



Dhoon School, Maughold, Isle of Man

Department of Education and Children
Rheynn Ynsee as Paitchyn

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DHOON SCHOOL POLICY FOR MANX CULTURE IN THE CURRICULUM

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Introduction

The Education Act 2001 stated the Department 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 —

... (b) the teaching of Manx Gaelic and the culture and history of the Island;

The Education (Curriculum) (No 2) Order 2004 specifies the following principles which shall apply to the curriculum for all pupils of compulsory school age:

c) where appropriate, the content of all subjects shall include references to Manx culture and history; (which may be taught through other subjects)

The Department also expects Citizenship to be an aspect of the curriculum from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4, though it may well be taught to younger children through consideration of Manx culture and history.

At Dhoon School we believe that the Manx curriculum is an essential part of a child's school life, where we continue to celebrate the strong traditions and culture of our Island, forming a crucial link between home, school and the wider community.

Policy aims and objectives

- To ensure that all children **participate** in cultural learning in a fun and inspiring manner providing a sense of achievement and well being.
- To develop children's sense of **identity**, enabling them to become confident, positive and contributing members of society.
- To develop a sense of **pride** in their culture and environment.
- To raise awareness of their **heritage** and the Island as a **unique** place to live.
- To ensure that all pupils are **proud** of their own backgrounds and beliefs, what ever their origin and nationality.
- To develop a sense of responsibility and willingness to participate in the **preservation of heritage** and to **develop and carry these traditions forward**.
- To create **first hand experiences** that take learning beyond the classroom.
- To use **local expertise** from within and outside the school. eg museum workshops

- To allow the children to become responsible for developing their own **creativity** and to provide opportunities and experiences allowing them to explore their social, emotional and communication skills.

Methodology - this will be achieved by

- Manx Cultural learning activities will include one or more of the following,
 - Manx Music
 - Manx Songs
 - Manx Dance
 - Arts and crafts
 - Manx Folk-lore
 - Manx Language
 - Local History
 - Local Geographical awareness
 - Manx Literature
- All staff at Dhoon School have a shared vision which provides the school with a sense of purpose in relation to cultural events and learning.
- The school's 'curriculum drivers' (**Local Links**, The Wider World, Communication, Initiative, The Arts) help teachers to plan and provide learning that is varied, accessible and engaging.
- The child-led approach to planning and enquiry led learning, allows teachers to be creative and to try new things in their classes which often raises awareness of our culture and heritage.
- All staff are made aware of the curriculum resources available on-line and in the Manx History and Geography files.
- Cultural learning will occur during some timetabled class time and may continue to be explored in the child's own time if they wish.
- A Manx dancing/music club will be established so any child wishing to practise steps and dances may do so. Older children will be encouraged to take on a leading and supportive role to younger members of the school
- Rehearsal time, space and instruments will be provided at lunch times for any child wishing to practise in their own time. Older children will be encouraged to take on a leading and supportive role towards younger members of the school.
- Children will be encouraged to continue to attend regular choir rehearsals during lunch times extending their repertoire in both Manx and contemporary songs.
- Children will be encouraged to participate in local festivals, community events and the Manx Folk awards.

- Local expertise and parents will be encouraged to visit the school for whole school assemblies and celebration time.
- The Manx cultural teacher will liaise with peripatetic staff, parents, class teachers and support staff to allow inclusion of all pupils in whole school cultural events.

Resources

In addition to our Manx curriculum files, many new resources have become available online. The Manx museum has an excellent selection of books, cds and videos including Manx National Heritage publications. Jo Callister, Advisory Teacher for the Manx Curriculum has many resources on the Manx curriculum wiki. Dr Chloe Woolley is the Manx Music Development Officer and can be contacted through Culture Vannin.

<http://culturevannin.im>

<http://www.manxmusic.com>

<http://www.manxhistory.com>

www.learnmanx.com

<http://www.manxnationalheritage.im/>

<http://asmanxasthehills.com>

Inclusion

Inclusion underpins learning at Dhoon School and it is expected that all children will be given the opportunity to take part in cultural events, lessons and activities during their time at Dhoon. All children will have equal access to the cultural curriculum and will be treated fairly regardless of race, religion or ability. This policy should be read in conjunction with Dhoon School's Policy for Inclusion.

Curriculum

This policy should be read in conjunction with Dhoon's policy for "Teaching and learning" and the "Creative Curriculum Policy". It should be used to complement and help provide a rich tapestry for learning.

S Jaques
June 2016