



Supporting Manx Language for Children & Families

Mooiney Veggey is a Manx-language children's charity supporting families from the earliest years and right through primary education. We play a vital role in preserving and promoting the Manx language among children from their earliest years.

Culture is more than tradition, it is identity, resilience, and continuity. The voices that shaped us must not be forgotten, and the voices yet to come must be nurtured. We therefore create joyful, bilingual experiences that help children grow with confidence, curiosity, and pride in their identity as members of the wider Manx community.

Our Mission

Mooijer Veggey exists to make Manx language a natural, vibrant part of childhood on the Isle of Man. Through play, creativity, culture and community, we help children learn and use the language confidently; at home, in nursery, at school and beyond.

We strive to support, sustain, and grow the use of the Manx Gaelic language among children, families, and communities across the Isle of Man to ensure that Manx remains a living language that reflects who we are, heritage and culture and the future we're building together.

Since 1996, we have provided Manx-medium early years education, family playgroups, cultural learning, and community programmes rooted in belonging and heritage. Our aim is simple: to help the next generation grow up bilingual, connected to, and proud of their island and its language, culture and heritage.

Our Aims

- A. To promote the knowledge and use of Manx Gaelic among the young people of the Isle of Man.
- B. To provide high quality pre-school education in a supportive and stimulating environment.
- C. To ensure a strong Manx Gaelic component in the nursery and playgroups.
- D. To help children to become well-rounded responsible citizens who identify with their island.
- E. To build positive and caring relationships with all stakeholders based on trust and respect.
- F. To support the long-term development of Manx-Gaelic.
- G. To promote Manx culture among children and families.
- H. To work in partnership with other agencies to address the needs of children in our care.
- I. To work in partnership with other community groups where there are pre-school children to raise awareness of Manx language and culture.
- J. To work with parents as partners to improve learning opportunities for pre-school children.
- K. To work with parents to support the care and wellbeing of pre-school children.

What we do

Mooijer Veggey is best known for our fantastic nursery in St John's, but that's just one part of our charity. We support children and families across the island through play-based learning, language exposure, cultural activities, and community events.

1. Possan Cloie

Possan Cloie is our weekly playgroup for babies, toddlers, and pre-school children accompanied by an adult. Each session includes songs, stories, crafts and sensory play that gently introduce Manx language in a warm, welcoming environment.

For babies to preschool.

Through stories, songs, crafts and play, we gently introduce Manx language in a warm, supportive environment where children learn naturally alongside their grown-ups.

Our sessions are full of fun, music and creativity — perfect for helping little ones explore language, make friends, and feel part of our island's culture.

Possan Cloie groups give English-speaking children an early exposure to a second language and helps them to strengthen their communication skills, which in turn improves their confidence. Exposure to Manx Gaelic also supports cognitive development, builds cultural connection and helps children develop a strong sense of their identity and attachment to the island within the Manx-speaking community.

Possan Cloie gives families a joyful and accessible way to bring Manx into everyday life.

2. Nursery

Our nursery offers a nurturing, child-centred environment where Manx language is introduced naturally through daily routines, songs, stories and play. We welcome children aged 2 - 4 and follow a play-based approach that supports independence, creativity, communication and early language development.

Play-based early years learning delivered by experienced and caring staff in a gentle bilingual environment give children a fantastic start to their learning journey. Strong links and comprehensive transitions to Bunscoill Ghaelgagh enable children to continue that journey through the medium of Manx language.

3. Bunscoill Ghaelgagh

Bunscoill Ghaelgagh is the only school in the world where the curriculum is taught entirely through the Manx language. Mooinjer Veggey played a key role in establishing the school and continues to support its governance and development. Children become confident Manx speakers through immersive learning, creativity and community connection.

4. Community Events

We are proud to be part of Manx culture and community life. Throughout the year we take part in festivals, cultural celebrations, family events and language activities across the island. From craft days and seasonal celebrations to large community fundraisers, our events create opportunities for children and families to explore the Manx language together

5. Resources

We create and share Manx-language resources for children, families and educators, including:

- Activity sheets & downloadable packs
- Songs, rhymes & storytelling
- Early years language tools
- Books and cultural learning materials

Strategic Context and Alignment

Our Strategic aims are closely linked to Government initiatives and other Manx language organisations and groups.

1. Manx Language Strategy

Mooijer Veggey's work directly supports the Manx Government's Manx Language Strategy 2022–2032 (Gaelg 2032), which aims for 5,000 active speakers by 2032 through education, community engagement, and visibility. Our programmes contribute to all three pillars of Gaelg 2032:

1. Education & Learning: through our nursery, Possan Cloie network, and transition into Bunscoill Ghaelgagh
2. Community & Use: through Cre ren oo jiu, Manx and Me, Manx at Home and the Cultural Exchange Programme
3. Visibility & Celebration: via Through Quirk's Eye, the Steam Packet Partnership, and creative events during Blein ny Gaelgey 2026 (Year of the Manx Language)

By integrating measurable outcomes such as numbers of learners, families engaged, and resources distributed, we are able to provide tangible evidence of return on investment (ROI) and national impact.

Mooijer Veggey is also well-represented on the Jeebin (Manx Language Network) group.

2. Arts Council

Our creative and educational projects directly align with the Isle of Man Arts Council Strategy

1. Inspire people of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy our culture and the arts
Possan Cloie, Manx at Home, and our nursery build confidence and identity through bilingual learning.
2. Invest in the island's creative community for success and sustainability
Through Quirk's Eye, Cre ren oo jiu, and Manx and Me promote access to creativity through Manx art, storytelling and media

3. Promote our unique Manx culture and distinctiveness as central to the island's image nationally and internationally.

Through Quirk's Eye and Roie Mygeayrt celebrate Manx stories, folklore, and landscapes.
Work with the Steam Packet Company, Culture Vannin, and schools models Island-wide creative cooperation.

4. Champion the arts and culture as fundamental to our wellbeing and sense of place.

The Cultural Exchange Programme unites EAL communities and Manx speakers, sharing traditions and language.

5. Inspire and enable people to explore new horizons through innovation, media and technology.

Ongoing collaboration with the Bunscoill to provide artwork and resources for the phonics programme and early readers.

3. Culture Vannin

Much of our work is in collaboration and partnership with Culture Vannin in terms of their strategic goals for the development of the Manx language.

1. Young People and Lifelong Learning

Possan Cloie, Mooinjey Veggey Nursery and provision of resources for the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh.

2. Culture Identity and Heritage

Organising events such as Oie'll Verree 2026, Through Quirks' Eye and resources for the Bunscoill.

3. Partnerships and collaborations

Working in partnership with Culture Vannin for the 'Mother Tongue Day' event other organisations such as Jeebin for the Blein ny Gaelgagh launch and other events during the year.

Strategic Goals and Actions

Our Strategic plans for the next three academic years (2025-2028)

1. Education and Early Years

G4 - To increase engagement with Mooinjer Veggey through Social Media, online presence and other media.

G5 - To encourage and support families who wish to raise their bi-lingually or with some working knowledge of Manx Gaelic.

G6 - To produce appropriate resources in order to support the work of the Nursery, Possan Cloie groups and the Bunscoill.

G7 - To support nursery children with additional needs.

G8 - To ensure that staff working with young people are trained effectively in order to provide a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment.

G9 - To secure funding for the long term development of pre-school provision using Manx Gaelic.

G10 - To ensure that the charity stays up to date with the requirements of government departments and agencies.

A1.1 - Operate and grow Mooinjer Veggey Nursery and strengthen links with Bunscoill Ghaelgagh to create measurable Manx-medium pathways. (G4,G5,G6,G7,G8,G9,G10)

A1.2 - Develop Manx at Home – bilingual resources for families to use Manx in daily routines. (G5)

A1.3 - Produce a visual add-on for the ‘Cre ren oo jiu ?’ podcast to enhance accessibility and learning. (G4)

A1.4 - Produce resources for Possan Cloie, Nursery and Bunscoill (Gaelg my Vlao). (G6)

A1.5 - Plan for the strategic use of funding from the DESC Inclusion Scheme for nurseries. (G7)

A1.6 - Submit appropriate evidence and plans to government and other agencies that provide funding streams. (G9)

A1.7 Fully engage in the annual R&I process and make the relevant changes to the learning environment (G10)

A1.8 Provide ongoing CPD for all nursery staff (to include Manx Language learning). (G8)

A1.9 Provide professional supervision and appraisal for all nursery staff. (G8)

A1.10 Monitor educational ROI (return of investment) via progression rates and parental engagement.

(ROI Target: +10% annual increase of pupils progressing to Bunscoil Ghaelgagh to 2028)

2. Community and Family Engagement

G1 - To significantly grow the numbers of people engaged with Manx Gaelic.

G2 - To raise awareness of Manx language and culture among the island's EAL communities.

G3 - To increase the number of volunteers who can support the work of Mooinjer Veggey.

G4 - To increase engagement with Mooinjer Veggey through Social Media, online presence and other media.

G5 - To encourage and support families who wish to raise their bi-lingually or with some working knowledge of Manx Gaelic.

G11 - To engage with local and national government members, agencies and groups to promote the aims of the charity.

G12 - To work with government agencies, local groups, societies and individuals who are teaching and promoting Manx language and culture in order to secure the long-term future of the language.

A2.1 - Expand Possan Cloie from 3 to 5 active groups by 2026. (G1,G3,G5)

A2.2 - Enhance presence at Cooish and Tynwald Day through performances, family workshops, and Manx-language activities. (G1,G3,G11)

A2.3 - Host Cultural Exchange Evenings to bring Manx and EAL (English as an additional language) communities together. (G2)

A2.4 - Signpost parents and carers to online Manx Gaelic resources and further learning opportunities. (G4)

A2.5 - Send representatives to the Jeebin meetings and develop collaborative action plans. (G12)

A2.6 - Engage with local groups to offer information and awareness raising sessions in order to promote the language among the wider community. (G1,G2,G12)

A2.7 - Partner Culture Vannin on specific community-based projects which include children and families. (G1,G2,G12)

*A1.2 - Develop Manx at Home – bilingual resources for families to use Manx in daily routines. (G5)

(ROI Target: 5 active Possan Cloie groups by 2028)

3. Creative & Awareness Projects

G1 - To significantly grow the numbers of people engaged with Manx Gaelic.

G3 - To increase the number of volunteers who can support the work of Mooinjer Veggey.

G4 - To increase engagement with Mooinjer Veggey through Social Media, online presence and other media.

A3.1 - Organise an art exhibition which explores Manx identity, Anglo-Manx and 'Manx you didn't know you knew' through art, folklore, and storytelling. (G1, G4)

A3.2 - Develop follow up TQE engagement activities which could include a touring exhibition, bilingual children's book Trooid Sooill Quirk, and creative workshops for families and schools. (G1,G3,G4)

A3.3 - Produce the 'Cre ren oo jiu' & 'Manx and Me' – ongoing podcast and media projects celebrating everyday Manx. (G1, G4)

A3.4 - Develop the Steam Packet Partnership to produce Manx-themed colouring books, cartoons and artwork aboard Manxman, Manannan and Ben my Chree to raise awareness among residents and visitors. (G1)

A3.5 Increase awareness of Mooinjer Veggey by applying for 'Charity of the Week' on Manx Radio. (G1,G3, G4)

A3.6 Increase awareness of Mooinjer Veggey by working with the IOM creamery on new packaging. (G1,G3, G4)

(ROI Target: 100 families engaged in TQE and 20,000 hits for CROJ and M&M)

4. Fundraising & Financial Asset Development

G1 - To significantly grow the numbers of people engaged with Manx Gaelic.

G3 - To increase the number of volunteers who can support the work of Mooinjer Veggey.

G4 - To increase engagement with Mooinjer Veggey through Social Media, online presence and other media.

G6 - To produce appropriate resources in order to support the work of the Nursery, Possan Cloie groups and Bunscoill.

G7 - To support nursery children with additional needs.

G9 - To secure funding for the long term development of pre-school provision using Manx Gaelic.

A4.1 - Termly Prize Draws and community raffles. (G1,G4,G9)

A4.2 - Asset Sales (books, merchandise, learning packs) (G1,G3, G4, G9)

A4.3 - Corporate Partnerships (e.g. Steam Packet Company, IOM Creamery) (G1,G4)

A4.4 - Events at Cooish and Tynwald Day (G1,G3,G9)

A4.5 - Ensure all funds directly support language projects and measurable community growth.(G1)

*A1.5 - Plan for the strategic use of funding from the DESC Inclusion Scheme for nurseries. (G7)

*A1.6 - Submit appropriate evidence and plans to government and other agencies that provide funding streams. (G9)

(ROI Target: 15% Year on year growth to 2028)

5. Innovation & Future Development

G1 - To significantly grow the numbers of people engaged with Manx Gaelic.

G3 - To increase the number of volunteers who can support the work of Mooinjer Veggey.

G4 - To increase engagement with Mooinjer Veggey through Social Media, online presence and other media.

G5 - To encourage and support families who wish to raise their bi-lingually or with some working knowledge of Manx Gaelic.

G11 - To engage with local and national government members, agencies and groups to promote the aims of the charity.

G12 - To work with government agencies, local groups, societies and individuals who are teaching and promoting Manx language and culture in order to secure the long-term future of the language.

A5.1 - Expand Manx at Home and develop family-learning pathways. (Builds on A1.2) (G5)

A5.2 - Launch a visual learning extension for 'Cre ren oo jiu'. (Builds on A3.3) (G1,G4)

A5.3 - Continue producing bilingual creative outputs through Through Quirk's Eye and 'Cre ren oo jiu'.
(Builds on A3.2) (G1,G3,G4)

A5.4 - Build new partnerships with Culture Vannin, Arts Council, and community groups under the Blein ny Gaelgey project.(G1,G11,G12)

A5.5 - Adverts at Job Centre for volunteers to help with Possan Cloie. (G3)

(ROI Target: Reach 4 community groups in the first year and develop an annual event for all groups)

6. Cultural Identity & Exchange

G1 - To significantly grow the numbers of people engaged with Manx Gaelic.

G2 - To raise awareness of Manx language and culture among the island's EAL communities.

G3 - To increase the number of volunteers who can support the work of Mooinjer Veggey.

G4 - To increase engagement with Mooinjer Veggey through Social Media, online presence and other media.

G5 - To encourage and support families who wish to raise their bi-lingually or with some working knowledge of Manx Gaelic.

A6.1- Promote inclusivity through Cultural Exchange Evenings, connecting Manx and EAL communities. (G1,G2)

A6.2 - Share stories, food, music, and traditions to foster mutual respect and belonging. (G1,G2,G4,G5)

A6.3 - Support the national Community & Creativity theme of Blein ny Gaelgey 2026.(G1,G11,G12)

(ROI Target: 4 cultural events in the first year and an annual showcase event in subsequent years)