



Strabane Controlled Primary School.

PROSPECTUS





CHAIRPERSON OF GOVERNORS:

Mr. N. Darragh

PRINCIPAL:

Mrs. C. Thompson

NUMBER ON ROLL 2024/2025: 260 (including Nursery)

ADMISSIONS NUMBER: 33

ENROLMENT NUMBER: 231

STAFF

Principal

Vice Principal

8 Primary Teachers & our Nursery Teacher

2 Learning Support Teachers

ANCILLARY STAFF

Senior Clerical Officer (Secretary)

Building Supervisor

Nursery Assistant

3 Foundation Stage Classroom Assistants

14 SEN Classroom Assistants

School Crossing Patrol

Cook & Kitchen Staff

4 Supervisory Assistants

FACILITIES

Nursery Unit

Community Playgroup

8 Classrooms

ICT Suite

Library

Sensory Room

2 Additional Support Rooms

2 Playgrounds

Large Grassed Area

2 Play trails

Outdoor shelter



Safe, Secure & Successful.

SCHOOL HOURS.



8.15am – 8.45am: Breakfast Club

8.45 – 9.10: Playground supervision

9.10 am: Classroom timetable commences

There will be a short settling in period for Year 1 in September.

There is an induction period for Nursery pupils.

- Nursery: 9am – 1.30pm
- Years 1 and 2: 9.10am – 1.55pm
- Year 3 Mon – Wed 9.10am – 2.55pm, Thurs and Fri 9.10am – 1.55pm
- Years 4 – 7 Mon – Fri 9.10am – 2.55pm

PTFA.

www.ptfa.strabaneps.co.uk

An extremely active Parent Teachers & Friends Association (P.T.F.A) exists to involve parents, relatives, friends and school together for the benefit of the children. Over many years, the Association has contributed greatly to the life and work of the school by providing much essential equipment and many materials to enhance the educational opportunities of all the children. Parents of new children are heartily invited to become involved in its activities.





Ethos Statement.

We at Strabane controlled Primary School provide a welcoming, nurturing and inclusive community where children develop morally, academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally enabling them to thrive and achieve their full potential.





Aims of The School.

To develop the whole child

·To recognise and appreciate each child's potential and provide opportunities for this to be developed to the full - intellectually, spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and creatively.

·To provide a caring, secure, stimulating and imaginative environment where each child can achieve success and satisfaction.

·To help each child acquire a reasoned set of Christian moral beliefs and attitudes thus creating an atmosphere within which children will be encouraged to develop a sense of fair play, tolerance and respect for other people's views, attitudes and possessions.

·To provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum in keeping with the revised Northern Ireland Curriculum.

·To involve the parents, Governors and wider community in the life and work of the school.

·To monitor, in a systematic manner, in line with the recommendations of the Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (C.C.E.A.) the progress of each child and provide the parents with details of their children's achievement on a regular basis, including an arranged meeting and a written report at least once a year.

·To promote the professional development of all staff as effective, efficient, teachers, through a continuous programme of professional development.

Nursery Curriculum.



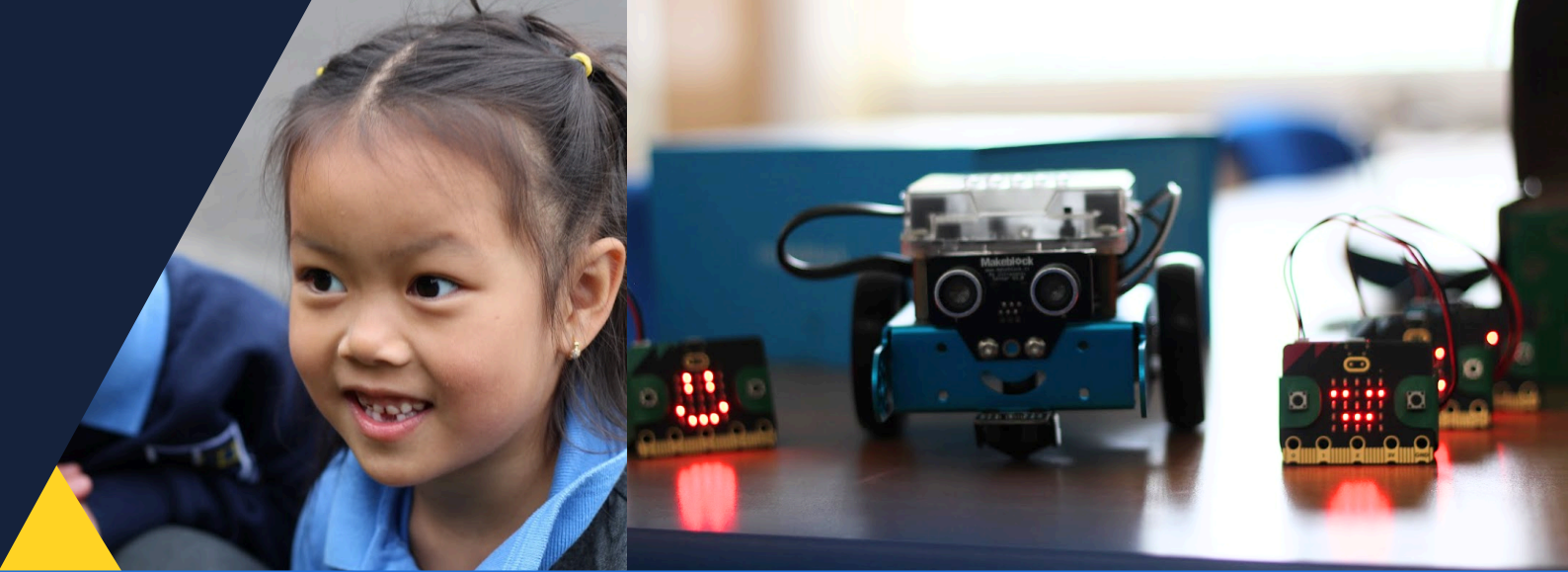
It is our aim at Strabane Controlled Primary School, Nursery Unit to provide a stimulating and safe environment where your child will be happy to explore, investigate, and be creative, enthusiastic learners.

We plan our curriculum in accordance with the Northern Ireland Pre-School Curriculum guidance. This curriculum is a play based one and is currently set out under the following six headings:

The Arts;
Language Development;
Early Mathematical Experiences;
Personal, Social and Emotional Development;
Physical Development and Movement;
The World Around Us.

We will plan, organise and structure the curriculum building upon the learning experiences which have already taken place at home and the needs of the individual children in the nursery class. Monthly planners are theme based and will be displayed on our notice board for your convenience. These will include activities and learning outcomes for the month.





Primary Curriculum.

The curriculum of the school is designed to deliver a broad and balanced education to every child and to present all children with experiences suitable to their current stages of development. The curriculum is in a constant state of development and all teachers are working to implement the demands of the Revised Curriculum for N. Ireland.

The primary phase now comprises:

The Foundation Stage: Years 1 and 2

Key Stage 1: Years 3 and 4

Key Stage 2: Years 5, 6 and 7

The curriculum for the three stages is set out in six Areas of Learning:

1. Language and Literacy
2. Mathematics and Numeracy
3. The Arts (including Art and Design, Drama and Music)
4. The World Around Us (Geography, History and Science and Technology)
5. Personal Development and Mutual understanding
6. Physical Education

The staff strive to present children with lively and exciting experiences and to attain the targets that are within their abilities. Pupil performance and development will be evaluated by appropriate formative and summative assessment techniques in harmony with the directions of C.C.E.A. and the assessments will be reported to parents regularly. Parents will receive a written report on their child at the end of each year and there will be a parent interview every year.

At the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 4) and Key Stage 2 (Year 7) parents will receive a report setting out the level their child is working at within the N. Ireland Curriculum. Year 7 parents will also be given a Record of Achievement for their child just before they leave.

Special Educational Provision.

Care is taken to match the curricular provision for all children to their particular stage of development and to take account of any individual difficulties or special talents that they show. If at any time during the school year teachers become concerned about a child's progress the parents will be invited to discuss the problems with the class teacher so that the maximum help can be afforded the child. If it is thought appropriate a child may progress through the stages of support as set out in the Special Needs Code of Practice. This will include:

- (i) individualised help from the class teacher**
- (ii) extra help from the Learning Support teacher**
- (iii) an individualised programme of work agreed between the class teacher, Learning Support Teacher/Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO).**

Where provision beyond what can be given by the school is required the specialist services of the E.A.'s Special Education Section will be obtained and children may be moved to within the stages of the Code of Practice. The assistance of Regional Integrated Support for Education, Northern Ireland, (RISE NI) will also be sought to plan early intervention strategies at nursery, Foundation and Key Stage 1. At all stages parents will be kept updated about their child's progress and the school will make a special effort to involve parents in supporting their child.



Sports.

Each class experiences, on average, a minimum of 2 hours of P.E. and sports in formal lessons, per week (exclusive of extra-curricular activities). From Year 3 upwards a range of sports is on offer as extra-curricular activities. These combine in Year 6 and Year 7 to provide a potential additional 2 hours of sport per week. Through the good services of the Extended Schools Programme, the District Council, Maiden City Football Club, North West Cricket Union, Rugby Tots, Multi skills coaching and the IFA, we have at our disposal the services of fully trained coaches for many of the sports being offered as extra-curricular activities.

Sports provided as curricular and extra-curricular activities include:

Athletics, rugby, cricket (indoor and outdoor), dance, gymnastics, hockey (indoor and outdoor), netball, rounders, football and swimming.



Religious Education.

The teaching of Religious Education (RE) in each age group will be based on the agreed core syllabus for Northern Ireland. It will be non-denominational in character. The rights of parents to withdraw their children from RE lessons and morning assembly will be respected. Those wishing to exercise this right should inform the principal in writing.



Homework.

This will be a natural extension of classwork. We would encourage parents to find time to read to and with their children and to discuss books with them. If parents need advice on the best way to go about this, your child's class teacher will be pleased to discuss it with you. Later work will become more formal and children will be asked to undertake small tasks at home such as learning spellings or tables, structured reading or simple writing or mathematical tasks including mental arithmetic.

Pastoral Care.

It is our desire to see that all children are successful and happy at school. Therefore, the staff work closely together, in consultation with parents, to ensure the welfare of children in the school.



Uniform.

While uniform is not compulsory children are encouraged to wear it as it adds to the ethos of the school. Grants are available from the E.A. to help parents purchase the uniform. Details can be obtained from E.A. Tel. 02882411496.

Boys

Black shoes

Grey trousers or navy track suit bottoms

School pale blue polo shirt with navy blue round neck sweater

Girls

Black shoes

Grey pinafore, skirt or navy track suit bottoms

Grey or white socks or tights

School sweatshirt/cardigan and or pale blue polo shirt

Young children should wear footwear they find manageable, e.g. shoes and slippers they can change for themselves.

[Uniform is available from:](#)

O'NEILL'S SPORTSWEAR, Unit 1 Dublin Road Industrial Estate, Strabane

GMG Logos, Unit 33, Orchard Road Ind. Est., Tyrone, Strabane BT82 9FR

Child Protection Procedures.



In accordance with our aim to provide a caring and secure environment for children, staff are alert to signs of possible child abuse. Where staff are given information by pupils or parents or see signs which cause concern they will make their concerns known to the designated teacher Miss L. Finlay, who will in turn inform the principal. Mrs. C. McDonnell acts as designated teacher for the nursery. Staff will follow the DE procedures for dealing with child abuse. A summary of these can be found in this document.



Anti-Bullying.

The school takes very seriously any concerns or complaints parents may have about bullying type behaviour and all reported cases are investigated thoroughly. The procedures set out in the school's Anti Bullying policy will be used and the parents of both the pupil experiencing bullying type behaviour and the pupil displaying bullying type behaviour will be involved in the discussions. Follow-ups, as set out in the school's policies, will be used to deal with bullying type behaviour. Parents making a complaint will receive an acknowledgement response from the school complaint with the Anti-bullying policy. See complaints procedure for further details.

Contact between school & Home.



The teaching staff actively encourages parental contacts with the school because we see them as very beneficial to the children.

Our School App is used to communicate the majority of school newsletters throughout the year.

Playgroup.

A playgroup is placed on the school estate to introduce children to the school from the age of two years ten months onwards. The group currently meets Monday to Friday each week during term time. Milk and a snack will be provided at break time. The playgroup functions from 9.00 am to 11.30 a.m. each day. Tel. 07596842439 for more information.



Documents & Policies.

A number of documents are available for inspection at the school should parents request to see them. These include:

- (i) The statement of the aims of the school
- (ii) The school policies.
- (iii) Any statutory instruments, D.E.N.I. Circulars or administrative memoranda sent to the principal or the governing body.
- (iv) Any published D.E.N.I. reports referring expressly to the school.
- (v) The agreed syllabus for Religious Education adopted by the E.A.
- (vi) The schemes of work for the NI Curriculum
- (vii) Governing Body minutes and the Annual Report.
- (viii) The School Development Plan and associated action plans.



Community Involvement.

The school has long standing links with a number of other provisions in the area especially through participation in:

- Our Extended schools programme
- Extended Schools Cluster programme,
- STEM,
- Shared Education and
- Nursery; Sharing from the Start.
- Area Learning Partnerships
- Community Playgroup

We run programmes after and during school as follows:

- Maiden City Soccer
- Literacy Club
- Numeracy Club
- Encore Arts and Music including Choir
- Breakfast Club
- Ryan McBride Football
- Multi-skills coaching
- Rugby Tots and Rugby
- Debutots (Drama and story telling)
- North West Cricket Union
- SU
- Swimming programme for Year 6 and Year 7
- Musical Pathways for Learning

We also have excellent links with the New Horizon Garden Centre project as part of our Eco Schools programme and with the District Council who provide us with expertise and artists in residence programmes.

The PTFA organise a hugely successful summer fair each year for the whole community and we are indebted to the local businesses and services for their willing participation.

We are also grateful to the ever-growing list of sponsors and supporters of the school.

The school is also proud to participate in choir events within the community but also in competitive forums such as The Rotary Competition.

The children also have their annual Christmas Pantomime which draws a huge crowd and is popular with pupils, family and friends. A highlight of the school year.

We also partner with the Strabane Family Hub and The Koram Centre to provide support for pupils and families throughout the year.

Pupil Testimonials.

“I love coming to school every day! In our school, our teachers encourage us to do our best and they push us to reach our full potential. I specifically love the creative opportunities we are given in art lessons to use our imaginations. As a digital leader in our school, I have been given the chance to share my passion and knowledge of coding with so many other children in our school!”

- Otto (Primary 6)



“I have made so many new friends during my time at school and I love the time we get to spend with them during class and outside. The teachers are so nice and have really helped me get better at writing. We are given the chance to draw, paint and create many different things.”

- Freya (Primary 3)

“Our school is great! The staff care about us and make us feel really welcome. Through the different classes we are given lots of encouragement and time to read and write our own stories. I have recently read 3 million words on Accelerated Reader. I love being able to learn the violin and act in our school pantomime.”

- Marian (Primary 5)



Finally...

We look forward to welcoming you to our school and invite you to visit our school website detailed below. You may also wish to download the school App to keep you updated on latest news releases. Please visit the school website for further detailed information.

Thank you.

Mrs C Thompson
Principal



Safe, Secure, Successful.

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