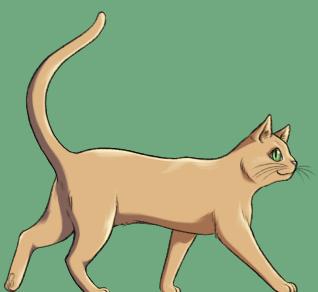


an Scéalaí

User Guide

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What is An Scéalaí?

An Scéalaí is an online learning platform for students of the Irish language. It provides an environment in which users can write and correct Irish texts, or *stories*. One of An Scéalaí's unique features is the ability to listen back to a computer-generated voice reading your story as Gaeilge. As well as this, users can run their story through a grammar-checker that highlights any spelling mistakes or other grammatical errors found in the text. More detail on these technologies can be found at the *Technology* tab on our website.

An Scéalaí also serves as a research project by Trinity College Dublin, investigating the effectiveness of different language-learning methods. We invite you to try using *audio check* as well as *grammar check* to correct spelling and grammar mistakes in your stories. This will provide us with useful data to help design language-learning resources in the future!

You can contact us with any queries / feedback at scealai.info@gmail.com

Student

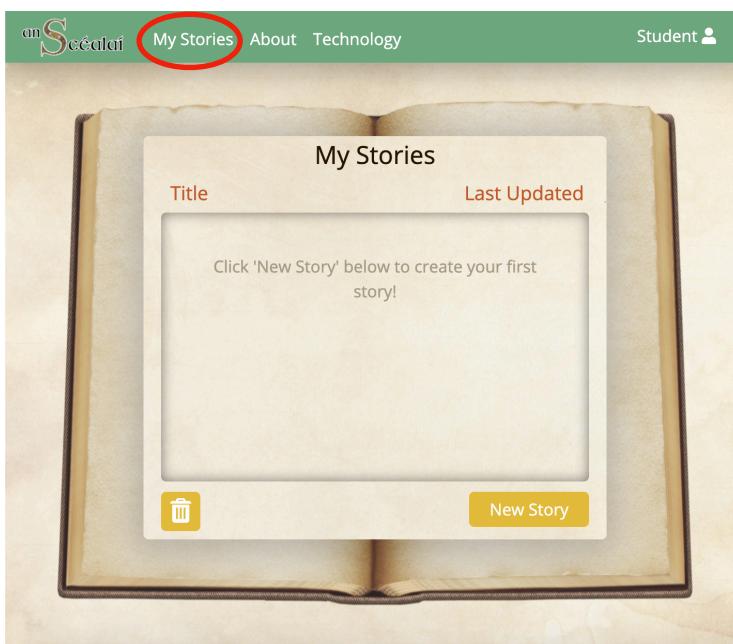
This section outlines the features available to a student account on An Scéalaí. The term 'student' here simply refers to someone who is a student of the Irish language, not necessarily someone studying Irish at school or university. For those of you who *are* studying Irish at school, however, An Scéalaí has a classroom feature that allows your teachers to read and provide feedback on your stories.

Write stories

As a student on An Scéalaí, your homepage will be the *My Stories* page. This is accessible on the top left of the navigation bar at the top of the screen, or on mobile by clicking on the menu button on the top right.

Find the 'My Stories' page

(For those on mobile)



Here you'll find a list of the stories you've written on *An Scéalaí*, and the ability to create new ones or delete old ones. To create a new story, simply click the *New Story* button on the bottom right of the screen. You may then give your story a title and dialect. The dialect you choose will determine that used by the *Audio Check* feature for your story, if you want to hear your story being read in the *Connacht* dialect, for example, you simply choose *Connacht* as the dialect for this story. Once you've created your story you'll be brought to the *Story Writing* page for that story. This is where you can access all the main features of *An Scéalaí*: *Audio Check*, *Grammar Check*, and *Feedback* if you have a teacher using the site. You can begin writing your story in the main text area shown below.

The story writing area



If you wish to edit your story title or dialect at any point, you can click on Options > Edit to do so.

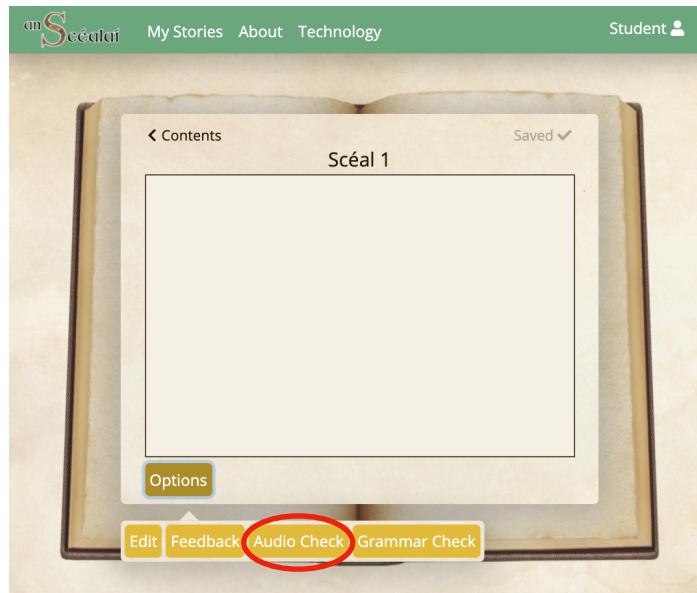
Edit your story's details



Audio Check

The ability to *Audio Check* your stories is one of *An Scéalaí*'s unique features. Upon clicking the Options > Audio Check button on the Story Writing page you will be brought to the *Audio Check* page. Here you can listen to a computer-generated, or *synthesised* voice reading your story aloud. This may serve as a great way to spot spelling or grammar mistakes — by *hearing* them!

Go to the Audio Check page for your story



From the *Audio Check* page, you will see green play buttons next to your text. Simply click these to hear *An Scéalaí* read your text! These buttons will appear next to each paragraph by default, but you may choose to be able to listen to each sentence individually, which you may do by clicking on the Listen by : *Sentence* button.

Listen by paragraph

Listen by sentence

You can also click on words to hear them read individually! (This feature is a work in progress — sometimes *An Scéalaí* will read a word to either side of the word you click on, in this case simply click on the words to the right or left and your word should be read.)

Grammar Check

Another important feature of *An Scéalaí* is the ability to run your story through a Grammar-checker. To go open the *Grammar-Checker* click on Options > Grammar Check.

Go to the Grammar-Checker for your story



This will highlight any spelling or grammar mistakes in your story according to the specific grammar check that you choose. At the moment we have the all-purpose *Gramadóir* and the more specific *Broad/Slender checker*. The *Gramadóir* will highlight any grammatical errors in your text in red. You can click on the highlighted phrases to see details about the error.

*Spelling & grammar mistakes highlighted by
An Gramadóir*

Click on a highlighted word for details

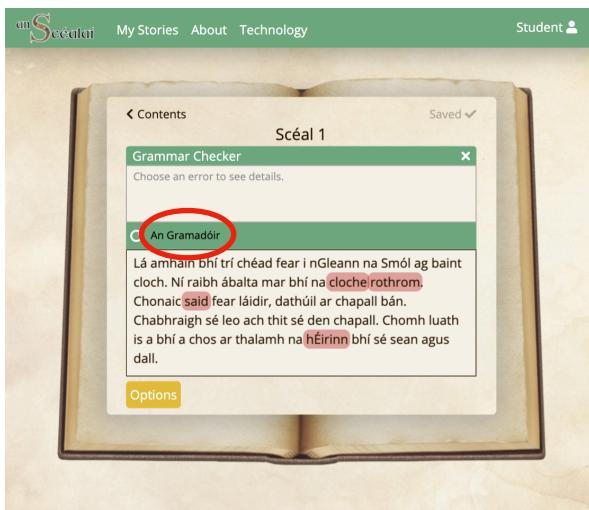
A screenshot of the 'Grammar Checker' interface. It shows a green header bar with 'Grammar Checker' and a close button. Below it is a white text area with the message 'Choose an error to see details.' Underneath is another green bar with 'C An Gramadóir'. The main text area contains a paragraph of Irish text with several words highlighted in red, such as 'said', 'láidir', 'dathúil', 'chapall', 'luath', and 'hÉirinn'. At the bottom is a yellow 'Options' button.

A screenshot of the 'Grammar Checker' interface. It shows a green header bar with 'Grammar Checker' and a close button. Below it is a white text area with the message 'Unknown word: /clocha, cloch, cloiche/?'. Underneath is another green bar with 'C An Gramadóir'. The main text area contains a paragraph of Irish text with several words highlighted in red, such as 'said', 'láidir', 'dathúil', 'chapall', 'luath', and 'hÉirinn'. At the bottom is a yellow 'Options' button.

The *Broad/Slender checker* can be used here also. This feature highlights any disagreement between vowels in Irish, according to the Broad / Slender rule. You can switch between *An Gramadóir* and the *Broad/Slender checker* by clicking on the selection box in the centre-left of the screen, as highlighted below.

Switch between An Gramadóir and the Broad/Slender checker

The Broad/Slender checker



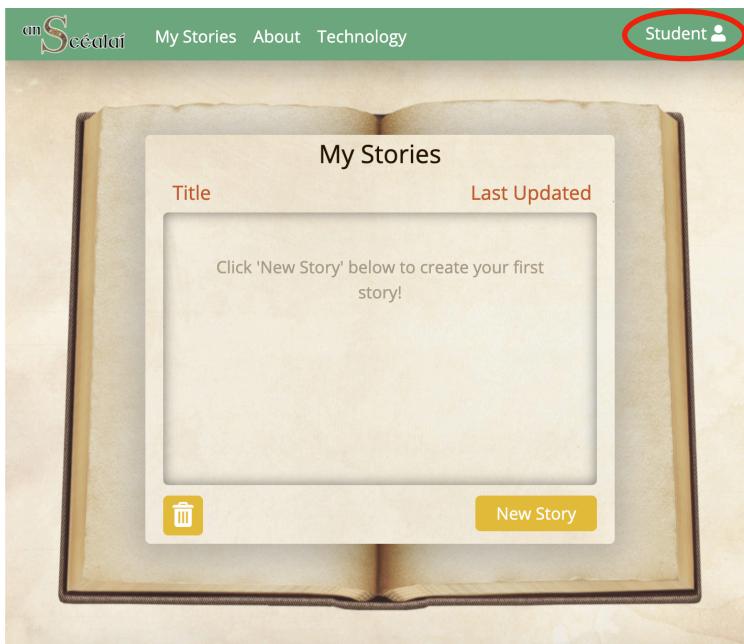
After taking note of any spelling or grammar mistakes in your text, you can return to the *Story Writing* area to correct them.

Language Options

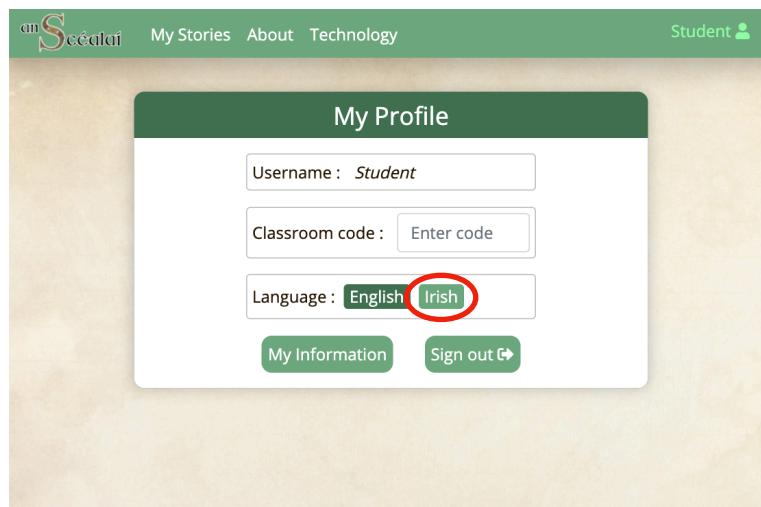
You have the option to set *An Scéalaí* to Irish or English based on your own preference. You will be prompted to choose a language when creating your account, on the *Registration* page. You may change this setting at any point from the *Profile* page. To access the *Profile* page, click your name in the top right corner, or the menu button on mobile.

Go to your Profile page

(For those on mobile)



Change your language settings on the Profile page

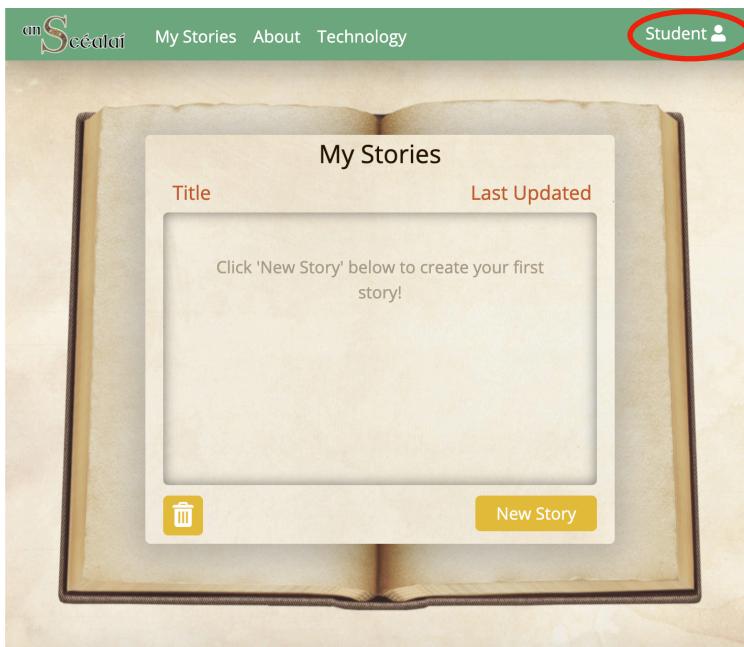


Classrooms

You may be using *An Scéalaí* as part of an Irish class at school or university. In this case, your teacher or professor can create a *Classroom* to group students together. They will be able to give you a *code* with which you can join their classroom. By joining a classroom, you are giving your teacher can see your *username* as well as all of your stories. They cannot see your password or any of the information provided on registration. To join a classroom you can go to your *Profile* page and enter the code provided by your teacher into the *Classroom code* text box. Once you've joined a classroom, you can leave at any point by clicking the *leave* button. By leaving a classroom, your teacher will no longer have access to your stories.

Go to your Profile page

(For those on mobile)



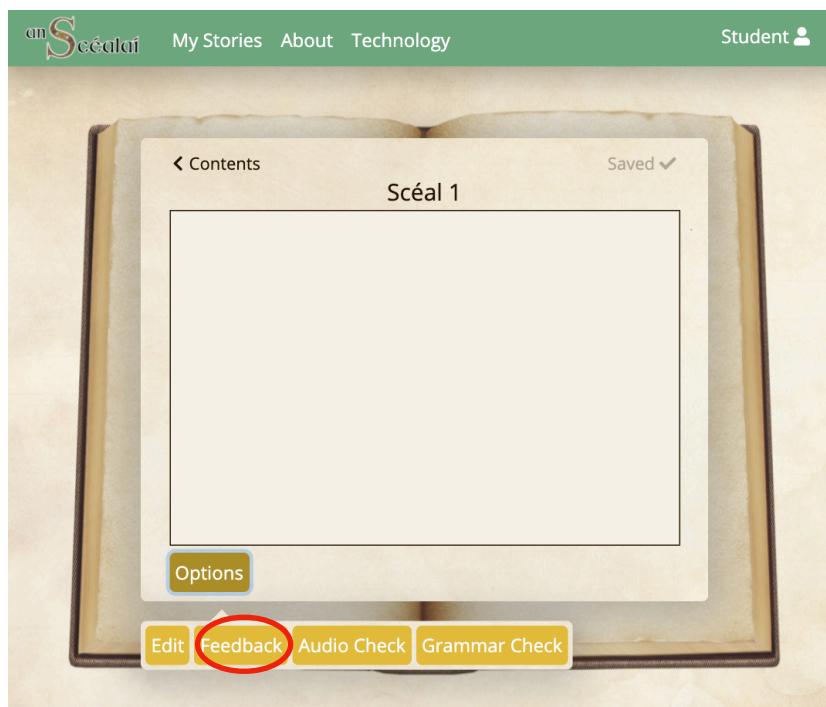
Join a classroom with your classroom code

Leave a classroom by clicking the leave button



Once you've joined a classroom, your teacher can provide you with *feedback* on your stories. This may come in the form of text or audio, and will be available to you when you click on Options > Feedback from the *Story Writing* page. A red notification symbol will appear beside your name in the top right of the screen any time a teacher leaves feedback on one of your stories. When you click on the notification symbol, a list of any stories with new feedback will appear. You can click a story in this list to go to the *Story Writing* page for that story, where you can view your feedback.

To view your feedback for a story



Notification symbol

(For those on mobile)



Teacher

We recommend that teachers also read the Student section of this document in order to understand the system that their students may be using.

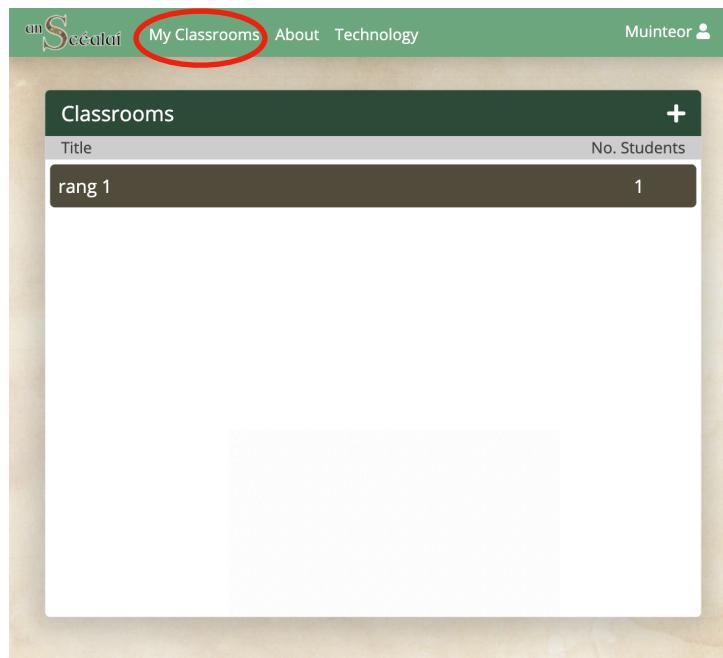
A teacher account on *An Scéalaí* enables you to manage your students' stories through our *Classroom* system. A classroom in *An Scéalaí* is in essence just a group of students (and, of course, a teacher!). As a teacher, you will be able to create multiple classrooms, name them accordingly and distribute a code for each classroom that will enable your students to join. Once a student has joined, their username will appear in that classroom. It should be noted that in this iteration of *An Scéalaí*, students may join one classroom each (this may be changed in future if there is a demand). To view a student's stories, simply click on their username and choose a story. You can leave textual and audio feedback for individual stories, which students will get a notification about the next time they log onto the site.

It is recommended that teachers use *An Scéalaí* on a laptop or desktop computer as some of the features and layouts aren't suitable for mobile devices as of yet.

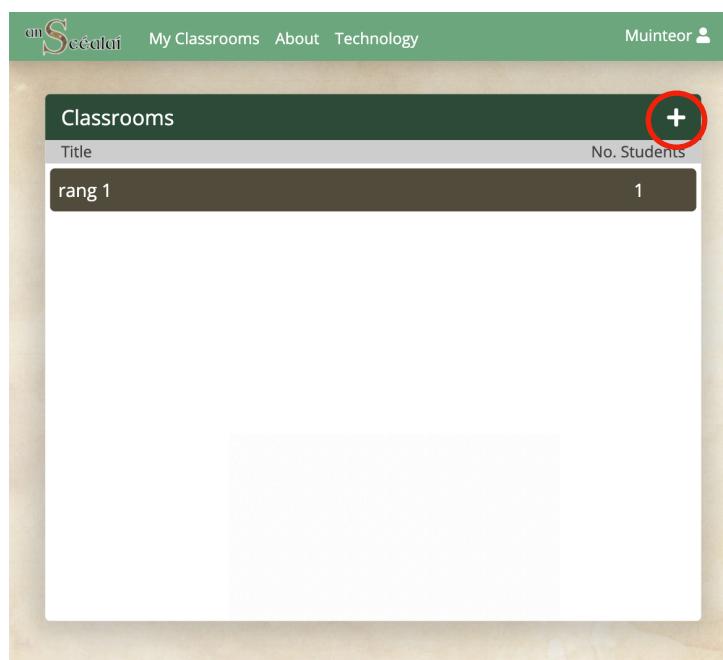
Classrooms

The *dashboard* or *home page* for teacher accounts will be the *My Classrooms* page. You can navigate to this page from any other page in the app using the *My Classrooms* button at the top left of the navigation bar.

Go to the My Classrooms page

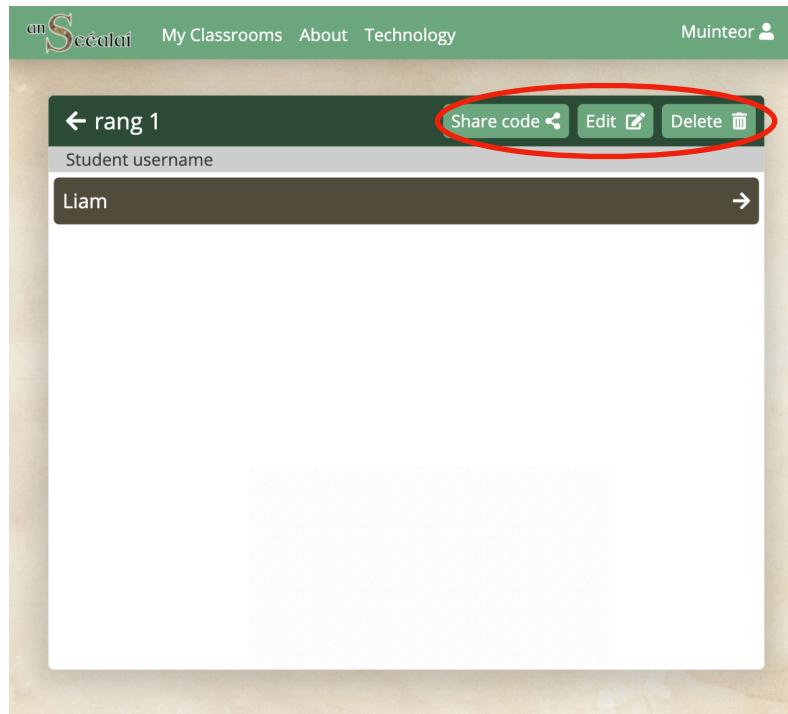


You can create a new classroom by clicking on the *plus* symbol on the top right hand side of the *My Classrooms* page.



Once you've created a classroom, you can view its members and details by clicking on it, bringing you to the *View Classroom* page. Here, you can edit or delete the classroom. You can also view the *code* for that classroom. This *code* can be used by your students to join the classroom (see pg. 7). Once a student has joined your classroom, upon refreshing the page you will see their username appear. You can click on any of these usernames to view the stories written by that user.

Share code, edit classroom details, and delete classroom options available at the top right of the View Classroom page.



When viewing a student's stories, you will see the titles of their stories in a list. You can click on any of these to view that story in detail: the text, title, author, creation date, dialect chosen and any previous feedback will all be available. On this page, you may leave text or audio feedback based on the story text.

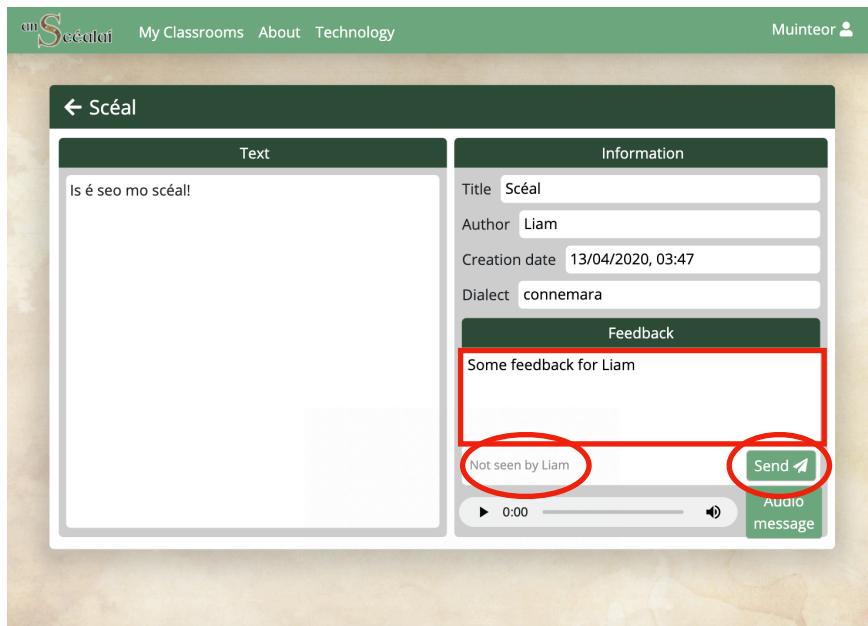
The Story Detail Page

A screenshot of the 'Story Detail Page' for a story titled 'Scéal'. The page is divided into two main sections: 'Text' on the left and 'Information' on the right. The 'Text' section contains the story text 'Is é seo mo scéal!'. The 'Information' section displays the following details: Title 'Scéal', Author 'Liam', Creation date '13/04/2020, 03:47', and Dialect 'connemara'. Below these details is a 'Feedback' section containing the text 'Some feedback for Liam'. At the bottom of the page, there are buttons for 'Send' (with a paper airplane icon) and 'Audio message' (with a speaker icon).

Feedback

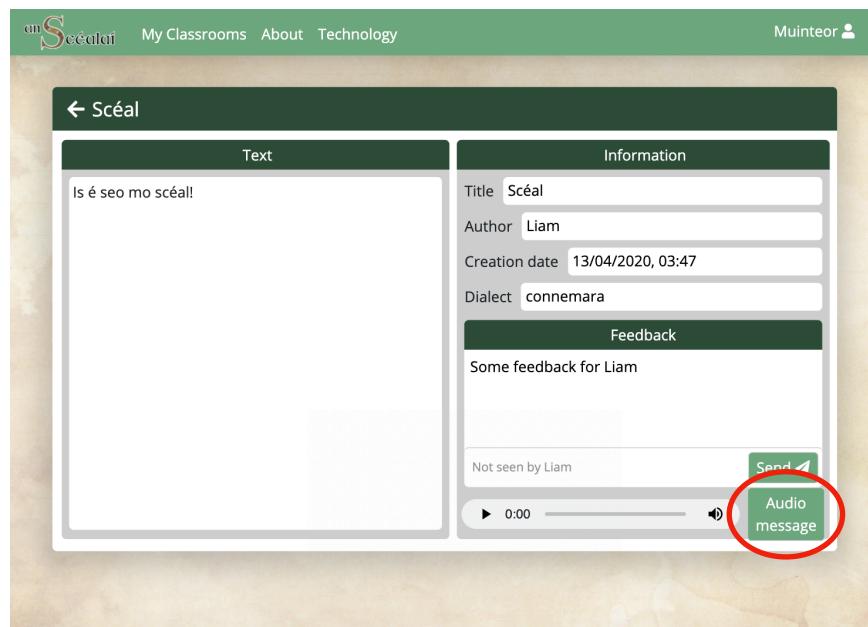
To send your student text feedback, write your feedback in the *feedback* text area and click the *send* button. Your feedback will only be sent when you click this button. You will be able to see whether or not your student has seen their feedback based on the message at the bottom left of the feedback area.

The feedback text area, send button, and feedback viewed section

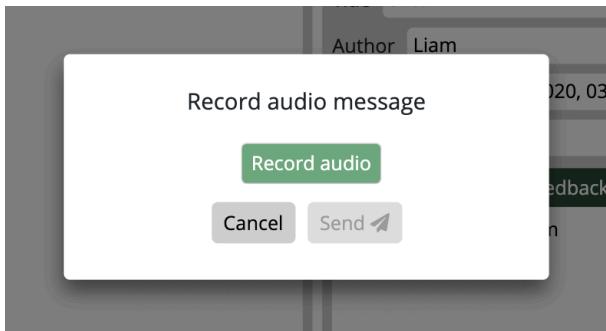


To record audio feedback, click on the *Audio message* button on the bottom left of the screen. Then you can click *Record audio* to begin recording your message. Once finished, click *Stop recording* to end your recording. You will then be presented the option to listen back over your audio before sending it, if needs be you can re-record the message. Your audio message will only be sent if you click the *send* button in the audio recording pop-up. If you click the *cancel* button your audio will be deleted.

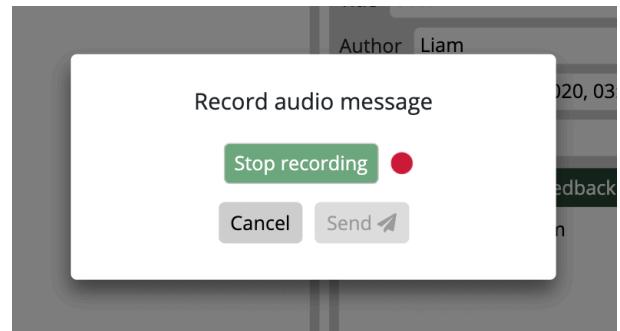
Click on the Audio Message button to make visible the Audio recording pop-up



*The audio recording pop-up
(Not recording)*



(Recording)



Click send to send your audio feedback or cancel to delete it

