

Fèis Spè Plana Gàidhlig 2014

The aim of Fèis Spè is to offer access to, and participation by young people, in top-quality Gaelic arts tuition and performance throughout the Cairngorms National Park area. This is mainly through a programme of community-based traditional music tuition, with Gaelic language and culture at the heart of activities. By making use of resources and support available we will implement, as fully as possible, the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Gaelic policy.

Main Activities of Fèis Spè:

- Main Fèis week in October
- Summer & Winter Cairngorms Ceilidh Trail
- Junior Cèilidh band
- Fèis Music days
- Instrument bank
- Gaelic developments
- Maintaining website
- Collaboration with other Fèisean

Fèis Spè acknowledges that very few of our regular participants are fluent Gaelic speakers but aims to provide opportunities for all to increase their awareness and skills in the language, whatever their starting point.

Fèis Spè's Gaelic Plan is based on three strands:

Respect - for the language and those who speak it

Normalisation - to make it 'normal' for participants at Fèis Spè events to hear Gaelic used as a matter of course

Opportunity - for those who speak Gaelic to use it in everyday circumstances without fear of ridicule and for those who have little or no Gaelic to develop their knowledge of the language in a safe and positive environment.

Fèis Spè's Gaelic Plan reflects that of Fèisean nan Gàidheal with the following **objectives:**

- Fully bi-lingual publicity materials including application forms, posters, press-releases, participant information and newsletters where appropriate.
- Employment of Gaelic speaking tutors and supervisors
- Gaelic signage at all events
- Offering Gaelic-medium classes where possible
- Prominent use of Gaelic material and language in performances
- Encouraging committee members to use and develop their language skills
- Provide participants with information on opportunities for developing their Gaelic language skills

To meet these objectives, the following **actions** will be taken:

- A number of Board members have attended Gaelic language and awareness sessions and will be encouraged to use this in the Fèis context.
- Gaelic speaking participants at Fèis activities will be identified by their name badge and tutors encouraged to engage them in Gaelic conversation
- All tutors will be expected to use Gaelic as the language of greeting with all participants and to use Gaelic tune names and for counting in.
- Copies of the resource book for Gaelic and tunes recently produced by Fèis Rois will be made available to tutors
- Gaelic language sessions for all children will be included in Fèis Spè activities - sometimes delivered through song.
- A Committee member is a representative on the 'Gàidhlig anns a' Phàirc' group, meeting regularly to discuss and progress ways of promoting and increasing local opportunities for Gaelic language.
- With assistance from a grant award from Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd fund, Fèis Spè will continue to run Gaelic language sessions, appropriate to the age group of the participants, during planned Fèis activities.