language. We all get singing lessons online with Catherine Tinney, and we learn Gaelic songs with her. The Gaelic classes take part in the Cuach na Cloinne football competition, which is only for children who have Gaelic. Children take part in the Mòd, and we have a school choir every year. There are thirteen teachers in the secondary school who speak Gaelic.

Gaelic in the Community

I speak Gaelic in the community in the butcher's shop, at ceilidhs, and when I visit elderly people or my family. I see Gaelic in the church, in Castlebay Hall, and on road signs.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I speak Gaelic in my daily life at school, when I am at Fèis Bharraigh, when I compete at the Barra and Uist Mòds, with my family, and during online music lessons. I like the music of the Vatersay Boys because they play Gaelic songs.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is alive and that it is an important part of the culture of our islands.

Our schools, community groups and public places are busy helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. There are five classes in the primary school in Castlebay, where three out of the five are GME (Gaelic Medium Education). The English-medium classes learn a little Gaelic every week. Every second week someone comes into our class and we help them learn Gaelic words about the weather and our bodies, and we also help them with their poems for the Mòd.

There are nine teachers in the primary school and eight of them speak or are learning Gaelic. In the secondary school there are nineteen teachers and thirteen of them have Gaelic. We have lots of opportunities to speak Gaelic in the school besides in class, for example at the Cuach na Cloinne football competition, at the Mòd, on the trip to Edinburgh, and in the choir. The pupils in Eoligarry School also speak and learn Gaelic.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very alive in our community because I hear people speaking it very often. We have the Mòd and the Fèis every year and they are full of Gaelic.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is an everyday thing because I speak Gaelic to Gen (my grandfather) and in the Butcher's Shop, because the people who work there have excellent Gaelic. Canon John Paul also speaks Gaelic in the church. I like the music of the Vatersay Boys.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is vibrant and extremely important as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public spaces are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. There are five classes in Castlebay Primary, with three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes. We have two English classes. Eight out of nine teachers in the primary school speak Gaelic. Thirteen out of nineteen teachers in the secondary school speak Gaelic.

I have special opportunities to take part in the Cuach na Cloinne football competition. It is a competition for Gaelic speakers.

Community

I go to the butcher's shop, and when I am there, I speak Gaelic. I speak Gaelic to my family. I see lots of road signs around the island with Gaelic on them.

My Daily Life

I like the music of the Vatersay Boys. I speak Gaelic in school because I am in a Gaelic Medium class. I take part in the Mòd.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is lively and that it is very important as part of the culture of our island. Schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay.

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. Gaelic is very lively in the school because you hear it very often. In the school we have five classes. We have three Gaelic-medium classes and two English-medium classes. Almost everything is in Gaelic in the Gaelic classes. They learn Gaelic as a language in the English classes, and they also learn Gaelic as a language in Eoligarry School.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively in Barra and Vatersay because you hear it very often. Lots of people speak Gaelic in the community. You can speak Gaelic to the people who work in the Butcher's Shop, to older people, at ceilidhs, and in Cobhair Bharraigh. I can speak Gaelic in many places in the community.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I can speak Gaelic very often in my daily life, for example when I have piping lessons, or with my family, or with my grandfather, and with my friends.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is alive and that it is important as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive and strong.

Gaelic in the Community

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. The classes in Eoligarry School learn Gaelic as a language, and the English-medium classes here in Castlebay also learn it.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is an everyday thing because I like Gaelic music and songs, such as the music of the Vatersay Boys. I speak Gaelic in school. I am also learning Gaelic songs on my chanter. I think it is a good thing to learn two languages.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively in the community because lots of people speak it.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is strong and that it is good and important as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep this language alive.

Gaelic in the Community

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life.

Schools

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay: Eoligarry Primary School and Castlebay Primary School. In Eoligarry Primary there is one class that learns Gaelic. In Castlebay Primary there are five classes – three Gaelic-medium classes and two English-medium classes. Eight out of nine teachers speak Gaelic.

In the Community

There is a lot of Gaelic in the community, such as road signs with Gaelic as the main language, and ceilidhs.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is an everyday thing because I speak Gaelic with friends and family, and also at the Fèis or at Cuach na Cloinne. We also have a shop, Bùth Bharraidh, where Gaelic is spoken.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is alive and that it is spoken as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, the community, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic in the Community

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. In Castlebay Primary we have five classes, with three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes and two English-medium classes that learn Gaelic as a language. The English-medium classes in Eoligarry School also learn Gaelic as a language.

We have nine teachers in the primary school and eight out of nine speak Gaelic. There are 93 pupils in the primary school, and 60 of them are in GME classes. In the secondary school there are nineteen teachers and thirteen of them have Gaelic. We do singing lessons with Catherine Tinney online and prepare for the Mòd every year.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively in the community because you hear it very often, especially in places such as Cobhair Bharraigh, the Butcher's Shop, Bùth Bharraigh, and at ceilidhs in the halls. Fèis Bharraigh takes place every year for people to do lots of fun activities in Gaelic.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I like the music of the Vatersay Boys because they are from Vatersay and Barra, and they sing Gaelic songs. In school I do my work in Gaelic and speak it all day. I also go to fiddle lessons and we speak Gaelic there too.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is valuable and important as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig!

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have a nursery.

Eight out of nine teachers in Castlebay Primary speak Gaelic. Three out of the five classes are Gaelic-medium classes, and most of what we do in those classes is in Gaelic. The classes in Eoligarry Primary, as well as the English-medium classes in Castlebay, also learn some Gaelic.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic in the community is very important, especially for older people. I think Gaelic is very important for the culture of Scotland as well.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

Outside of school I speak Gaelic at my Granny's house, and she teaches me.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is important and that it is a good part of our culture. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

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Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. In Castlebay Primary there are five classes. We have three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes and two English-medium classes, and those classes learn Gaelic as a language.

In the primary school there are nine teachers and eight of them speak Gaelic. In the secondary school there are nineteen teachers and thirteen of them speak Gaelic.

We have great opportunities to use Gaelic in school by doing clubs and other activities such as a knitting club with Clò nan Nighean, the Cuach na Cloinne football competition, the trip to Edinburgh, the Barra Mòd, choir, and online singing with Catherine Tinney.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively because lots of people speak it in the community, especially in places such as Cobhair Bharraigh.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I speak Gaelic at fiddle lessons, in school, at the Mòd, at Fèis Bharraigh, with my family, and at my granny's house.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery.

In the primary school, eight out of nine teachers have Gaelic, and out of the five classes, three are Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes. In the secondary school, thirteen out of eighteen teachers speak Gaelic.

Through Gaelic we can take part in special activities such as Cuach na Cloinne, a football competition that is only for people who have Gaelic.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very alive and strong in the community because it is so important to us. Fluent speakers teach younger people. On road signs, Gaelic is always at the top, and that makes a difference. We can take part in the Barra and Vatersay Mòd to learn new songs and poems every year. If you go around the island with Gaelic, there are many people you can speak to in the language.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is something wonderful because it is great to be bilingual, and I speak it all the time.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is alive and important as part of our culture here. Our schools, community groups and busy public places help to keep our language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used in the community on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the Community

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have a nursery. Thirteen out of nineteen teachers in our school speak Gaelic.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is an everyday thing because my dad speaks it to me. I also speak it at Fèis Bharraigh and in school.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively in the community because you hear it very often, especially in places like Cobhair Bharraigh, An Dualchas, at ceilidhs, and in Bùth Bharraigh.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is strong and lively as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep our language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Watersay.

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Watersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Watersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery.

In Castlebay Primary we have five classes. There are three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes and two English-medium classes. The two English classes, as well as the classes in Eoligarry School, learn Gaelic, but they are not fluent. In the primary school, eight out of nine teachers in Castlebay have Gaelic. In the secondary school, thirteen out of nineteen teachers have Gaelic.

For opportunities to use Gaelic, we take part in online singing with Catherine Tinney, knitting sessions with the Clò nan Nighean weaving group, and the Cuach na Cloinne football competition.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively in the community because there are many places where people speak it, such as the Butcher's Shop, Guth Bharraigh, An Dualchas, the church, Castlebay Hall, and Northbay Hall.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

After school I speak Gaelic with Mum, I go to my Granny's house and I speak Gaelic with her too. I am making a box with Michael Garvin—he doesn't have Gaelic, but he is good with the names of the Gaelic tunes.

Conclusion

The language is very good for us in many different ways, especially when we are with people older than us, like Granny and Gen.

BRUIDHINN GÀIDHLIG!!! — SPEAK GAELIC!!!

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery.

In the primary school we have three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes and two English-medium classes, but the English classes also learn Gaelic as a language. The classes in Eoligarry School also learn Gaelic as a language.

In the primary school, eight out of nine teachers speak Gaelic, and in the secondary school thirteen out of nineteen teachers speak Gaelic.

There are lots of opportunities to speak Gaelic, for example:

- Cuach na Cloinne
- The Barra Mòd / choir
- Singing online with Catherine T every week
- After-school knitting club
- Fèis Bharraigh

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is spoken in the community in places such as the Butcher's Shop, at dance lessons, at ceilidhs, on road signs, in the school, in Cobhair Bharraigh, and in many other places.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

In my daily life I speak Gaelic with my family every day, all day. I also speak Gaelic in online lessons with Anna for fiddle and with Seonaidh for chanter.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is alive and that it is very strong as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic is very alive here! :)

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery.

There are three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes in Castlebay Primary. We have many teachers who have Gaelic, and we have lots of opportunities to use Gaelic in school.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is really strong in the community because lots of people speak it.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is an everyday thing because we speak it in school, and I speak it at my auntie's house too.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is excellent and lively as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic is so good and so precious!

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in daily life on the islands.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

For me, Gaelic is an everyday thing because I speak it almost every day.

Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery. Eight out of nineteen teachers in the schools speak Gaelic, and that is great.

Gaelic in the Community

Gaelic is very lively in the community because you hear Gaelic very often. For example, in the Butcher's Shop they are all speaking Gaelic.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is strong and lively as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

Introduction

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Gaelic in the School

We have two schools on Barra and Vatersay – Castlebay Community School and Eoligarry Primary School. We also have one nursery.

The English-medium classes in the primary school learn Gaelic as a language, and the classes in Eoligarry School do this as well.

Eight out of nine teachers in the primary school have Gaelic, and thirteen out of nineteen teachers in the secondary school have Gaelic.

We also speak Gaelic at events such as Cuach na Cloinne, the Barra Mòd, with the choir, and when we sing online with Catherine T.

Gaelic in the Community

I can speak Gaelic in the Butcher's Shop. I hear Gaelic in Cobhair Bharraigh. I see Gaelic on road signs, in Bùth Bharraigh, in the church, and at ceilidhs.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I speak Gaelic with my family. I listen to Gaelic music such as Seonaidh Mac an t-Saoir and the Vatersay Boys.

Conclusion

Gaelic is so important in our culture in Barra and Vatersay.

Gaelic in the Community in Barra and Vatersay

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As part of Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026, I have been researching how Gaelic is used on the islands of Barra and Vatersay today. As part of our class research, we looked at how Gaelic is represented in schools, in the community, and in the daily life of the islands.

Gaelic in the School

We have two English-medium classes in the school and three Gaelic Medium Education (GME) classes. There are nine teachers in the primary school and eight of them speak Gaelic. In the secondary school there are nineteen teachers and thirteen of them speak Gaelic.

Gaelic in the Community

I speak Gaelic when I am in the Butcher's Shop and when I am helping in Cobhair Bharraigh.

Gaelic in My Daily Life

I like the music of the Vatersay Boys because they have Gaelic songs. I speak Gaelic with my Granny and when I have online lessons with Seonaidh.

Conclusion

Our research shows that Gaelic is alive and that it is important as part of the culture of our islands. Our schools, community groups, and busy public places are helping to keep the language alive.