

Wan hunder common Shetland wirds

- These Shetland words, phrases, and grammatical features can be enlarged, printed, and placed in windows or other locations round the school. Learners can work in threes to find and record as many as possible.
- Learners can use the Shetland Dictionary (<http://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk>), complete with definitions and sound files, or the following vocabulary sheets to find definitions. (Words generally need to be heard or said at least seven times before they will enter the learners' vocabulary.)

Verbs (action words) in Shetlandic	Verbs (action words) in English
bide	stay, live
bigg	build
birl	spin around
brak	break
coop	turn over, upside down
dae	do
ding	strike, knock
dook	dip (in water)
doot	believe
faa	fall
fin	find
fled	flew
gadder	gather
gaff	laugh
geng	go
gluff	frighten, startle
greet	weep, cry
gyaan	going
haad	hold
haal	haul
hae	have
hing	hang
hiv	have
hock	delve
hoid	hide
kaen	know
mak	make
mind	remember
pleep	whine or complain
scoit	look
swadge	relax after eating
tak	take
yarn	chat

Prepositions in Shetlandic	Prepositions in English
a, o, i	of
aff	off

afore	before
ahint	behind
atween	between
bi	by
efter	after
fae	from
ithoot	without
oot	out
ower	over
tae, ta, til	to
wi	with

Adjectives (describing words) in Shetlandic	Adjectives (describing words) in English
blyde	happy
boannie	pretty
caald, cowl'd	cold
crabbit	bad tempered
daft	foolish, stupid
faert	afraid
filsket	frisky, high-spirited
haet	hot
mad, tirn	angry
muckle	big
owld, aald	old
peerie	small
shilpit	sour
sleekit	sly
stoorie	dusty
unkan	strange, unfamiliar
vexed	sad
wabbit	exhausted

Nouns (naming words) in Shetlandic	Nouns (naming words) in English
ba	ball
bairn	child
brae	slope
broo	(top of) slope
bruck	rubbish
byre	cowshed
claes	clothes
cloot	cloth
craitur	creature/person
da day	today
da moarn	tomorrow
elt	mess
gluff	fright
gutter	mud
lass	girl

mirknen	dusk, twilight
Mirrie Dancers	the Northern Lights
sharn	dung (sticking to something)
strae	straw
watter	water

Pronouns (short words that replace nouns) in Shetlandic	Pronouns (short words that replace nouns) in English
da	the
dan or den	then
dat	that
dee or du	you
dis	this
dy or dine	your or yours
me	my
mony	many
wha	who
whaar	where
whin	when
whit	what
wir	our or were or we are

Adverbs in Shetlandic	Adverbs in English
doon	down
noo	now
peerie-wyes	carefully, cautiously

Some features of Shetlandic grammar and speech
Negative forms of verbs are created by adding 'na' at end – 'canna', 'mustna' etc.
Present participles end in 'an' or 'in' - never 'ing' : 'scramblan', 'pretendan', 'surfan the internet'.
Shetlandic/Scots uses older, short vowel sounds in words like 'hoose', 'moose' and 'ku' (like Norwegian) instead of 'house', 'mouse' and 'cow' (like English).
In Shetlandic, the plural of 'year' is 'year', not 'years'. E.g. 'seeven year ago'.

Whit's happened?
In Shetlandic it is good practice to use the verb 'to be', not 'to have' when talking about things that (in English) <i>have</i> happened
e.g. A'm been on holiday. We're (or wir) been on holiday. Is du read da last Harry Potter? Ir dey read him?
Example: Whaar ir dey gone? Creepie craalies http://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk/creepie-craalies
Example: Is du seen him? No, A'm no seen him. Lost http://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk/lost
One step farther back in time – things that <i>had</i> happened, works like this: She wis hed tree whalps. Sam's pal http://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk/sams-pal