

ST. CONOR'S

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT

Prospectus



"Making a difference in the lives of all of our pupils"



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PRINCIPAL:
Mrs. K. McGettigan

CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
Mr. P. Doherty

ADMISSIONS NO:..... 58

ENROLMENT NO: 408

Principal's Welcome

It is a pleasure to present St Conor's Primary & Nursery School's Prospectus.

St Conor's is very much a family school which has served the local community, and beyond, for many years. The school is known for its warm, welcoming and inclusive ethos; commitment to high academic standards; a school which places great emphasis on creating meaningful learning partnerships between home and school.

I hope that on reading this Prospectus you will feel assured that your child's time at St Conor's will not only be rewarding and successful, but above all, happy.

All staff provide a caring environment in which your child can grow academically, physically, spiritually, morally and emotionally.

However, no Prospectus can give you a full picture of what a school is like and therefore I invite you to come and see our school for yourself.

Please feel free to make an appointment to view the school and I will be delighted to talk with you and show you round personally.

Katrina McGettigan

Principal





About Our School

St Conor's Primary School & Nursery Unit is set in extensive well maintained grounds on the outskirts of Omagh. The school was officially opened on 1st September 1973, replacing the old Culmore School situated on the Tamlaght Road. Pupil enrolment figures increased from 213 pupils in 1973 to 355 in 1983; and in 1985 a new extension was added to the school to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers.

In 2002 a new nursery unit was opened at the school, securing high quality pre-school provision for up to 52 pre-school children from the local area.

The projected enrolment of the school, including the nursery unit, for 2017/18 is 453 children. The present building has twelve permanent classrooms, a Learning Support classroom and three mobile classrooms. The school has a large hall which is used for Assembly, PE and whole school events. It has its own school meals kitchen and dining hall; a fully equipped ICT suite, Library and purpose-built nursery classroom. Sure Start is on site at St Conor's and a Wrap around Care facility (St Conor's Play Zone) operates from within the school.

Pupils attending reside mainly in the local catchment area. However some children chose to travel to the school from further afield.

The teaching staff includes the Principal and 16 full-time teachers who work closely with the team of classroom assistants and ancillary staff to provide a happy and secure learning environment in which all children can reach their full potential and have the opportunity to succeed.

Staff enjoy good relations with parents and the wider school community and are always striving to promote this partnership further.

St Conor's Primary School & Nursery Unit has:

- Well behaved, happy, confident, motivated pupils achieving their full potential
- A caring, gifted and dedicated staff who have high expectations of all
- An attractive, safe, well maintained and well-resourced learning environment
- Sure Start (0-4 years) on site
- Nursery provision (52 part-time places)
- Specialist education for children with special needs
- Support for children learning English as a new language
- Specialist music provision including tin whistle tuition and peripatetic instrumental tuition
- A successful school choir
- Specialist Spanish tuition
- Up-to-date ICT facilities including an ICT Suite and classroom access to e-mail and internet
- A well-stocked library with books for all age groups, interests and abilities.
- Two well-resourced PE Halls and a large football pitch
- Specialist coaching in a variety of sports & games
- A well informed, supportive Board of Governors
- Links with parents, parish, community, sport and business
- A wide range of extra-curricular activities
- Successful participation in local and national competitions
- Achieved the Green Eco Flag Award (for the second time)
- Achieved 'International School Award'
- Achieved the IQM Award (Inclusion Quality Charter Mark UK)
- Achieved "outstanding" status in their recent inspection

Our Vision

“Making a difference in the lives of all of our pupils”



Aims for Pupils

We promote high achievement and learning for life by working with children to:

- Develop spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically and academically to the best of their ability.
- Develop enquiring minds and a spirit of curiosity;
- Become motivated, life-long learners;
- Achieve high standards across the curriculum;
- Be flexible and adaptable for the modern world;
- Have high self-esteem and self-confidence - respecting themselves, others and the environment;

Mission

We believe that each child will succeed through experiencing quality in:

- An ethos which fosters the spiritual, moral and religious growth of the children, based on the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- A broad and challenging curriculum;
- Quality learning and teaching within an ethos of support, challenge and encouragement to succeed;
- A stimulating learning environment with a rich, varied and up-to-date range of learning resources;
- An enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and educational visits;
- Learning partnerships between home, school and the wider community;
- A positive, disciplined environment with high expectations for both learning and



Staff List 2017/18

Principal:Mrs K. McGettigan

Vice-Principal:Mr G. McCrory

Teaching Staff:

Mrs U. Brannigan
Mrs U. Canavan
Mrs C. Fyffe
Mrs S. Goodwin
Mr L. Grugan
Mrs N. Kennedy
Mr P. Logue
Mrs R. McCain
Mrs M. McCormack
Miss F. McCrossan
Mr B. McCullagh
Mr G. McCrory
Mrs G. McCrystal
Mrs A. McDonagh
Mrs M. McMahon
Mrs S. Quinn

Non-Teaching Staff:

Mr C. McGuigan Building Supervisor
Mrs C. McElholmSecretary
Mr P. McGinn..... Cook in Charge

Nursery Assistant:

Mrs E. Campbell

Foundation Stage Assistants:

Mrs K. Tierney
Ms F. Scott
Ms D. McGlone
Mrs L. McAnulla

Special Needs Assistants:

Mrs R. Clarke
Miss A. Crawford
Mrs N. Daly
Mrs A. Devine
Mrs A. Devine
Mrs A. Donnell
Mrs C. Duddy
Mrs G. Gault
Miss S. Kerrigan
Mrs B. Lyons
Mrs C. McGirr
Mrs L. McAskie
Mrs R. McCrossan
Miss R. Moore
Mrs V. O'Hagan
Miss K. Sharkey
Miss C. Quinn

Canteen Staff:

Mrs L. McAnulla
Mrs H. McGloin
Miss D. McGlone
Mr C. McGuigan
Miss S. Mulligan
Mrs E. Sharkey
VACANT

Cleaning Staff:

Ms A. Bronisz
Mr M. Ewing
Mr C. McGuigan
Miss S. Mulligan
VACANT

School Crossing Patrol:

Miss S. Mulligan
Mrs M. McLaughlin

School Chaplain Rev. Fr. E. Hasson

School Nurse..... Mrs D. McGale

E.W.O. (EA) Ms S. Quinn



ETI Inspection of St Conors Primary and Nursery Unit

There was an inspection of the Primary School and Nursery Unit by the ETI (Education and Training Inspectorate for Northern Ireland) in February 2016.

The overall findings of the Inspection are summarised below.

Overall effectiveness

Achievements and Standards
Provision for Learning
Leadership and Management
Nursery Unit

High level of capacity for sustained improvement

Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding

Read the full inspection report online www.eti.gov.uk



Organisation of Classes 2017-18

There are 2 mixed ability classes in each year group, Year 1 - Year 7 and a full-time Learning Support Teacher takes withdrawal groups from Year 2 – 7 for additional support in Literacy and Numeracy.

The organisation of classes for 2017-18 is as follows:

Nursery

Mrs M McCormack

Year 3GC

Mrs G McCrystal

Year 5SG

Mrs S Goodwin

Learning Support

Mrs S Quinn

Year 1AD

Mrs A McDonagh

Year 3RC

Mrs R McCain

Year 6LG

Mr L Grugan

Year 1MM

Mrs M McMahan

Year 4UB

Mrs U Brannigan

Year 6BC

Mr B McCullagh

Year 2UC

Mrs U Canavan

Year 4NK

Mrs N Kennedy

Year 7GC

Mr G McCrory

Year 2CF

Mrs C Fyffe

Year 5FC

Miss F McCrossan

Year 7PL

Mr P Logue



Board of Governors

Mr P. Doherty	Chairperson (EA)
Mr M. Drumm	Vice Chairperson (Trustee)
Mrs B. Morrison	Trustee
Mrs M. McGuigan	Trustee
Rev Fr. McGirr	Trustee
Mrs A. M. Sheridan	EA
Mr P. Donnelly	DENI
Mr G. McCrory	Teacher
Mrs E. Cassidy	Parent
Mrs K. McGettigan	Principal/Secretary (Non-voting)

The Governors of St Conor's Primary School & Nursery Unit take a very keen interest in the life and well-being of the school, staff and pupils. They have considerable responsibility and accountability for the school and make decisions about financial management, curriculum, maintenance of premises, staff appointments, admissions and enrolments, community links and pastoral care including child protection and behaviour management. The Governors are highly supportive of the work of the school and work closely with the Principal and staff to ensure all children fulfil their potential in all areas of the curriculum.



The Nursery Unit



St Conor's Nursery Unit caters for 52 children on a part-time basis and is housed in a separate, self-contained building adjacent to the school. There is a full-time teacher in-charge of the Unit and she is assisted by a full-time Nursery Assistant. The Unit is an integral part of the main school and maintains close links with the school.

Close links have been fostered with Sure Start (on site) and the Nursery Unit.

A carefully planned transition programme is also in place to ensure a smooth transfer from St Conors Nursery to Foundation Stage (Year 1) for all children.

26 children attend the morning session from 9.00am – 11.30am and 26 attend the afternoon session from 12.30pm – 3.00pm. The Nursery staff provides a safe, happy and caring environment in which the well-being of these young children is paramount.

The Nursery Unit aims to develop and broaden the children's range of learning experiences, enabling them to become confident, eager and enthusiastic learners. We believe that young children should be valued and given the opportunity to develop independence, curiosity and a sense of worth.

The children experience a well-planned and organised Nursery Curriculum, based on the six areas of development. They enjoy rich play activities including cookery, imaginative play, creative activities, discovery and investigative play, nature walks and outdoor play in a safe and secure environment.

Emphasis is on fostering close relationships with parents who are encouraged to take an active part in all aspects of the Nursery. A monthly newsletter ensures that parents are fully informed of all that is being taught and experienced by the children.

Admission & Visiting - Nursery

St Conor's Nursery Unit adheres to a fully inclusive admissions policy offering all pre-school children an equal opportunity to be enrolled.

Parents considering St Conor's Nursery Unit for their child's pre-school education should contact the Principal to arrange an appointment to visit and / or attend the annual 'Open Day' which is held in early December each year.

If the applications for admission exceed the Admissions Number for the Nursery Unit (26 children in each session) then the Board of Governors will select pupils for admission by applying the intake criteria as listed below in order of priority

- 1 Children from socially disadvantaged circumstances born between 2 July 2013 and 1 July 2014.
- 2 Children born between 2 July 2013 and 1 July 2014.
- 3 Children born between 2 July 2014 and 1 July 2015. (Places will be allocated on the basis of age i.e. oldest first)

In the event of more pupils satisfying the last criterion which can be applied in the order of priority set down above then selection for the remaining places will be on the basis of the following sub-criteria.

(a) Children with brother/sister(s)/half-brother/half-sister(s)/brother/step-brother/step-sister(s) adopted brother/sister(s), foster brother/sister(s) enrolled in St Conor's Primary School or Nursery Unit.

(b) Children who are the first child in the family.

(c) Children who have had a family member enrolled at St Conor's in the past (considered in the following order);

(i) Children whose older brother/sister, step or half-brother/sister, fostered or adopted brother/sister attended the school.

(ii) Children whose mother/father/guardian attended the school.



Admission & Visiting - Year 1

St Conor's Primary School adheres to a fully inclusive admissions policy offering all children an equal opportunity to be enrolled.

Parents considering sending their children to the school should contact the Principal who will arrange an appointment to visit and / or they can attend the annual 'Open Day' held in the school in early December each year.

If the school's current Enrolment Number (408) and Admissions Number (58) are exceeded the Board of Governors will select pupils for admission by applying the intake criteria as listed below in order of priority:

- 1 Children of compulsory age who have brothers, sisters, half-brothers or half-sisters enrolled at the school at the time of application.
- 2 Children whose parent/guardian, brother/sister, half or step-brother/sister is employed at the school or is a member of the Board of Governors of the school at the time of application.
- 3 Children of compulsory school age transferring from the school's Nursery Unit.
- 4 First child in the family.
- 5 Children of compulsory age who have had a family member enrolled at St Conor's in the past (considered in the following order):
 - (i) Children whose older brother/sister, step or half-brother/sister attended the school.
 - (ii) Children whose mother/father/guardian attended the school.
- 6 Other children of compulsory age.

Applications and Admissions Numbers – Year 1

Year	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17 -18
Applications	72	59	57	57	53	54
Admissions	61	59	56	55	53	54

Primary School Enrolment Trends

Primary	377	372	382	387	395	402
Nursery	52	54	52	52	52	52

Induction of New Pupils - Year 1

In May each year parents are informed of the outcome of their applications for admission to Year 1.

Children who are admitted to St Conor's Primary School embark on a programme of Induction commencing in May/June when parents are invited to an information meeting and to meet their child's teacher in a classroom setting.

At the beginning of September pupils come to school for a reduced day (until 1.15 pm), in small group situations, but by the end of the month all children are attending school for the full day.

The Induction programme at St. Conor's is intended to:

- help both parents and children in the transition from home to school.
- ease the trauma of starting Year 1 especially for children who have not been to Nursery School or Playgroup.



The School Day

8.30am	Breakfast Club In the interest of health and safety no children should arrive in school before 8.30 am
8.45am	Supervision begins.
9.15am	Class begins
10.45 – 11am	Break
12.15 – 1pm	Lunch (Years 1, 2, 3)
12.30 – 1.15pm	Lunch (Years 5, 6, 7)
2.15 pm	Home time for Years 1, 2, 3*
3.15 pm	Home time for Years 4 - 7



* From January the Year 3 children finish school at 3.15 p.m.

Breakfast

A Breakfast Club operates in the canteen in the main school from 8.30 each morning and is open to all pupils. The following items are available at a cost of 25p per serving: Toast, Pancakes, Bagels, Cereals, Hot Chocolate, Fresh Orange Juice, Milk, Water.

Break

We actively promote a Healthy Break Policy and our Year 1-7 pupils are encouraged to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable product to school for their break. They can also buy a 'fruit cup' or fruit juice from the school canteen.

Lunch

Pupils have 2 options at lunchtime:

- Purchase a school dinner
- Bring a packed lunch

The daily cost of a school dinner from 1st September 2017 is £2.60.

A menu of school meals provided is available from the office or the school website.

Pupils have approximately 30 minutes supervised play in the playgrounds at lunch-time. If you believe you are entitled to Free School Meals please contact the Education Authority (Western Region) Tel: 8241 1411. Remember that your application for Free School Meals needs to be submitted every year.

Children bringing a packed lunch to school are supervised. Lunch boxes should be clearly labelled. Glass bottles/fizzy drinks are NOT allowed.

And foods containing nuts are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** as there are children attending our school who have been diagnosed as having nut allergies.

After School

After-school activities are mainly available to senior pupils, usually in Year 4, 5, 6 and 7 classes and include Cycling Proficiency, Soccer, Netball, Irish dancing, Chess and inter-school games/tournaments.

Child Care Provision at St Conor's

The school has recently introduced The Play Zone Wrap around Childcare Facility under the management of Cornabracken Daycare. The facility provides a Breakfast Club (8 – 9 am); Waiting Club (2.15 - 3.15pm) and Afternoon Club (2.15 – 6 pm). The service is also available during holidays and staff days when the school is closed to pupils. Please contact Melanie O'Kane (Cornabracken Daycare) on 028 8224 9665 for prices and further details.

School Holidays 2017-18

Information about holidays (Christmas, Easter, Half term breaks, etc.) will be distributed to parents as soon as these dates are finalised by school and the Education Authority.

Details will also be available from the school website.

The Board of Governors request that parents do not take children on holidays during term time.

Attendance

In the interests of the children's education they are expected to attend school for 190 school days each year.

Attendance is recorded on the Computer Attendance Module twice daily (morning and afternoon sessions). A full attendance involves being present the entire school day. Pupil attendance is monitored closely by the Education Authority's Welfare Service.

If your child is ill then it is better that your child stays at home until he or she is feeling better and able to enjoy taking part in all the learning experiences. If your child is off school due to illness, please contact the school to explain the absence as this is needed for our records.

Medical and other appointments should be made for after school, as far as possible, however, if your child is required to leave school early e.g. for a medical appointment, please send an explanatory note into school with your child.



Healthy Eating Policy



St Conor's Primary School and Nursery Unit aims to promote children's healthy eating habits.

In the Nursery Unit the staff endeavours to provide snacks which are healthy and nutritious. Special dietary requirements / allergies can be accommodated.

For children in Years 1 - 7 we operate a Healthy Break Policy. Children are encouraged to eat fruit and/or vegetables and to drink milk, fruit juice or water at break time. Milk will be available at break-time. (There is a termly cost for milk). Children are also encouraged to bring water to school to drink throughout the day. Healthy eating messages are reinforced throughout the school day and the school monitors this Policy regularly.

School Uniform

Every child is expected to wear full school uniform. Parental support and co-operation are much appreciated in this area.



Boys	Girls
Winter	
Grey Trousers Blue Shirt School tie School jumper	Grey Skirt/Pinafore Blue Shirt School tie School jumper
Summer	
Grey shorts Short-sleeved blue shirt School tie	Blue & white gingham summer dress
PE	
Royal Blue shorts White polo shirt (with crest)	Royal Blue shorts White polo shirt (with crest)

Coats

School coats are available and are desirable, but they are not essential items of the uniform.

Shoes

The children should wear dark-coloured shoes to school and have trainers for PE. Shoes and trainers with Velcro are advisable for the younger children.

Important

- All items of clothing should be clearly marked with your child's name and class.
- Jewellery should not be worn to school.
- Girls who have their ears pierced should wear studs and not earrings.
- The main stockists of the school uniform for St. Conor's Primary School and Nursery Unit is Select Kidz, Omagh.

Curriculum

Our aim is to provide a rich and well balanced curriculum which develops the whole child. Staff ensure each year follows a programme which has continuity and progression in line with the NI Curriculum.

The primary stage of the NI Curriculum comprises:

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.

These include:

- 1. Language and Literacy**
- 2. Mathematics and Numeracy**
- 3. The Arts** (including Art and Design, Drama and Music)
- 4. The World Around Us** (focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding in Geography, History and Science and Technology)
- 5. Personal Development and Mutual Understanding** (focusing on emotional development, social skills, learning to learn, health, relationships and sexuality education 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)

The use of ICT is an integral element in all aspect of teaching and learning and is assessed on a cross curricular basis. We have a well-resourced computer suite where children from Years 1 - 7 have the opportunity to develop



their ICT skills. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard and pupils have also access to iPads.

The school also places much value on the children in Key stage 2 learning Spanish.

Our dedicated teachers employ a range of different teaching approaches (whole class, group and individual), depending on the needs of the children and the subject being covered. Activities are carefully matched to pupils' individual needs and abilities to ensure effective learning.

Religious Education

Religious Education has a central position within our curriculum; the Catholic ethos permeates all aspects of school life and our teachers pass on Christian values and beliefs through example and personal witness.

St Conor's is an inclusive school and so we welcome children on different faiths and beliefs, or none, to be part of our school community. We strive to create a caring ethos where every individual is valued and respected, cared for and protected.

Our religious faith is also celebrated through daily prayers, weekly assemblies and outside events which occur throughout the school year. We strive to ensure that all events on the Church's calendar are celebrated.

We offer a programme of Religious Education throughout the school. Religious Education is provided within class and at weekly assembly and we have regular visits from the local clergy. Pupils have the opportunity to lead school assembly during the school year and parents are invited to attend various liturgies throughout the year.



School Visits

The school encourages visits from outside agencies to speak to the children (e.g. NIFRS, Omagh District Council, the local bank etc.) Pupils also make educational day visits to places of local interest (museums, theatre productions etc.). In upper Key Stage 2 a residential visit is organised, usually to an outdoor pursuits centre.

Non Statutory Curriculum

The school prides itself in taking part in a wide variety of activities that further develop the children. Such activities include:

- Developing links with other European schools
- Teaching Spanish
- Participating in Local, Provincial and National competitions – sporting; musical
- Charity / Fundraising events
- Drama and Musical productions
- Involvement in Environmental Awareness (ECO Flag)
- Heart Start Training (teaching children the principles of basic life saving techniques)

Sport

At St Conor's we aim to develop and nurture an interest in physical activity and teach the skills, rules and team strategies necessary to enjoy and excel in sport. The school has a long tradition of sporting excellence in Gaelic, Soccer, Netball, Athletics, Gymnastics and Swimming. There is also an opportunity for Key Stage 2 pupils to participate in Rugby, Basketball and Golf.

We are delighted to have coaches from the GAA and the other local bodies to support and develop sport in school. The school has two multi-purpose halls, which are timetabled for P.E. and games throughout the year. We also have our own grassed pitch and a tarmac playground. We host several inter-school netball and football tournaments throughout the school year and our Annual Sports Day in June receives enthusiastic support and participation from children and parents.



Music

Music is taught throughout the school and pupils develop their basic skills in playing the tin whistle from Year 4 onwards. Pupils have the opportunity to learn piano from Year 4 and experienced tutors from the Education Authority offer lessons for Strings, Guitar, Woodwind and Brass for children in Years 5 - 7. Pupils are encouraged to enter music exams and we have celebrated great success over the years.

We believe that learning to play a musical instrument offers a child a great deal more than music skills. It builds self-discipline through practice and social skills through ensemble playing. Above all, it is a means by which students can grow in skill and confidence into imaginative, fulfilled and well-rounded adults.

Children in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to develop their singing ability by joining the School Choir and they enter, and have had resounding success, in various competitions e.g. Radio Ulster Choir of the Year. In addition, they perform at school events, the West Tyrone Feis, Nursing Homes, liturgical events and other cultural events throughout the year.

Homework

It is school policy to give homework to all children on a regular basis.

Our aim is to familiarise parents with the work their children are doing at school and, at the same time, to help the children to consolidate their learning independently, at home.

We believe that the purpose of homework is:

- to extend school work and thereby help to consolidate and reinforce learning
- to provide an opportunity for parents to support their children's learning
- to inform parents about their child's work and ability
- to help make parents more aware of the work being done in school
- to help the children develop self-discipline and good study skills
- to help each child achieve his/her full potential.

Below is a guide to homework in Years 1 – 7:

Year	Frequency	Duration (approx)
1	Mon-Thurs	5 – 10 mins
2	Mon-Thurs	10 - 15 mins
3	Mon-Thurs	20 - 30 mins
4	Mon-Thurs	30 - 40 mins
5	Mon-Thurs	40 - 45 mins
6	Mon-Fri*	45 mins – 1 hour
7	Mon-Fri*	1 hour – 1 ½ hours

*Weekend Homework in Terms 2 & 3 in Year 6 and Term 1 in Year 7

Parental Support for Homework:

Homework will be given within your child's capability and is usually related to the work being covered in school. This implies that the majority of children will be able to complete their homework independently, or with minimal help from parents, particularly in Key Stage 2.

Parents should:

- ensure that the child has a quiet place in which he / she can concentrate
- encourage the child to complete homework tasks early in the evening
- be involved in, and help, the child with reading – learning new words, discussing set pages etc.
- help the child with learning spellings, tables and number facts
- encourage neatness, speed and an efficient approach to homework
- allow adequate time for play and relaxation and involvement in extra-curricular activities, sports and hobbies.

Range of Homework Activities:

- Learning – Spellings, Prayers, Tables, Poems, Songs etc.
- Reading – Independent Reading, Word Recognition, Paired Reading, Comprehension, Research activities
- Written English – Writing, Grammar, Comprehension, Dictionary work
- Maths – Number work, Data Handling, Measures, Shape & Space, Problem Solving, Practical activities

Marking Homework:

The child's class teacher will monitor the homework. However this does not imply that he / she will mark each child's work individually every day. The teacher will see the homework every day – some may be marked by the teacher, other pieces will be corrected by the child or his / her peers, as the teacher explains and calls out the answers. The time spent preparing and marking homework must be kept to a minimum so as not to reduce teaching time.

Assessment

Assessment and monitoring of pupil progress takes place on a continuous basis.

All pupils from Year 2 to Year 7 complete standardised tests in English and Mathematics in May.

End of Key Stage Assessment for Year 4 and Year 7 pupils is also carried out annually in keeping with statutory obligations. Pupils are awarded levels in Communication and Using Mathematics (Levels 1-3 in Key Stage 1 and 1-5 in Key Stage 2).

Past results have indicated that pupils at St Conor's Primary School achieve above norms for Northern Ireland. However, on-going industrial action by the main Teachers' Unions means that it is not possible to report end of Key Stage Benchmarking Data at this time.

St Conor's Primary School and Nursery Unit operates an 'Open Door' policy and parents are welcome to speak to their child's class teacher and/or the Principal at a mutually convenient time.

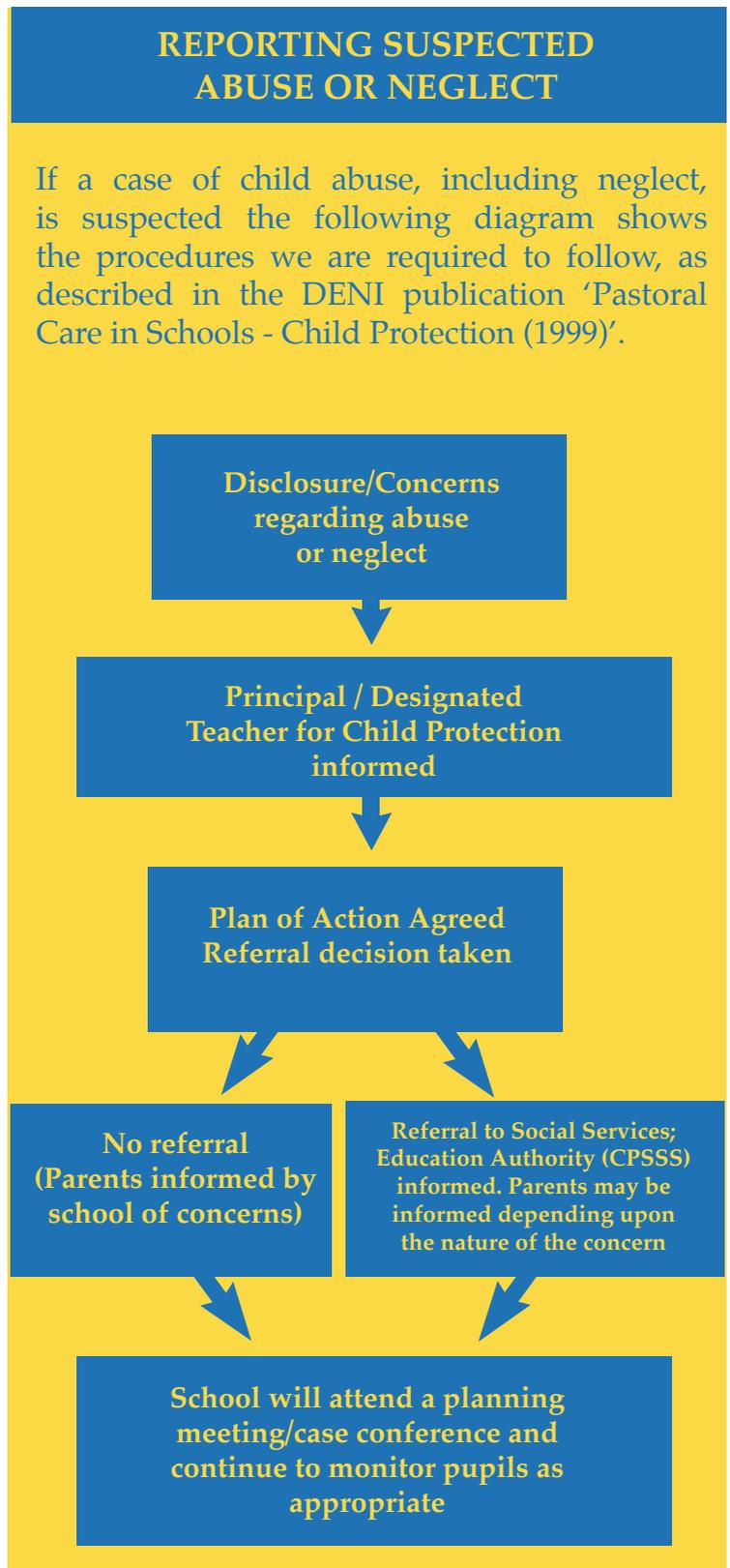
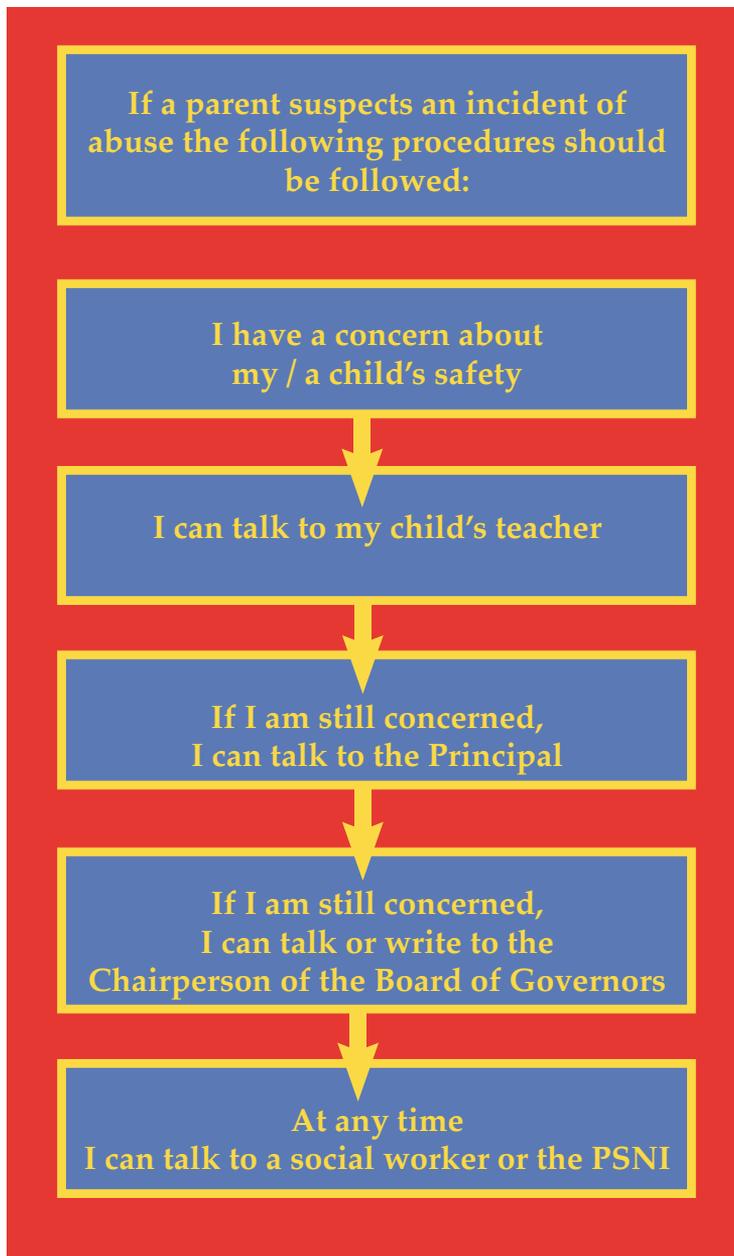
More formal Parent/Teacher meetings take place in November for all classes. In addition, the class teacher and/or the school's SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) meets with the parents of pupils who are on an individual education plan (IEP) at the start of each term.



Communicating Pupil Progress to Parents

Parents obtain information about children's progress through formal and informal methods:

- The pupil's Annual Progress Report
- The pupil's Record of Achievement in Year 7
- Consultations at parents' or teachers' request



Child Protection

All schools have an obligation to ensure the safety of the children in their care. If a child makes a disclosure to an adult or if an adult has concerns about a child, these will be reported to the school's Designated Teacher (Mrs McGettigan).

The school has a Child Protection Policy which lays out procedures to be followed when concerns arise.
Designated Teachers for Child Protection

Our designated member of staff for Child Protection in the Primary and Nursery School is Mrs K McGettigan (Principal).

A McDonagh is the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection in the main school. Mrs McCormack is the Deputy Designated Teacher for the Nursery.

Mr Peter Doherty is the named Governor with responsibility for overseeing Child Protection matters.

Pastoral Care

Our Pastoral Care was rated Outstanding in the most recent ETI Inspection (2016).

We recognise that happy children are the best learners and so we provide a comfortable and safe learning environment. Good relationships are fostered between children and staff and the close home school partnership means parents can inform the school of any circumstances which may impact on their child. The class teacher will be alert to the pastoral needs of his/her pupils. Any concerns will be brought to the attention of the Principal, who is Designated teacher for Child Protection, or in her absence to the Vice- Principal.

The school's Positive Behaviour (including Anti-Bullying), Child Protection, Special Needs, Medication and Health & Safety Policies are each an integral and vitally important aspect of the School's Pastoral Care arrangements and are available on the school website or from the Principal on request.

Positive Behaviour

Our Positive Behaviour Policy outlines our approach to managing pupil behaviour. We expect all children to behave responsibly and to show respect and consideration for adults children and property at all times. We have a system of positive rewards and encouragement for desirable behaviour and a system of consequences for unwanted behaviour.

Parental support is essential to maintain high standards of behaviour. We expect parents to give our Positive Behaviour Policy their full support.

Bullying behaviour is a highly distressing and damaging to the child targeted by this behaviour and therefore is not tolerated in school. Staff are vigilant at all times to the possibility of bullying occurring and will take immediate steps to stop it happening; to protect and reassure the child targeted by the bullying behaviour and to work with the child who is bullying so that this behaviour ceases.



Special Educational Needs and Inclusion

At St Conor's we recognise some children may require extra assistance to access the curriculum, and school staff work in partnership with children, parents and relevant outside agencies to ensure equality of access to all. When necessary, individual education plans are agreed upon which target specific areas in the child's development. The child's progress towards meeting these targets is carefully monitored and their progression supported by all involved in the child's development. Our school has established links with a range of external agencies to meet a wide variety of needs and our school building and grounds have disabled access. We have a full time teacher specifically

for teaching children with additional learning needs. She provides support, on a withdrawal basis, for small groups of children in Years 2 to 7 who are experiencing difficulty with their work in Literacy and Numeracy.

Our Learning Support Teacher is also the Co-ordinator for Special Needs throughout the school (SENCo). She works closely with all class teachers and provides help and advice in the identification and support of pupils with individual needs. Our Special Needs Classroom Assistants work closely with the class teachers, Principal and SENCo ensuring that the needs of individual children are adequately met.



Extra-Curricular Dimension

We recognise the value and importance of providing a range of extra-curricular activities for the children.

St Conor's offers opportunities for extra-curricular sporting activities including basketball, football, rugby, hurling, swimming and netball. Other activities include ICT, Spanish, Drama and Music.

We provide opportunities for all children to enter a wide range of competitions including The West Tyrone Feis, competitions organised by Omagh Library and many others. St Conor's has a history of success in a range of inter-school sports and quizzes, including The Credit Union Quiz, Cumann na mBunscol Quiz, Inter-schools' Library Quiz, Cumann na mBunscol Gaelic League, INTO Sevens, Inter-schools' Indoor Gaelic League, Inter-schools' Millennium Cup, Intra-mural Gaelic and Hockey Leagues, Inter-schools' Netball tournaments. School organised participation in Parish Liturgy is also promoted as part of the school's Religious Education Programme.

Each year the Year 7 pupils also participate in the Cycling Proficiency Scheme. They are given instruction by trained members of our staff after school, in the school grounds and have the opportunity to enter the Cycling Proficiency examination at the end of the course. On successful completion of the examination each child is certified.



Administration of Medication

There is no legal duty that requires school staff to administer medication. The administration of medication to children remains the responsibility of the parent or those with parental responsibility. Prescribed medication should only be taken to school when absolutely essential and with the agreement of the Principal.

Staff are not able to administer non-prescribed medication to a child.

Please see 'Supporting Pupils with Medication Needs' (February 2008) DENI /DHSSPS

Parental Involvement

The school greatly values the positive partnership between home and school and the encouragement parents give their children in school.

St Conor's Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA)

The school for many years has been fortunate to have the support and encouragement of an active and enthusiastic Parent Teacher Association now known as St Conor's Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) which organises various fundraising events e.g. Christmas Bazaar, refreshments at school events and liturgies.

The PTFA raises funds which are spent on equipment and activities enhancing the quality of school life for both pupils and teachers.

Charges and Remissions

Education is provided free of charge for all lessons and activities associated with the pupil's entitlement under the Education Reform Order (NI) 1989.

Exceptions are detailed below:

- Board and lodgings on residential visits.
- Costs associated with the provision of individual tuition on a musical instrument whether inside or outside school hours unless it is provided as part of the syllabus for an approval public examination or to meet the requirements of Article 11(1) (b) of the Order.
- The cost, in cash or in kind, of ingredients or materials needed for certain practical activities, if parents have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.
- Optional extra activities which take place in addition to the education provided by the school for public examination or for the purpose of meeting the statutory requirements imposed by Article 11(a) and (b) of the 1989 Order. Participation in any such activities is to be on the basis of parental choice and willingness to meet such changes as are made.



Revised Complaints Procedure

(September 2017) – AT A GLANCE

STAGE 1

Write to the Principal

STAGE 2

Write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors

TIME LIMIT

Please contact the school as soon as possible, unless there are exceptional circumstances, complaints will normally only be considered within 6 months of origin of the complaint to the school.

STAGE 1

When making a complaint, contact the school Principal who will arrange for the complaint to be investigated. If the complaint is about the Principal, proceed to Stage Two.

The school requires complaints to be made in writing, where this may present difficulties, please contact the school which will make reasonable arrangements to support you with this process.

Please provide as much information as possible including;

- name and contact details
- what the complaint is about
- what has already been done to try to resolve it and
- what you would like the school to do to resolve the complaint.

The complaint will normally be acknowledged within 5 school working days and a response normally made within 20 school working days of receipt of the complaint.

This response will be issued in writing by the Principal and will indicate with reasons whether the complaint has been upheld, partially upheld or not upheld.

These timeframes may need to be reviewed if complaints are ongoing during school holiday periods.

If you remain unhappy with the outcome at Stage 1, the complaint may be progressed to Stage 2 which is overseen by the Board of Governors.

STAGE 2

If the complaint is unresolved after Stage One, write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors (care of the school and marked 'private and confidential'). Where this may present difficulties, please contact the school which will make reasonable arrangements to support the complainant with this process.

The Chairperson will convene a committee to review the complaint. Please provide as much detail as possible as indicated above.

The complaint will normally be acknowledged within 5 school working days and a final response normally made within 20 school working days from date of receipt of the complaint. The response will be issued in writing by the Chairperson of the committee.

These timeframes may need to be reviewed if complaints are ongoing during school holiday periods.

NORTHERN IRELAND PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN (NIPSO)

If following Stage Two you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you can refer the matter to the Office of the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO).

The Ombudsman provides a free, independent and impartial service for handling complaints about schools in Northern Ireland. You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman if you feel that you have been treated unfairly or have received a poor service from a school and your complaint has not been resolved to your satisfaction.

A complaint should normally be referred to NIPSO within six months of the final response from the School. The school must advise in its concluding letter that the complaint may be referred to the NIPSO if you remain dissatisfied.

Contact details for NIPSO are:

Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman
Office of the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman
Progressive House
33 Wellington Place, Belfast. BT1 6HN



We hope you found the information in this Prospectus useful.
Parents requiring further information are encouraged to make contact with the Principal.

If unforeseen circumstances dictate any change in the information contained in this document parents will be informed as soon as possible.



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