

St. John's Primary School



Learning and Developing Together as a Community



Welcome

- On behalf of the community of Saint John's Primary School I would like to extend to you and your family , a very warm welcome.
 - As Principal of this school , I am committed to providing opportunities for your child to develop as happy, confident productive members of society ,sharing the ideals of Saint John's Primary School in high standards of behaviour, effort and achievement.
 - I have the support of a very dedicated ,experienced team and we are looking forward to working with you for the benefit of your child.
 - We are a child-centred school where your child will be nurtured and educated fulfilling their full potential . This prospectus ,hopefully gives you some insight into school life and provide you with important information regarding routines and procedures which will help ensure a smooth transition to St. John's Primary School.
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- Mrs AM McHugh
(Principal)

Vision and Ethos

ETHOS

Reflecting our vision statement "Learning and Developing Together as a Community", in St. John's P.S. Carnlough, we are a caring sharing school who believe that happy children learn best. We strive to develop our links with the home and community in the hope that working in partnership we can provide the optimum learning environment for every individual in our care from all faith backgrounds.

AIMS OF OUR SCHOOL

We as a Catholic school aim to create a safe, caring and community environment in which pupils can grow and mature spiritually, intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically.

To help the children acquire Christian values, together with the confidence to make and stand by what they believe to be right decisions.

To deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, appropriate to the needs and stage of development of each pupil in accordance with the requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

To help every child experience success in a variety of contexts.

To provide a range of experiences and opportunities for children to develop knowledge, intellectual and social skills and interests necessary for post primary school and subsequently adult life.

To foster the development of personal qualities such as self-confidence, independence and self-discipline, enabling children to co-operate with their peers and appreciate the achievement of others.

To maintain a friendly, professional, working relationship between parents and teachers so that discussion can be frank about children's development, progress and special needs.



School Management

Board of Governors

Rev Fr. A. Fitzsimons

Mr Sean Doherty

Mr Gary Patterson

Mr Niall O'Loan

Mr Oliver McGarel

Mr John Mulvenna

Mrs Mary O'Dornan

Mrs Laura McCracken

Mrs AM McHugh- Principal

Name of Chairperson : Mr Sean Doherty

Name of Secretary : Mrs AM McHugh

Staff

Principal Mrs AM McHugh

Nursery Miss A Killough

P1/2 Mrs McCracken

P3 Mrs McGarry

P4 Mrs Ward

P5 Miss Cosgrove

P6 Mrs Mc Hugh

P7 Mrs O'Neill

Secretary - Mrs Joanne Esler

Classroom Assistants:

Mrs J Mc Gaughey

Mrs M Olphert

Mrs U Campbell

Mrs A Campbell

Miss J McLaughlin

Miss C McGuckian

Mrs L Cuning

Miss C McAuley

Mrs C Dornan

Mrs N Burns

Mrs S McAuley

Caretaker – Miss J Mc Laughlin

Cleaner- Miss C McAuley

Kitchen Staff:

Mrs K McAuley

Mrs C Mitchell

Mrs D Mc Cormick

Supervisory Assistants –

Miss J McLaughlin

Mrs M Olphert

Mrs A Campbell

Mrs U Campbell



School Information

School Uniform

Boys:

Grey Trousers
Sweatshirt (Burgundy) School Crest
Light Blue Polo Shirt

Girls:

Grey Skirt
Sweatshirt (Burgundy) School Crest
Light Blue Polo Shirt

Every item of uniform must have the child's name on it.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meal they are also be entitled to an allowance to help with the cost of uniform. Apply online through the Education Authority's website.

The School Day

8.50 am : Pupils arrive

9.00 am : Class begins

10.15-10.30am P1 – P3 Break

10.30am - 10.45am: P4-P7 Break

11.45am – 12.30pm: P1-P3 Dinner

12.15pm – 1.00pm: P4-P7 Dinner

2.00pm: School finishes for FS

3.00pm: School finishes for KS1 and KS2

Curriculum

There are 3 Key Stages within primary school

- **Foundation Stage - P1 & P2**
- **Key Stage 1 - P3 & P4**
- **Key Stage 2 - P5, P6 & P7**

The curriculum is set out in 6 areas of learning:

1. Language & Literacy - to include Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing
2. Mathematics & Numeracy - focusing on the development of mathematical concepts and numeracy across the curriculum.
3. The Arts - including Art & Design, Drama and Music
4. The World Around Us - focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding in Geography, History and Science & Technology.
5. Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) - focusing on emotional development, social skills, learning to learn, health, relationships, and mutual understanding in the local and global community.
6. Physical Education - focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding through play and a range of physical activities.

Cross-Curricular Skills:

- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Using Mathematics
- ❖ Using Information and Communications Technology

Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities:

- ❖ Thinking, Problem-Solving and Decision Making
- ❖ Self-Management
- ❖ Working with Others
- ❖ Managing Information
- ❖ Being Creative



Our aim is to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to give every child the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible.

Assessment

Qualities of confidence, self-esteem and consideration of others will be developed alongside increasing competence in the basic skills. A variety of teaching approaches involving activities organised on a class, group and individual basis will be pursued. Effective learning will be achieved by careful matching of activities and content to individual needs. Others will be developed alongside increasing competence in the basic skills.

Assessment

Pupils are continually monitored to assess their progress and celebrate achievement. Assessment is an integral part of planning, learning and teaching in our school. The teachers use various forms of assessment including teacher observation, marking written tests and assessment tasks.

Pupils receive clear feedback on the quality of their work and assessment is used to inform future teaching and learning. We encourage pupils to become involved in their own learning through 'Assessment for Learning' strategies are being used in all classes.

Teachers share 'learning intentions' and pupils participate in drawing up 'success criteria' on a regular basis to evaluate their work. Children can also be involved in self and peer assessment.

Pupils participate in formal assessments/ Standardised Tests each academic year where levels and scores are achieved. Standardised Scores are reported to parents in the Annual Pupil Report or at Parent/Teacher meetings.



Caring For Your Child

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We aim to support all pupils in ensuring that they can access a broad and balanced curriculum at every stage of their development. Where pupils are identified as having learning difficulties, they will be supported in class, have an Individual Educational Plan. They will supplement work in class by providing additional teaching in small groups or on an individual basis. Through regular monitoring, each pupil will be encouraged to achieve their full potential. Where appropriate, school works closely with a range of support and external agencies to help children with additional needs.

At each stage of the child's Special Needs programme parents will be fully informed and involved, initially by the class teacher and subsequently by Mrs O'Neill the Special Needs Co-ordinator and the Principal.



PASTORAL CARE

Mission Statement:

St. John's Primary School will provide an education for the children of the community which is based on the Catholic ethos of realising each individual's potential to the full in spiritual, academic and social development.

The atmosphere of the school is based upon good relationships between staff, pupils and parents. Our staff members work together as a team, recognising individual talents and expertise.

Through our pastoral care policy we endeavour to provide our pupils with:

- A warm, pleasant and safe environment, where each child is helped to develop mentally, physically and emotionally
- The right to be listened to, to be respected and treated equally so that self confidence and self-esteem can be developed.
- The ability to recognise unwelcome behaviour in others and acquire the confidence and skills they need to keep themselves safe
- The right to be treated as a valued member of our school community.
- The right to be educated in an environment free from bullying.
- The right to have complaints of bullying listened to, fully investigated and dealt with.

Child Protection

CHILD PROTECTION

We in St. John's have primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our school. We will carry out this duty through our pastoral care policy that aims to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment.

All staff members have been subject to appropriate background checks.

All teaching and non-teaching staff are aware of the procedures for reporting suspected or (disclosed) child abuse.

**Designated Child Protection Officer –
Mrs D O'Neill**

**Deputy Designated Child Protection
Officer – Mrs AM McHugh**



BULLYING

The school will not tolerate bullying in any form. Any reports of suspected bullying, will be investigated fully and actions taken, depending on the seriousness of the case.

PROCEDURE

It is essential that the school is made aware of any suspected incidents as soon as they arise.

Bullying is considered to be a serious offence and will be treated as such. The bully must be made aware that the behaviour is unacceptable and has caused distress. The victim must realise that revenge is not appropriate in the situation.

Every effort will be made to resolve the problem through counselling of both parties, and, where and when appropriate, sanctions will be applied.

Parents of both the victim and the bully will be immediately informed of the situation and also how it has been dealt with.

If the alleged bullying behaviour persists, further action will follow. Sanctions will be considered by the Principal in consultation with the relevant teacher, taking into account the nature of the incident.

Admission

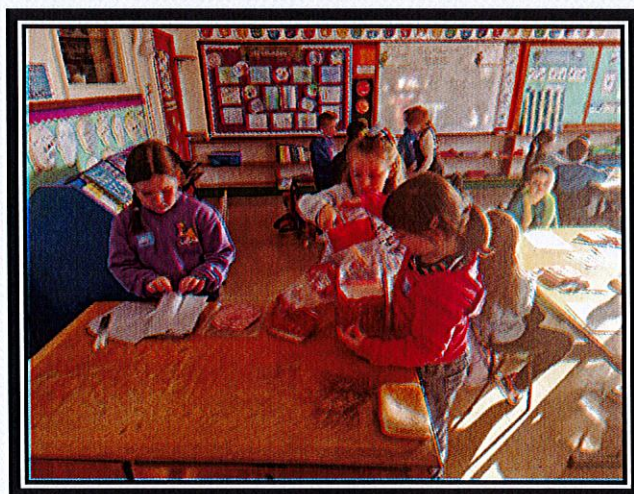
ENROLMENT CRITERIA

Enrolment No: 162

Admission No: 27

Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the school being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in Priority of order.

- Children of compulsory school age who normally reside in the Carnlough area.
- Brothers/Sister/close family relation attending the school
- Children whose parent/guardian is presently a permanent member of the school teaching or ancillary staff
- Children who live the shortest distance as measured from home (current address) to school along the public road.
- Any special circumstances made known to the Principal and acceptable to the Board of Governors.



Extra Curricular

- **P.T.F.A**

St. John's P.T.F.A is a very valuable organisation, run by parents and friends of the school.

Parents are encouraged to join this group since all the pupils benefit from their efforts through fundraising. Over the years the school has been able to purchase a large number of classroom resources, fund treats and transport, which without the work of the P.T.F.A. would have been impossible for us to provide.

The P.T.F.A are always looking for more parents to join their group and we would encourage as many parents as possible to join. It is an opportunity to meet other parents and support all the children of St. John's.

- **After Schools**

Extra Curricular activities are an important part of the life of the school and help develop relationships, social and sporting skills and engender a sense of community.

For the last number of years the school has provided After Schools Clubs including Drama, Dance, ICT/Ipad, Football, Rugby, Netball, Tennis, and Eco club.

