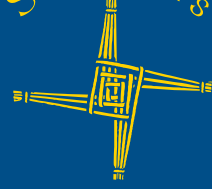


St. Brigid's



Primary School
Ballymena

ST. BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL BALLYMENA

GROWING IN MIND,
BODY AND SPIRIT

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

St. Brigid's Primary School aims to develop each child to their fullest potential. High expectations and effective teaching and learning will enable all children to achieve and develop as life long learners, fully prepared for the ever changing world of today.

As a Catholic school we will develop within the children values of respect, compassion for others and a genuine celebration of cultural diversity. We will strive to help each and every child grow into greater wholeness in Mind, Body and Spirit using St. Brigid as our example.

We realise that we are a central part of our community and strive to involve all parish partners in our work, especially our parents.



Dear Parent,

Welcome to our school.

St. Brigid's P.S. is located within the Parish of Kirkinriola and serves the educational and pastoral needs of children from throughout the parish and beyond. The school opened in September 2007 following the rationalisation of Catholic schooling in the town.

At St. Brigid's we believe in the holistic development of every child and feel this is best achieved through the active involvement of parents in the educational life of their children and in the life of the school. We see parents as valuable partners in our work and look forward to supporting you throughout your child's time at St. Brigid's. Our school ethos statement, taken from the St. Brigid's Prayer, sets out clearly what our mission for your son/daughter is, that is for them to grow each day in "Mind, Body and Spirit".

WELCOME TO ST. BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

I trust that this prospectus will provide you with useful information about our school and I look forward to meeting with you on our open evening in the near future. Should you be unable to attend the open evening and would like an appointment to visit with us or if you would like to discuss any aspect of the transition to St. Brigid's please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Jim Brady
School Principal

School Profile

Who are we?

St. Brigid's Primary school opened in September 2007 following the rationalisation of Catholic primary schooling in the Parish of Kirkinriola.

It is situated on the site of the former All Saints' Primary School, Broughshane Road and draws its pupils from the surrounding areas. The school enrolls both boys and girls and the age range of the children attending is 4-11 years. Due to the popularity of the school in recent years our enrolment figure has been increased by the Department of Education.



We are now able to accept 410 pupils (from Sept 2017) into the school as a result of a successful Development Proposal.

A Development Proposal to increase the total number of pupils permitted to attend the school has been published by the Department of Education. When implemented school enrolment will increase to accommodate the growing demand for places at St. Brigid's.

Accommodation

The school comprises 16 classrooms all resourced with the latest technological learning aids including interactive



whiteboards and wireless computer connectivity. Teaching and learning is also facilitated through the efficient use of a school multi-purpose room for learning support and peripatetic teaching.

The building itself is both modern and bright and has been designed to support learning and teaching to the highest possible standards. Classrooms in the main school building are set around a shared resource area which facilitates the seamless extension of classroom and small group work while also successfully linking the outdoor learning environment with the indoor area. The school has a well-equipped permanent computer suite, classroom based laptops and tablets and a multi-purpose hall for assembly, P.E. and canteen services.

The administration accommodation comprises principal and secretary's offices to the front of the school. Visitors enter via a warm and welcoming reception area and school foyer.

Play areas in two separate playgrounds surround the school and we have an ECO Play Area attached to our senior playground which includes a school pond, Eco planters and additional play equipment with pupil seating. A grass football pitch completes our extensive facilities.



Our Ethos

As a Catholic school we pride ourselves on the provision of strong pastoral care for all pupils and staff. At St. Brigid's pastoral care permeates all aspects of school life. It reflects the values, attitudes, beliefs and practices of our faith. It involves all members of the school community where Christ is the example to all and where each child is helped to develop to their full potential.



The most obvious sign of our pastoral ethos can be witnessed in the excellent relationships visible within the school between adult and child, children and their peers and adults and each other.

As a staff we work as a team, respecting each other's roles and recognising individual talents and expertise. We are concerned with the needs and well being of each child and with the approaches and programmes we implement in order to aid their personal development.

Parents as Partners

As a Catholic School, our overriding aim is to establish and foster Christian values for life. To do this, it is essential that we work in partnership with all of our parents and the parish community. Indeed the success of our school depends on good co-operation between staff, pupils and parents. We recognise and value the important role parents play in their child's education. Every effort is made to ensure that parents feel welcome and that they are made aware of the school's aims, objectives and policies and of their child's needs, progress and achievements.



Parents are welcomed into the school throughout the year for a variety of events including class assemblies, curriculum evenings, school shows, "Friends of St. Brigid's" functions, sports days and parent meetings.

Around the Corner or Around the Globe

The welcoming and inclusive environment so visible within St. Brigid's has enabled us to extend a very warm welcome to many children from countries across the globe. These include Poland, Slovakia, Latvia, and the Philippines. Additional learning support for those pupils for whom English is an additional language is provided and includes provision of bi-lingual classroom assistance and after school English language classes. Of course the presence of the children themselves provides an excellent opportunity to deepen awareness among all pupils of other cultures, a key element of the curriculum.

This prospectus is intended to help inform you about the life and work of our school. It explains our values and what we believe the benefits are for your child in attending St. Brigid's P.S.

We look forward to meeting with you in the near future.



Religious Education

“There are strong parental and parish partnerships, the out-workings of which make a positive impact on the local community.” (E.T.I.)

Staff are aware of the spiritual needs of the children and of the important part Religious Education plays in a child's upbringing. With the assistance and encouragement of our local Priests and in particular through the work of our school Chaplain, we ensure that these needs are catered for.

The life and work of St. Brigid permeates the work of our school. St. Brigid is our example as we promote our faith, tolerance and understanding and our desire to support those less fortunate than ourselves at a local, national and international level. These values can be witnessed most visibly in our commitment to prayer and faith development, our inclusive school community and through our charitable fundraising for many organisations including Trocaire, Concern, Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children, St. Vincent De Paul and the Sunshine Foundation. Each year we nominate a charity towards whom most of our fundraising efforts are directed.

Our school motto, “**Growing in Mind, Body and Spirit**” is taken from our prayer to St. Brigid and reflects everything we strive to do for our pupils each day. School begins each day with morning prayers in class.

School assembly is held each Friday when all classes come together in the assembly hall for prayers and the sharing of school news such as pupil achievement, presentation of certificates etc. Every three weeks all pupils and invited parents attend a special religious assembly hosted by one of our classes. This allows us to help develop their faith and that of their peers by encouraging children to listen to and learn from each other. The Sacrament of Penance is available on a regular basis during our

Penitential Services.

Special masses of thanksgiving attended by all pupils and staff are offered at the beginning and end of the academic year, and in January to celebrate Catholic Schools' Week. We also organise a special school mass on the 1st February to celebrate St. Brigid's day.

The children are prepared for the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist in Primary 3 and 4 respectively and for Confirmation in their final Primary 7 year. Present arrangements support families with preparation for First Eucharist through the parish “Come to Me Lord” programme and with Confirmation through our “Faith Friends” programme.

A class from Primary 4 – 7 attends morning Mass in All Saints' Church each Monday during the year.

As a school we are all acutely aware that the practice of our Catholic faith permeates all aspects of the school day and the curriculum and therefore our staff is encouraged to lead by example in all that they do.

The “Grow in Love Education Programme” is used throughout the school. To monitor the development of this core programme we have a visit from the Religious Education Diocesan Advisers on a biennial basis.



Pastoral Care/Child Protection

“The quality of the arrangements for Pastoral Care in St. Brigid's is outstanding.” (E.T.I.)

Pastoral Care is looking after the development of all of our pupils in a positive way, thus enabling them to cope more effectively with their learning in school and to develop skills and attitudes which will enable them to understand themselves and develop relationships with others.

Our systems and programmes in school will attempt to meet all the needs of the pupils in a safe environment, enabling them to reach their full potential and equipping them with the skills to cope with the outside world. An atmosphere of mutual respect and co-operation will contribute to the learning process and generate a positive climate within the school community where every individual feels valued and cared for. Everything that happens in school, curricular or extra curricular, will reflect this ethos.

The school will endeavour to create friendly, open relationships between pupils and staff. We aim to secure respect, trust, partnership, understanding, fairness and friendship and we recognise the value of positive relationships between children, parents/guardians, teachers and other adults alike. We value the essential nature of professional contact between the teacher and the school community and we aim to promote an understanding that positive relationships are an essential part of everyday school life.

Every opportunity will be taken to praise pupils for their contributions to the life of St. Brigid's (and indeed their

success outside school). They will be encouraged to work co-operatively with all in the school community. St. Brigid's will promote all round development of each pupil by promoting values and beliefs including self-discipline, self-respect, good behaviour, respect for others and property, independence, co-operation and honesty.

The school has a Child Protection Policy which details how we deal with issues of a child protection nature. A copy is forwarded to parents when their children join



the school and every two years thereafter. All staff receive updated child protection training every 2 years.

The school has produced a separate document on School Discipline and this is made available early into each child's first term in school through distribution of our “Protecting Our Children, Aspects of Pastoral Care” document. We adopt a positive approach to discipline expecting pupils to behave in a responsible manner by showing consideration, courtesy and respect for other people at all times. This standard of behaviour is expected both inside school as well as on their way to



and from school and whilst attending school events organised outside the normal school day.

The co-operation of parents is sought in relation to maintaining high standards of pupil attendance, punctuality, personal appearance, the wearing of school uniform, having the proper equipment for learning, and the supervision of homework. If problems do arise, we like to involve parents at an early stage and we trust you as parents will do the same.

The care and welfare of all children in school is of paramount importance to us. In order to ensure that school is as secure as possible we take a series of measures such as locking all playground gates at 8.55am, ensuring appropriate observation of pupils during periods of play and maintaining a secure “buzzer entry” system controlled from the school office. We have also installed CCTV throughout the school grounds. Pupils are not permitted to leave school with anyone not known to staff or detailed on the pupil information system and parents are requested to confirm changes in routine with the school. P1-3 pupils are not permitted to leave the school premises at the end of the school day without an adult being present to collect them. Staff are vigilant in all matters of pupil safety and pupils are encouraged to take reasonable responsibility for their own and others safety.

School Hours

The school hours for the children are:

Primary 1-4

8.55am - 10.45am (class)
10.45am - 11.00am (break)
11.00am - 12.10pm (class)
12.10pm - 12.50pm (lunch)
12.50pm - 2.00pm (class)
P4 - 3.00pm finish each day
P3 - 3.00pm finish Mon-Wed

Primary 5-7

8.55am - 10.45am (class)
10.45am - 11.00am (break)
11.00am - 12.35pm (class)
12.35pm - 1.15pm (lunch)
1.15pm - 3.00pm (class)

In order to facilitate our families we have made arrangements to supervise children on the school premises from 8.30am each day.

We operate a supervised after-school club for P1-3 pupils between 2.00pm - 3.00pm each day. This is particularly useful for parents with children who go home at both school finishing times. Details are available from the school office.

Curriculum

Our aim is to offer children a broadly based, well balanced curriculum which develops the whole child.

The curriculum is set out in six Areas of Learning. These are Language & Literacy, Mathematics & Numeracy, The Arts, The World Around Us, Personal Development & Mutual Understanding (P.D.M.U.) and Physical Education. It is taught across three stages namely, the Foundation Stage (P1-2), Key Stage 1 (P3-4) and Key Stage 2 (P5-7). Alongside the Learning Areas the Northern Ireland Curriculum also includes developing children's Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities, Assessment for Learning and the cross curricular skills of Communication, Using Mathematics and Using Information and Communications Technology.



Qualities of confidence, self esteem and consideration for others, will be developed alongside increasing competence in the basic skills. Teachers use a variety of teaching approaches centred on practical first hand experience.

Effective teaching is achieved by the careful matching of activities and content of lessons to individual needs and every effort will be made to provide maximum access to the curriculum for children who may require additional support with their learning or who are disabled. The school accepts its responsibility to develop the full potential of all children.

Detailed monitoring of pupils progress takes place throughout the school year culminating in the issue of the Annual Report in June.



Information & Communications Technology (I.C.T.)

At St. Brigid's we have invested heavily in ICT infrastructure. State of the art technology sees each class equipped with personal computers and an interactive whiteboard. All pupils have access to over 80 software titles via our school system which is supported by C2K. A permanent ICT suite also forms part of our ICT provision with wireless connectivity strategically positioned throughout the school. Through this wireless network we have also managed to provide laptop use in all classrooms along with success to tablets

School Website

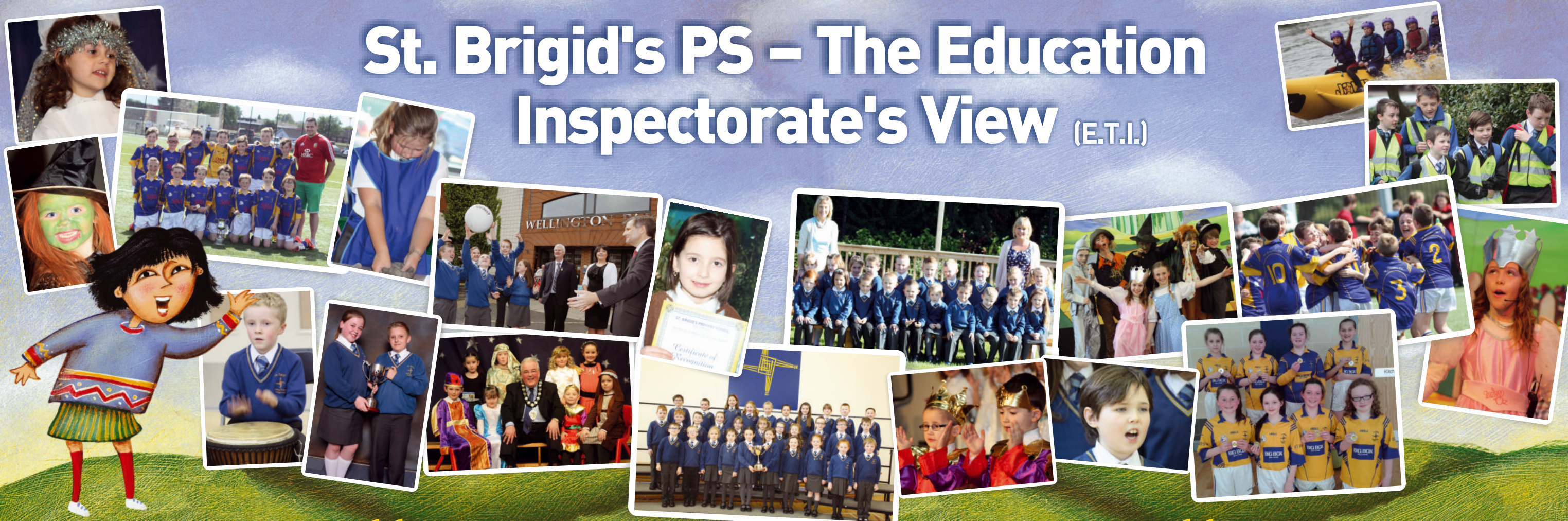
Parents can keep up to date with all that is happening at the school by logging on to our school website. It contains useful information about school events and procedures and the weekly bulletin and school termly newsletter can be found there. You can find it at www.stbrigidspsballymena.com

Shared Education

Our links with Ballykeel PS are developed through both schools participation in the DENI Signature Shared Education programme. This sees both schools plan teaching and learning activities collaboratively throughout the year.

Our work with Ballykeel PS has also involved us in a number of "Promoting a Culture of Tolerance" projects such as the innovative "Ballymena - Town of 3 Halves" sporting project which was developed by both schools and the "Media Initiative" for children in partnership with the Early Years organisation.

St. Brigid's PS – The Education Inspectorate's View (E.T.I.)



“

“Learning is exciting in St. Brigid's and the children in St. Brigid's PS must “love” coming to school.”

“The “wonder and awe” in the children's faces when learning was apparent.”

“The children in St. Brigid's PS are achieving and are reaching their potential.”

“School internal data and external data show a high standard of attainment being achieved by the pupils.”

“The school gives a high priority to maintaining productive links with the parents and the local community. The parents are kept well informed about the work and life of the school. They are consulted pro-actively and are invited to attend a range of meetings which encourage them to become involved in

supporting their children's learning.”
 “The children at the school are highly motivated, confident and achieve good standards. They have an excellent disposition towards learning.”

“The teachers hold appropriately high expectations of the children's learning and the lessons are structured and resourced well.”

“The quality of the provision for Special Educational Needs in the school is outstanding.”

“During the school inspection parents commented positively on the overall quality of education provided by the school, the opportunities for the children to gain in confidence and develop their social skills, the leadership of the school and on the approachable staff.”

“

“The quality of the provision for Newcomer children in the school is outstanding.”

“A strength of the school is the dedicated teachers who work hard to meet the needs of all of the children.”

“In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by the school is very good. The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children.”

“It is evident that the individual needs of every child in the school are being met... from the children who require high levels of support to those who are achieving highly.”

“The “holistic” approach to pupil development is very apparent in St. Brigid's PS.”

“Teachers push the pupils to extract the most from their learning experience through their effective questioning.”

“The children attending the school talked eloquently about many aspects of school life including their enjoyment of learning, the caring teachers and their satisfaction with the wide range of extra-curricular activities open to them.”

“The quality of the arrangements for Pastoral Care in the school is outstanding.”

“The children respond well to the staff's high expectations and their behaviour, both in and out of class, in exemplary.”



Parental Involvement

“The school gives a high priority to maintaining productive links with the parents. They are kept well informed about the life and work of the school and are consulted proactively.” (E.T.I.)



It is the aim of St. Brigid's to fully involve parents in the education of their children and to inform and consult with them regularly about their children's progress.

Some of our arrangements for doing so are as follows:

Before Enrolment

All parents of P.1 children will be invited to Meet their child's teacher and assistant and view the classroom in late June as part of our Induction Programme. Our Primary 1 teachers and school principal will also visit local pre-school providers and meet staff to discuss children's progress to date.

Following enrolment parents are encouraged to discuss their child's first days with us. We organise a parent/ teacher meeting in late October each year to discuss pupil progress and this is followed by a further meeting in March to inform parents regarding progress since the initial meeting. Parents of children in Primary 1 are also invited to school during term 1 to hear about our school phonics programme and our approaches to teaching reading.

Curriculum Meetings

Curriculum meetings are organised for various year groups during the year to share a variety of useful information with parents eg: information on the Accelerated Reader programme. Parents are made aware of these opportunities in advance and their thoughts are also taken into consideration when organising such events. If a parent feels that an information session on an aspect of our work would be useful we endeavour to support this.

Annual Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parents will be invited to come to school to meet with their child's teacher twice per year. During these meetings pupil progress will be discussed and the result of relevant assessments shared with parents. Two meetings per year are arranged, in in October and February. Parents of children who receive additional learning support will also have two opportunities to meet with their additional learning teachers.

Informal Visits

Parents will be invited to the school from time to time for such activities as Christmas and Easter Productions, Morning Assemblies, Musical Entertainment, Book Fairs, pre-First Communion and Confirmation preparation and other activities which may arise from time to time.

Parental Request

Parents are very welcome to come to school at any other time to discuss their child's progress. In these circumstances they should first contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time for consultation with the class teacher/school principal.

Transfer to Post-Primary Education

Parents of Primary 7 children who will be transferring to post primary education will be invited for an interview to provide guidance and advice on the completion of the Transfer Form.

School Reports

A school report will be issued for each child and parents will be given the opportunity to discuss this report at a meeting with class teachers should they wish to do so. Reports are generally issued in June.



Extra Curricular Activity

St. Brigid's considers that the extra curricular activities it offers add a valuable dimension to the education of the children.

Although not an exhaustive list these activities include: ICT club, School Choir, Participation in Music/Drama Festivals, Guitar lessons, Gaelic Football, Hurling, Camogie, Soccer, Tag Rugby, Golf FUNdamentals programme, Cycling Proficiency, Technology classes and Cookery classes, Public Speaking, Quiz and Cross Community Events.

The school was selected as "Irish News" GAA Primary School of the Year in 2011 and was also runner-up in the All Ireland Cumann Na mBunscol GAA Primary School of The Year Awards in both 2011 and 2012.



Education & Training Inspectorate (E.T.I.)

The Education & Training Inspectorate have responsibility for inspecting schools on behalf of the Department of Education. We have been involved in several inspections since the school opened in September 2007. During the most recent full inspection the E.T.I. found that the quality of education offered by the school was "very good" commenting in particular on "the outstanding" arrangements for supporting learners who required additional support, the "outstanding" pastoral care arrangements that were in place for pupils and the fact that the children at the school are highly motivated, confident, achieve good standards and possess an excellent disposition towards learning."

The inspectors also commented that learning in St. Brigid's is exciting and the children must "love" coming to school". We believe these comments sum up the ethos of school succinctly.

A summary of their comments can be found in the middle pages of this publication. Such confidence, as expressed by the ETI in our school and for our work, is recognition indeed of the tremendous efforts of the school community on behalf of the pupils we teach.

Ballymena Festival

The school participates fully in the Ballymena Speech, Drama & Music Festival each year. Children are involved in verse, musical instrument performance and singing each year. Participation in the festival is of paramount importance to us and every child in the school is provided with the opportunity to take part.

We regularly achieve success in the festival events and this can be seen in the outstanding successes of our Choral Speaking groups and our School Choir over the years.



Class Composition

Classes are formed by putting together a number of children of the same age group and of mixed ability. It is the policy of the Board of Governors that, as far as possible, children should be taught in a single manageable year group class, particularly in their first year of primary schooling.



Primary school children succeed better with class teachers who take the children for all central subjects of the curriculum. The particular skills of other staff however, may be used to adopt a semi-specialist role in subjects such as Art/ Craft, Music and Physical Education (e.g. during the period 2.15pm – 3.00pm after the youngest children have gone home).

Pre-school Education Kenbaan Community Playgroup

We were delighted to welcome "Kenbaan" Community Playgroup back to our site in May 2011. The playgroup has a long and successful association with the school and this link supports the transition from pre-school to primary for families of those children who attend.



Homework

It is the school policy to give homework. This may not always be written work. Homework is important as it reinforces work done in class, helps children develop good habits of general study and offers parents an opportunity to be involved in their children's work.



Parents are encouraged to consult class teachers if they find that their children are having difficulty understanding any aspects of their school work or homework. Pupils in P3 - P7 are presented with a school homework diary in September each year to record work and to share information with parents. Children in P1 - P2 have homework recorded for them by staff.

Healthy Lifestyles

“The work of the children, through the school council, makes an outstanding contribution to the whole school healthy eating lifestyle agenda. (E.T.I.)”

At St. Brigid's we promote healthy lifestyles through both our curricular and extra curricular programmes. Our "Healthy Breaks" initiative ensures that the children enjoy healthy snacks at break time. We also work closely with the NEELB catering service to ensure that healthy meal choices are available at all times in our canteen. Outreach work with agencies such as The Dairy Council, University of Ulster and Healthy Kidz sports outreach programme also support our efforts to promote healthy lifestyles.



Learning Support

“The quality of the provision for Special Educational Needs in the school is outstanding.” (E.T.I.)

The school has a Special Educational Needs (S.E.N.) Coordinator who is a member of our school management team. Each teacher will provide a fully differentiated programme of work for all children in their class. Some of the children attending the school may have specific special educational needs and these needs will be met in school using the expertise available including external support from a wide range of service providers such as school health professionals etc.

The school has employed 2 learning support teachers. These teachers will assist class teachers in planning for the needs of the children requiring additional support in literacy and numeracy. Several of our teaching staff has been trained in the world renowned "Reading Recovery" approach to teaching reading. This one to one intervention programme assists those children who require such support. It is the policy of the school to identify areas of concern in pupil learning at the earliest possible stage.

Support will be provided on a short or long term basis dependent on pupil progress and will involve both in-class support and withdrawal teaching. Withdrawal groups generally result in learning support 3 – 5 times per week for 30/40 minute periods. This additional learning support may also be utilised to assist the class teacher by working with pupils in the classroom.

Parents are consulted fully before a decision to withdraw a child for additional support is agreed.



Support may also be provided by a range of agencies such as Speech and Language and NEELB Literacy Support Service who will visit the school during the week to work with individual children.

If, despite this assistance, a child still encounters difficulty, a statement of the child's needs may be issued by the North Eastern Education and Library Board and these needs may be met by the Board through provision of extra assistance such as through the employment of a classroom assistant.

Ready to Learn Club (RTL)

The school operates a Ready to Learn club in conjunction with Barnardos each week for younger pupils in Primary 2. Normal finishing time for these pupils is 2.00pm and when attending the club they stay for an extra hour until 3.00pm throughout the school year to participate in fun literacy activities.

Primary 3 children stay from Monday-Wednesday while Primary 2 pupils stay on Thursdays & Fridays. The club is extremely popular and is free of charge. It is staffed by two qualified teachers and 2 classroom assistants and parents are invited in to see their children at work during the year.

Assessment

Alongside statutory assessment arrangements such as End of Key Stage Assessment we have introduced our own framework for pupil assessment.

From pupils first enrol in Primary 1 right through to when they complete their Primary 7 year - the teachers who work with them are constantly monitoring and assessing their work and progress - both formally (with tests/assessment materials) and informally (through observation, evaluation, collection and monitoring of samples of work etc).

Baseline Assessments are used in the Foundation Stage and pupils from Primary 2 to 7 sit end of year standardised tests in Numeracy, Literacy and Reading.

Pupil performance in End of Key Stage Assessment (P4 & P7) is reported annually to parents.



Accelerated Reader (AR)

Pupils in P4-7 are enrolled in the school's Accelerated Reader programme. This is a computer programme that helps teachers to manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Each child is initially assessed and allocated a reading level. They read books from the school library/ novel stock and when completed they take an online reading quiz about the book.

This helps us to assess their understanding of their reading and to chart their progress over a period of time. Parents can sign up for our e-mail service and receive regular e-mail updates on their progress each time they take a quiz.

Children are therefore highly motivated to read as a result of their involvement in the programme and rewards are given in school to recognise all children's progress.

Computerised Assessment

Computerised assessment is used in our school. The assessments are diagnostic in nature and assess pupils learning in Numeracy and Literacy.

The results of these assessments (carried out in May/June) are used by teachers to plan for learning on a whole class, group and individual basis.

The Computerised Assessment programmes are used with all pupils in Primary 2 -7.

Fund Raising/Charity Work

In the school, we have two main Fund Raising methods - "The School Fund" and "The Friends of St. Brigid's Association". These funds pay for all those extra things that we may otherwise be unable to afford. The "Friends of St. Brigid's Association" is our main fundraiser and we are sincerely thankful to all who give their time and assistance. As a school, we sincerely appreciate the efforts invested by this Association and we ask that you, the parent, fully and actively support their work.

Our school charity work is ongoing and the children and staff engage in a wide range of activities such as our Annual Charity Day and yearly appeals such as Trocaire during Lent. The school selects a charity of the year and directs much of its work towards supporting this charity throughout the year. We also ensure that the work of the children in raising funds is complemented with knowledge of how they are helping those less fortunate than ourselves. We do this by regularly inviting members of charitable organisations to school to discuss their work with the pupils.



School Uniform

The school uniform consists of school jumper, school tie, white shirt (boys and girls), grey socks (boys), white socks/ grey tights (girls), grey trousers (boys) and grey skirt (girls). Black shoes are also an important part of our uniform. Some items of school uniform can be obtained at a

variety of outlets although the school jumper and tie can only be purchased from the official school supplier.



St. Brigid's Primary School

Admissions Criteria

The Board of Governors has compiled the following admissions criteria. The Board of Governors of the school will implement the agreed admissions policy of the school. The school principal will apply the criteria on behalf of the Governors.

Admissions criteria are used in the event of the school being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in order of priority.

Children of compulsory school age.

Children who currently have a sibling (including half-brothers & sisters/ step brothers & sisters/ foster brothers & sisters) in attendance at the school.

Children who have a parent/ parents on the permanent staff of the school.

Children who previously had a sibling (including half-brothers & sisters/ step brothers & sisters/ foster brothers & sisters) in attendance at the school.

Children who are the eldest/ only child in the family and for whom St. Brigid's P.S. is the nearest local Catholic maintained school.

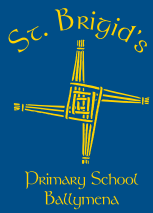
Children who (as measured from their home address) live the shortest travel distance by public road and/ or footpath to the front door of the school through either of the two recognised school entrances. The distance will be measured by Google Maps.

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by the school can result in the withdrawal of a place and the inability to offer a place on the part of any school nominated on the applicant's application form.

Date of Admissions

Children will be admitted to Primary 1 if their fourth birthday has fallen on or before 1st July prior to their expected School Year of admission. There will only be one general admission date during the year i.e. September although pupils joining the school after this time will follow a similar procedure of application. The schools current admission number as set by the Department of Education (i.e. the number of P1 pupils that can be admitted in any given year) is 46 while the school enrolment figure (i.e. the total number of pupils that can be admitted to all classes in any given year) is 319.





ST. BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL BALLYMENA



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