



# Londonderry

Primary School



Prospectus



# Londonderry Primary School

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# Welcome to Londonderry Primary School

Dear Parents/Guardians

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. Whether you have visited Londonderry Primary in the past or you are a new parent, be assured that a warm welcome awaits everyone.



Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make. We hope that this prospectus will give you a flavour of what goes on in our school and that you will see the caring and friendly atmosphere, where every child matters.

Our aim is to educate, encourage and care for every child in school, helping them to reach their full potential and achieve success, as we work in partnership with you. Together we intend to make the next seven years in school a rewarding experience for your child, and hopefully, some of the happiest times in their life.

I hope that you will choose Londonderry Primary and that you will allow us to be the beginning of your child's educational journey.

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Karen Flaherty,  
*Principal*







## School Organisation

The Principal, Mrs K Flaherty, and the Senior Leadership Team, effectively manage the school's resources and lead the staff on a day to day basis. The responsibility for the running of the school, including appointment of staff, lies with the Board of Governors, consisting of representatives from the Education Authority Northern Ireland, the local churches, parents and staff. The Governors at Londonderry are heavily involved in all aspects of school life. Londonderry Primary School is a controlled, co-educational school. The current enrolment is 406 pupils from Primary 1 to 7. The schools staffing compliment is Principal plus 17 teaching staff and with 42 non-teaching staff.

## School Policy

Londonderry Primary School aims to educate your child to his/her full potential in a happy, caring environment, where they learn to be valuable contributors to the society in which they live. We have high expectations for our pupils in all areas of their development - academic, social, physical and emotional.

## The Curriculum

There are seven areas of learning taught within the Key Stages;

- **Language and Literacy**
- **Mathematics and Numeracy**
- **ICT**
- **The World Around Us (incorporating Geography, History and Science and Technology)**
- **Personal Development and Mutual Understanding**
- **The Arts (including Art and Design, Music and Drama)**
- **Religious Education**
- **Physical Education**







## The Stages of Learning

### Foundation Stage (P1 & P2)

Learning must be enjoyable therefore the Foundation Stage is broad and stimulating, providing the foundation for the development of concepts. Through practical activity, pupils have the freedom to explore, create and experience learning in a variety of contexts.

### Key Stage I (P3 & P4)

During Key Stage I, pupils consolidate and build on their early literacy and numeracy skills. They develop independence in reading and writing, and extend their understanding of mathematical concepts:

It is at this stage that formal assessment begins, with the cross-curricular skills of Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT being assessed at the end of Primary 4.

### Key Stage 2 (P5, P6 & P7)

This stage is where we prepare our pupils for the transition to the post-primary phase. The pupils develop skills which enable them to become independent, confident learners in a challenging and supportive environment. Pupils are assessed throughout this key stage identifying and extending the abilities of each individual child.



## Homework

Homework is set for the following reasons:

- **It helps to consolidate work which your child has been doing in school. No homework will be set which has not been covered already in class.**
- **It lets you, the parent, see what your child has been learning in school.**
- **A project or similar investigative piece of work may be set to allow the child to explore a subject in more depth and for parents and children to work together in a creative way.**

The school has set down the following recommended times for homework:

**P3 10-15 minutes**

**P4 15-20 minutes**

**P5 25-30 minutes**

**P6 30-40 minutes**

**P7 35-45 minutes**

If your child regularly spends more time than recommended on homework you should contact the class teacher.

The school expects the same high standard of work in written homework as of the work done in class. If a homework does not satisfy you, it will certainly not satisfy your child's teacher.



## Charging and Remissions

It is the policy of the school to request parents cover the cost of admission and transport on Educational and Residential visits, costs associated with optional extras such as theatre visits, tuition in musical instrument/ swimming instruction.

## Our Uniform

We feel our school uniform gives each child a sense of belonging and pride in the school.

### Girls

Navy pinafore or skirt  
Navy jumper/cardigan with crest  
White blouse  
School tie  
Navy/white socks

### Boys

Navy jumper with crest  
White shirt  
School tie

### Girls Summer Term

Red check gingham dress  
White socks

### Boys Summer Term

Polo shirt with crest



## P.T.A.

We are fortunate to have a committed group of parents who form the P.T.A. committee with some of the teachers. As a parent with a child at Londonderry you are automatically a member. We are very proud of the partnership which exists and this fosters good relationships between staff and parents.

### Aims of P.T.A.

- **To organise events for pupils' enjoyment**
- **To raise funds for the school**
- **To further develop links with the school**
- **To organise events to enable parents to socialise**

Any monies raised are to directly benefit the children.

## School Holidays

Parents are provided with a calendar in June outlining the pupil holidays for the next school year. This is provided in the PI induction pack. We would ask parents to avoid booking holidays during term time.







## The School Day

Early Morning Club:	7.55 am - 8.40 am
School Starts:	9 am (pupils may arrive from 8.45 am)
Break Time:	10.30 - 10.45 am
Lunch Time:	12.15 - 1.00 pm
Home Time:	P1 - 12.15 pm (during September) 2.00 pm thereafter P2 & P3: 2.00 pm P4 - P7: 3.00 pm

After School Club: 2 - 5 pm daily (by arrangement)

*Please note: Pupils involved in after-school activities will usually be finished at 4 pm.*

## Your Child's Progress

At Londonderry Primary, our aim is to foster a strong partnership with each parent. By sharing consistent goals and information, we believe each child will strive to reach their full potential.

During the school year there will be a number of opportunities to discuss your child's progress.

**Parent/Teacher Consultations:** During the first two terms individual interviews are arranged to discuss progress. However, parents are welcome to meet the teacher at any stage during the year to address any concerns.

**Written Report:** Every parent receives a written report of their child's progress in June each year.







## Special Educational Needs

At Londonderry Primary we are very proud of our Special Needs provision, with a specialist teacher who works alongside class teachers to provide Pupil Learning Plans and integrate both internal/external services, where necessary.

Children requiring additional help with reading and numeracy skills are diagnosed through an observation of behaviour, performance in class and formal assessment. We also provide additional teaching for our more able pupils in primaries 4-7, to enhance and stretch their understanding and ability in literacy and/or numeracy. Whenever it is appropriate the SEN co-ordinator liaises with the School Psychology Service and other external agencies concerned with the child's welfare. Parental involvement is an important part of this programme. A copy of the school's policy is available on request.

## Extra Curricular Activities

We, at Londonderry, encourage our pupils to participate in a wide variety of activities and co-operation with other children, organised by class teachers.

*These include:*

- **Cycling Proficiency**
- **Drama**
- **Board Games**
- **Netball**
- **Tag Rugby**
- **Scripture Union**
- **Hockey**
- **Digital Media**
- **Art**
- **African Drumming**
- **ECO Club**
- **Outdoor Learning**







## Wrap Around Care

We aim to support all our children and parents and seek to do this in addition to our normal school hours by offering a range of opportunities to help with child care which is provided by dedicated staff.

School opens at 7.55am for our Early Morning Club which offers a range of activities including crafts and games for children from P1 to P7. Laughter can be heard echoing through the corridors early in the morning as children and staff get ready to start the day.

We also offer after-school provision from 2pm to 5pm, in

addition to our after school clubs. This is supervised by staff from school and it provides a wealth of activities both inside and in our extensive grounds.

There are also holiday schemes provided during the summer and other holidays where your child will be looked after where they will enjoy many varied experiences.

### *Please Note:*

*The information provided in this prospectus is correct at December 2021. If any significant changes to the above information are envisaged, notes will be circulated in advance.*







## Admission Criteria

A child who is 4 years on or before 1st July can be admitted to school the following September, providing there are places available. The schools admission policy is available on request.

Application is in January each year and an Open Evening takes place in December, with a Open Morning in early January. The Principal would be pleased to show interested parents around the school discuss any queries you may have. In first instance, a suitable time should be arranged via the school office.

Our induction programme at Londonderry allows P1

children to visit their teacher and classroom before they officially begin in September, hopefully avoiding any anxious moments. Education Authority Northern Ireland publishes enrolment information each December for all schools in the North Down and Ards Council areas. Copies are available free of charge from the school.

## Applications and Admissions

DENI have set our admissions number at 58 and our enrolment number at 406.

Year	Applications Received	Pupils Admitted
2018/19	67	60
2019/20	73	60
2021/22	63	62







## Pastoral Care

All the staff at Londonderry endeavour to provide a safe, secure and happy learning environment.

Our pastoral care policies include, Safeguarding, Positive Behaviour, Anti-Bullying, Drug Education, First Aid, Online Safety, Code of Conduct for teaching and non-teaching staff. All the policies are available on request from the school office or may be viewed on our school website.

## Complaints Procedure

Parent who wish to register a complaint against any employee of the school, either teaching or non-teaching, should do so by contacting the Principal.

Should a complaint be against the Principal, the Chairman of the Board of Governors should be contacted. We encourage parents to make contact with the school, if they have any areas of concern. In this way, we would hope to resolve issues before they escalate.







**Londonderry Primary School**

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