



**St. Eoghan's P.S, Moneyneena**

# Prospectus



***'Preparing today's children to be tomorrow's  
answer'***



*There are little eyes upon you,  
And they're watching night and day;  
There are little ears that quickly  
Take in every word you say;  
There are little hands all eager  
To do anything you do;  
And a little boy who's dreaming  
Of the day he'll be like you.*

*You're the little fellow's idol;  
You're the wisest of the wise  
In his little mind about you,  
No suspicions ever rise;  
He believes in you devoutly,  
Holds that all you can and do,  
He will say and do, in your way  
When he's a grown-up like you.*

*There's a wide-eyed little fellow,  
Who believes you're always right,  
And his ears are always open,  
And he watches day and night;  
You are setting an example  
Every day in all you do,  
For the little boy who's waiting  
To grow up just like you.*



# *Welcome*

*Dear Parent,*

*Your child has now reached the very important and special stage where formal compulsory education is soon to begin. Starting school is a major step into a new world and this new stage in your child's development should be viewed positively.*

*At St. Eoghan's Primary School we endeavour to provide a happy, stimulating, safe and caring environment whereby each and every child's potential will be realised.*

*As St. Eoghan's is a Catholic School, the partnership of home, school and parish work closely together, each playing their distinctive roles and cooperating in the religious education and formation of children.*

*This prospectus will help you learn something of what the school has to offer for the personal and educational development of your child as an individual. As it cannot convey the real atmosphere of the school you are most welcome to visit St. Eoghan's with your child to meet the class teacher and myself before your child actually starts school.*

*If you have any queries or difficulties at any time you are most welcome to contact or visit the school and we will be happy to discuss matters with you.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Mr. Paschal Diamond*

*Principal*

***‘Preparing today's children to be tomorrow's answer’***



# About our school



School Name: St. Eoghan's Primary School

Address:	51 Moneyneena Rd Draperstown Co Derry BT45 7EN
Telephone / Fax:	02879628008 / 02879627869
Email:	<a href="mailto:pdiamond652@c2kni.net">pdiamond652@c2kni.net</a>
Website:	<a href="http://steoghansps.com">http://steoghansps.com</a>
Twitter:	@steoghans
Type of school:	Catholic Maintained Co. Educational Age Range 4 -11
Chairman of Board of Governors	Mr Brian McGuigan
Principal	Mr Paschal Diamond
Number on Rolls	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2017/2018
Admissions Number	18
Enrolment Number	127



# *Board of Governors*

## **Nominated by the Transferors/Trustees**

Rev Fr J Downey CC

Mrs A Quinn

Mr C McNicholl

Mr B McGuigan

## **Nominated by North Eastern Education and Library Board**

Mrs N Mallon

Mrs S O'Kane

## **Nominated by Department of Education**

Mr M Murray

## **Elected by Teaching Staff**

Mrs M Cunningham

## **Elected by Parents**

Mr P McDonald

## **Principal (Non Voting)**

Mr P Diamond



## Meet our staff

Principal	Mr. P. Diamond
Class Teachers	Mrs P Herron (P.1/2) Mrs M Devlin/Miss C McBride (P.2/3) Mrs I Bannon (P.4/5) Mrs M Cunningham / Mr. P. Diamond (P.6) Mrs M. Molloy / Mr. P. Diamond (P.7)
School Administrator	Mrs. J. Noonan
Classroom Assistants:	Mrs J. Noonan Miss R. Logue Mrs H. Hassan Miss C. Kelly
Building Supervisor:	Mrs H. Hassan
School cleaner:	Miss K. McMahon
Supervisory Assistants:	Mrs M Kelly Mrs H Hassan Mr P Diamond
Unit Catering Supervisor:	Mrs E Watson
Catering Staff	Mrs S Mc Williams Mrs R Logue
School Chaplin:	Rev. Fr J. Downey



# *Vision Statement*

***'Preparing today's children to be tomorrow's answer'***

**St. Eoghan's Primary School, Moneyneena promotes high achievement and learning for life by working with children to:**

- Grow and live in the Catholic Faith.
- Develop enquiring minds and a spirit of curiosity.
- Achieve their full potential in all curriculum areas, embracing opportunities and developing skills necessary for our ever-changing world.
- Celebrate their self-worth and realise their abilities, achievements, strengths and personal preferences.
- Instil in pupils a love for life-long learning by motivating pupils to become independent learners.
- Recognise and respect the feelings and attitudes of others.
- Take ownership of their environment both locally and globally.

**We believe that each child will achieve success through experiencing:**

- A broad, balanced and challenging curriculum.
- A stimulating and motivating learning environment.
- A varied programme of extra curricular activities and school visits.
- An ethos that is supportive, encouraging and friendly.
- An effective partnership between school, home and the wider community.
- A variety of teaching approaches and strategies to meet the learning needs and styles of pupils.
- Access to a range of varied and up-to-date resources.

**We demonstrate our commitment to working as a learning community by:**

- Ongoing self-evaluation to improve on our previous best.
- Working collaboratively with all our stakeholders.



# *The School Crest*

## **The Eagle**

The eagle standing on the cliff represents the Eagle's Rock, which overlooks the school and is well known local historical landmark.

The Eagle is also the symbol of St. John the Evangelist who wrote the 4<sup>th</sup> Gospel and The Book of Revelation.

## **The Shepherds' Crooks**

The Shepherds' Crooks represent Christ, the Good Shepherd and the fact that Moneyneena is closely associated with sheep farming. These symbols reflect the caring commitment of everyone associated with this school.

## **The Open Book**

The Open Book symbolises the Word of God, which is our main guide in all that we do as a school and as a community. It also represents the active pursuit of learning and knowledge.

## **The Oak Leaves and Acorns**

The Oak Leaves and Acorns represent our county, Derry. They also have an ancient Celtic symbolism as the Oak was held to be sacred.

## **The Bishop's Mitre**

The Bishop's Mitre recognises our local saint, St. Eoghan also known as St. Eugene who was Bishop of Derry. Our school is proud to bear his name.





## *Our School Motto*



School mottoes are usually words from Holy Scripture and are words that we can look to for inspiration. Our motto is, “Crist Liom Crist Ionam” which means, “Christ with me Christ within me”. We look to the inspiration of Our Lord and our Catholic community to help us promote Catholic values in our school.



# *The school day*

Pupils can come to school from 8.40am onwards where they will be supervised in the assembly hall until 9.10am. The children will then be escorted to their classrooms. Lessons begin at 9.20am. Punctuality is an important practice that can be developed at primary school. We encourage all parents/ guardians to develop this good practice by making sure that pupils come to school and are picked up on time each day.

	<b>Foundation Stage (P1 &amp; P2)</b>	<b>Key Stage 1 &amp; 2 (P3—7)</b>
<b>Morning</b>	9.20am — 12.15pm	9.20am — 12.15pm
<b>Break time</b>	11.00am — 11.10am	11.00am — 11.10am
<b>Dinner/Lunch time</b>	12.15pm — 1.00pm	12.15pm — 1.00pm
<b>Afternoon</b>	1.00pm—2.15pm	1.00pm—3.15pm



**PLEASE NOTE:**

Children should not arrive before 8.40am as the school can take no responsibility for any child arriving on the premises before this time. Pupils are fully supervised at both break and lunch-times by our staff and on leaving the school premises at 3.15pm.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

In addition to the child's home telephone number we require at least two other persons contact details in case of illness or emergency.





# *The Curriculum*

St. Eoghan's PS aims to ensure that all children have access to a broad and balanced education with experiences suitable to their current stages of development. We aim to empower our pupils to develop their potential and make informed and responsible choices throughout their lives. The objectives of the curriculum are to help our pupils develop:

- as individuals;
- as contributors to society; and,
- as contributors to the economy and the environment.

The learning and teaching methods used in the school will vary according to the needs of the pupils and are designed to achieve maximum learning by each child. In some lessons, pupils will work in small groups, as a whole class or on an individual basis. All classes are of mixed ability, but the teachers endeavour to ensure that each child is challenged appropriately and that each child experiences success in his/her endeavours.

## **The Seven Areas of Learning are:**

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



# *Religious Education*

To epitomise St. Eoghan's Primary School's approach to Religious Education we quote from the C.C.M.S. document, "Life to the Full – A Vision for Catholic Education.

"Catholic education is the responsibility of the entire Church community and is delivered initially through the influence of three key partners, namely, the home, the school, and the parish community. These partners work together to create the best possible environment for children to develop all their physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and social skills. The success of this educational project depends on the kind of relationships, the style of leadership and the type of curriculum which the pupils experience. The interaction of all these elements enables pupils to:-

- Experience God's love
- Love and respect each other's uniqueness and dignity
- Make the world a better place through justice and peace
- Celebrate the sacraments
- Acquire a rich, varied and challenging education
- Strive for excellence.

Beyond the school community, Catholic education continues throughout life as a journey into a mature faith in Christ. Therefore the foundations laid in the Catholic school aim to help pupils to judge certain values such as faith, hope, love and truth as being of ultimate concern in their lives."

As a catholic school, St. Eoghan's Primary School seeks to promote the highest possible educational standards and it also facilitates the pupils' acquisition of values and the discovery of truth in all human experience.

If a parent wishes to withdraw their child from Religious Education or Collective Worship, a meeting must be arranged.



# Religious Education

Sacramental Preparation is very important in St. Eoghan's Primary School. Children in Primary 4 prepare for First Confession in Term 2, and First Holy Communion in Term 3.

Our Primary 7 pupils prepare for First Confession in Term 2 and each year they attend the 'Fan the Flame' Mass held in Derry City.



The catholic ethos and faith is promoted throughout the school year in St. Eoghan's P.S. We start our year with a beginning of year mass served by our school Chaplin, Fr Downey. We finish our year with our leavers' mass for primary 7 and their families. This is a very important, special and poignant event in our school calendar.

We also conduct year group assemblies surrounding the liturgical year such as Christmas, Easter, and Saints days.

Children in St. Eoghan's value the importance of prayer and having God in our lives as we engage in daily prayer. Children learn their morning, lunch and home time prayer, as well as other prayers they will say during mass.





# Charity & Fundraising

Here in St. Eoghan's we are made aware from a very young age the importance of helping those in need. Pupils are encouraged to look for God in their daily lives and to share God's love and kindness. This is developed through charity in our community and world.

We are extremely generous here in St. Eoghan's and engage in a range of charitable events. These include; the shoe box appeal, trocaire, raising money for Leprosy, Cancer Focus NI to name but a few.

Our parents, families and community are also very supportive of our school and show tremendous generosity at school fundraising events hosted in St. Eoghan's.



Cancer Focus NI pictured with canteen staff and pupils receiving their cheque from money raised at our coffee morning.



The annual BIG breakfast fundraiser held at St. Eoghan's

Annual shoe box collection.





# Language and Literacy

Language and Literacy are fundamental in the development of each child's ability to interact, express and communicate with confidence. In our school, each child's understanding, knowledge of, and skills in Literacy are nurtured and developed through a wide range of Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing activities. We employ a range of approaches and Reading Recovery strategies to develop and support our pupils' literacy skills. We use Synthetic Phonics (Jolly Phonics) to help pupils learn about and use their knowledge of sounds in words. Additionally, we employ a multi-sensory approach including the use of the PrimEd Spelling Programme to developing our pupils' spelling skills.



## Reading



Children are encouraged to develop a love of reading through a variety of strategies such as: bringing stories alive through the use of puppets and drama, Story Sacks, Book Time, Peered Reading, the Book fair, sharing book reviews, making books for younger children in the school, visits to the local library as well as visits to classes by an author etc. We also have introduced the Accelerated Reading Programme to P3-7.



# Language and Literacy

## Accelerated Reading

**Accelerated Reader (A.R.) produces an average of two years' reading age growth in just one academic year while promoting reading for pleasure.**

AR is a powerful tool for monitoring and managing independent reading practice. With AR, teachers can create a reading programme to meet the needs of every student.

Using information generated by the software, teachers can help students select books that are difficult enough to keep them challenged, but not too difficult to cause frustration. In addition, it helps teachers to monitor students' vocabulary growth, literacy skills development and reading skills taught through other reading schemes. It can:

- Develop a lifelong love of reading in your students
- Motivate students of all ages to read more, suitably challenging, books
- Raise literacy standards for students of all ages and abilities
- Access instant reporting on each student's progress and diagnose issues.



In St. Eoghan's pupils are awarded for their progress in reading through termly AR assemblies where certificates and prizes are given to those who have reached their targets.



# *Language and Literacy*

## *Jolly Phonics*

In our school we use the Jolly Phonics Programme to teach Spelling and Grammar. Our children thoroughly benefit from this multisensory phonics programme.

## *Writing*

In the Foundation Stage, pupils are given opportunities to communicate through experimental writing and as they progress they are given support to form letters, spell words, structure sentences and express their ideas more clearly using appropriate vocabulary. They will progress from talking about what they are going to write to planning and reviewing their writing for a specific audience and purpose. Additionally, all pupils have opportunities to use digital media to express their ideas. Our whole school approach to writing is 'have a go' and all of our pupils' efforts are valued.

## *Talking and Listening*

Pupils talk and listen in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes such as asking and answering questions, taking part in conversations, talking about stories and poems as well as explaining and making predictions. As pupils progress they are encouraged to express themselves using a more personal vocabulary and detail to present their ideas and achieve effects.





# Mathematics & Numeracy

The Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 and 2 aim to develop the application of mathematics and numeracy across the curriculum and in real life situations. Children are given opportunities to explore a wide of purposeful fun activities, including problem-solving tasks and investigations. Pupils regularly use practical materials and electronic resources.

During the Foundation Stage, children are provided with valuable experiences which enable them to develop the concepts of and skills in: Understanding Number, Counting and Number Recognition, Measures, Shape and Space, Sorting and Patterns, and Relationships.

Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils further develop their concepts of and skills in: Processes in Mathematics, Number, Measures, Shape and Space and Handling.

## *Numeracy and ICT*

We have recently introduced, 'Mathletics' for P3-P7 pupils.

Children are very enthusiastic about the Mathletics programme, which provides a captivating and safe learning experience incorporating ICT and numeracy, through online engaging gaming and rewards.

In addition to this, the use of iPad's, Interactive Whiteboards, PC's and laptops we enjoy enhancing teaching and learning of Mathematics for all pupils. Likewise, we use many website, programs, and apps to develop and enhance learning experiences in numeracy.

We also took part in Math's Week Ireland this year to celebrate all things numeracy. We engaged in interactive, hands on and fun practical activities in numeracy.





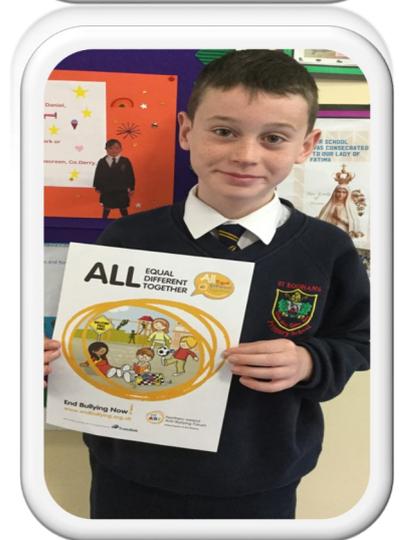
# Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU)

The PDMU curriculum has two strands:

- Personal Understanding and Health
- Mutual Understanding in the Local and Wider community

In the Foundation Stage, we provide pupils with experiences which help them to form good relationships with other pupils and adults and make informed choices about showing respect when working and playing together. Pupils are also encouraged to adopt healthy and hygienic routines and they learn how to keep safe.

Pupils in Key Stages One and Two learn about the different options for a healthy and safe lifestyle. They become more aware of the relationships that they have with their family, friends and others in school and in the local community and progress to understanding more about other cultures in the wider community.





## *The Arts (Drama, Music, Art)*



Children are able to express their ideas, feelings and interpretations of the world in diverse ways by developing their creativity through Art and Design, Music and Drama. Each individual is encouraged to explore and combine their own experiences with their imagination and natural curiosity. These are developed and built upon from year to year fostering children's artistic, musical and kinaesthetic talents and intelligences. Throughout the year, many opportunities are offered for children to participate in role-play, assemblies, seasonal plays and concerts.



We also have the additional services of our own Music teacher, Mrs P Herron. Children from P4 – 7 receive Instrumental Violin tuition from Miss O'Boyle and guitar from Mr McCusker, EA Peripatetic Music teacher. Children have opportunities to enter public examinations/ Grades.





# The Arts (Drama, Music, Art)





# *Let Us Rise*





*Let Us Rise*





# Let Us Rise





# Physical Education

All children are provided with opportunities to take part in daily physical activities including physical play and frequently planned sessions of Physical Education.

During P.E. sessions, our pupils develop knowledge, understanding and skills in Athletics, Dance, Games and Gymnastics.

Children are encouraged to think about the importance of how physical activity can contribute to a Healthy Lifestyle.

Pupils are presented with appropriate problem-solving tasks such as devising games or outwitting opponents.

Children from P1-4 take part in the Fundamental Movement Skills Programme.





# Physical Education

Coaches from Ballinascreen teach age appropriate Fundamental G.A.A skills to each class.

G.A.A County Board coaches work with all children from P.3 to P.7.

In P5/6 and 7 pupils take part in termly swimming sessions

Pupils from P.2 to P.7 take part in a structured programme of Ceili Dancing.





# *The World Around Us*

In this area of learning our pupils have opportunities to develop knowledge and understanding of and skills in:

- Interdependence
- Place
- Movement and Energy
- Change over Time

We encourage our pupils to become active participants in the learning process, linking learning across the curriculum and to current events in the world. We have adopted a topic based approach to the World Around Us. We aim to enhance learning with enrichment activities, trips and visits to make learning come to life.





# The World Around Us





# Play Based Learning



Play promotes learning in a very important, natural and enjoyable way. Pupils learn to express their thoughts and feelings through play. They develop their natural curiosity by exploring, experimenting and developing skills which will help them come to terms with the real world.



Learning through play permeates the curriculum from P1 through to P4. Pupils in Primary 1-4 also have dedicated play time.



We involve our pupils in planning, doing and reviewing their play in order to optimise opportunities for learning across the curriculum.

We have incorporated Activity Time into class timetables for Primary classes 5-7.





# Outdoor learning





# Irish

In St. Eoghan's we are very proud of our Irish heritage. We have very enriching experiences that promote our Irish culture and community.

Children have opportunities to take part in the Scór na bpáistí, various Gaelic Games, Ceili dancing and tin whistle lessons. They also reached the Ulster Final of the Cumann na Bunscoil quiz. Year 7 pupils also explore the history of Ireland in their World Around Us topic of Saints and Scholars. In addition our Primary 7 pupils take part in the Pushkin Project cross-curricular, cross-community and cross-border project. Our annual St. Patrick's Day assembly and show is an enjoyable experience for all, as pupils showcase their talents and skills.





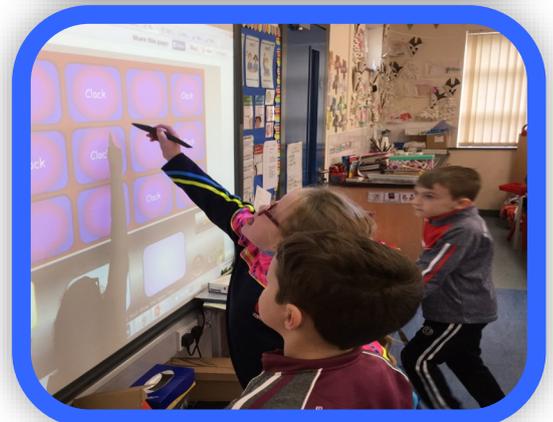
# ICT



We recognise the importance of ICT in all areas of the curriculum and the outside world. ICT is used as a resource in many areas of the curriculum and for all age ranges and abilities. We use iPads, PC's, laptops, Interactive whiteboards, programmable devices such as beebot. We are very fortunate to have access to iPads here in St. Eoghan's.

Across the curriculum, teacher plan and give pupils opportunities to develop skills in the *five ICT strands: Explore, Express, Exchange, Evaluate and Exhibit.*

All classrooms are equipped with C2k PCs, which provide connection to the Internet. In addition to this all pupils have access to our Computer Suite. We also use iPads, laptops, Interactive whiteboards, programmable devices such as beebot. We are very fortunate to have access to iPads here in St. Eoghan's. We are aware of the importance of E-Safety here in St. Eoghan's therefore pupils are taught how to use the internet safely, and are aware of the dangers of being online. These topics and issues are explored through PDMU and other initiatives such as 'BEE safe' week. Pupils use the internet safely in line with our Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy.





# *Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities*

At the heart of the curriculum lies an explicit emphasis on the development of skills and capabilities for lifelong learning and for operating effectively in society. Children progressively develop the range of Cross-Curricular skills and Thinking Skills / Personal Capabilities listed below.

## **Cross- Curricular Skills**

- Communication;
- Using Mathematics; and,
- Using ICT.

## **Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities**

- Managing Information;
- Working With Others;
- Thinking, Problem-Solving and Decision-making;
- Self-management; and,
- Being Creative.









**St. Eoghan's  
Primary School**  
Moneyneena

**'Let Us Rise –  
Stories Told Of  
Ireland Old'**

An Ráth Dubh  
Moneyneena

Tuesday 28th & Wednesday 29th June 2016  
at 7.30pm



ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY

♦ Tickets - €5.00 ♦ Children - €3.00 ♦

Tickets can be Obtained from St. Eoghan's PS, Moneyneena. Tel: 028 7962 8008



# *Celebrating Success*

## *Our achievements this year so far...*

In St. Eoghan's we are a very talented bunch of children. Children have the opportunity to participate in a range of enriching extra-curricular experiences. St. Eoghan's continues to enjoy a variety of individual and team success. The boys and girls at St. Eoghan's should be very proud of their hard work and dedication in developing their skills and talents. Here are some of our school achievements for academic year 2016/2017 so far...

### Cross Country South Derry Championships

- Boys Team 1st place
- Girls Team 3rd Place
- 1st : Eva
- 3rd : Faolan



### South Derry Track and Field Champions in girls and boys events.

### Ballinascreen Credit Union Quiz

- Winners of the U12 section
- Runners up in the U10 section.



### Ballinascreen Credit Union Art Competition

1st : Grace Anne

2nd : Katie

3rd : Hannah Rose





# *Celebrating Success*

## *Our achievements this year so far...*

### Allianz Cumann na Bunscoil

- Quiz finalists in Letterkenny



### South Derry Football

- Semi finalists in Boys football



### South Derry Ladies Football

- Sharon Donnelly Cup—runners up

### Scór na bpáistí

- 1st place in Solo singing—Dara
- 1st place in Quiz—Michael, Shea, Erin and Grace Anne



We believe in St. Eoghan's all success should be celebrated and this is why we have a weekly assembly where certificates are given out by class teachers. Also at our weekly assembly we have the prestigious St. Eoghan's Head Teacher's Award. The Head Teachers Award is given to a pupil who sets an excellent and shining example to other pupils, who always tries their best in all areas and aspects of school life at St. Eoghan's. In addition to this at our annual Year 7 leavers mass, Primary 7 pupils are given a special award, voted by their peers, teachers and principal. These are presented to the pupils at their leavers mass.





## Staff Development

The staff development programme operating in the school is designed so that every member of staff will experience self-development through shared responsibility and mutual interdependence. The programme will ensure that the teachers are kept fully abreast of developments in education, which concern their work, and are supported fully in these times of rapid change.

Through shared planning and discussion the teachers grow to learn more about themselves and their colleagues, and work towards greater cohesion and cooperation as a staff working for the greater good of the pupil in their care.

## Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is the structure and programmes in our school which attempt to meet the totality of all pupils (socially, emotionally, intellectually, spiritually, physically and mentally) so that all pupils have the opportunity to reach their potential in every aspect of their lives and are equipped with the skills to cope with the 'outside world'.

Our Pastoral care system encompasses all areas of school life. Our pastoral care policy is complimented by other school policies and procedures and supported by other external agencies – Health and Social Services, P.S.N.I, Special Education and the School Psychology service.

In St. Eoghan's PS, we believe that a good relationship between pupils and staff is paramount in generating a positive climate within the school community where every individual feels valued and cared for at all times. Good relationships will be nurtured at all levels.



## *Special Educational Provision*

In line with the Code of Practice (1998) and the Special Educational Needs Disability Order NI (SENDI, 2005), this school promotes an 'inclusive ethos'. We aim to educate all of our pupils by ensuring access to a broad and balanced curriculum, suitably differentiated to meet the needs of all pupils so that children can achieve their potential.

All children with Special Educational Needs are assessed and identified as early as possible. The school operates a five-staged approach when making provision for pupils with S.E.N. Provision in most cases will be within the year class group where the class teacher will meet the needs of pupils with SEN.

Where provision for a child's special educational needs is beyond the school's resources, parents are informed and consulted and with their agreement, the child's teacher and school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) will recommend that the pupil concerned be assessed by the school's Educational Psychologist. Recommendations made by the Educational Psychologist will be put into practice by the child's class teacher, Learning Support Teacher and where appropriate any external agencies that may be supporting the child.



## *Special Educational Provision*

If the school is still concerned about a child's progress, the school will again inform and consult with parents and may recommend that a more formal assessment of the child's special educational needs is carried out by the Educational Psychologist and other external agencies supporting the child. The specialist services of the North Eastern Education and Library Board Section will make recommendations based on the outcome of the formal assessment.

We involve both the child and his / her parents in setting and reviewing targets. We encourage parents to work closely with us in supporting children with learning difficulties and involve them at each stage of the process.

If a parent has a concern regarding Special Educational Needs Provision, they are encouraged to work in partnership with the school to try to resolve the issue. Where no solution has been reached, the NEELB offers special educational needs—

- Advice and Information Service
- Dispute Avoidance and Resolution Service (DARS)

***(Telephone 028 25653333 for further information on either of the above services.)***



## *Child Protection*

The principles and philosophy which underpin our child protection procedures are those set out in the 'United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child' (UK agreement in 1991) and enshrined in the Children (NI) Order 1995 (effective from November 1996). In particular the principle we support is that every child has the fundamental right to be safe from harm and with proper care being given to their physical, emotional, spiritual well-being by those looking after them.

In accordance with recent legislation, we have a 'Child Protection Policy' in operation. Staff, parents and governors are made aware of their own and the school's responsibility in reporting cases of suspected child abuse. Everyone has a duty to protect children from physical, emotional or sexual abuse and from neglect. Staff are very alert to procedures relating to Child Protection.

The school has developed and provides a 'child protection ethos' and a preventative approach. We aim to involve the whole school in creating a 'listening school'. The school offers protection on two levels:

Immediate protection – creating a listening environment that makes it easier for children to share their concerns through the taught programme, good supervision and two way communication between pupils, staff, parents and the community. Children are informed who they can talk to if they have any concerns. Additionally, pupils are provided with opportunities for disclosure through the 'Listening Box'.

Long term protection, enhancing self-esteem and encouraging pro social skills, breaking the cycle of abusive behaviour as an intrinsic part of the whole curriculum.



The school curriculum includes a programme for pupils on personal protection. As part of our child protection policy, all staff adhere to the agreed code of conduct for employees and volunteers. This code of conduct covers all activities organised in and by the school, whether on school premises or elsewhere. Our pupils also agree a code of conduct to ensure their own safety and the safety and welfare of others.

The Board of Governors also adheres to safe recruitment practices in relation to employment at St. Eoghan's P.S. All persons beyond the school

staff who are invited to be involved as helpers/leaders on trips or other out of school activities are subject to vetting procedures.

Staff are also aware of adults who have parental responsibility for the pupils in our school. Staff ensure that pupils are collected only by those adults who have parental responsibility or nominated adults. In the interests of security and the welfare of your child, parents / guardians are asked to send in a written request (signed and dated) if they wish to take their child out of school.

#### **The Safeguarding Team:**

- Designated teacher for child protection is **Mrs Mairead Cunningham**.
- Deputy Designated Teacher **Mrs Marie Molloy**.
- The Chairperson of the Board of Governors is **Mr Brian Mc Guigan**
- The Designated Governor for Child Protection **Mrs Amiee Quinn**
- Designated Governor for Selection and Recruitment / Child Protection is **Mr Brian McGuigan**

Everyone has a duty to protect children from physical, emotional or sexual abuse and from neglect. The child's welfare must always be paramount and this overrides all other consideration.

The Child Protection Programme in this school seeks to support the child's development in ways which will foster security, confidence and independence. As it is central to the well-being of the child it will form an intrinsic part of all aspects of the curriculum.

All agencies concerned with the protection of children work together in the best interests of children and their families. If parents feel they require further information on Child Protection issues, they should refer to their copy of the school's Child Protection Policy or contact one of the following people:

- *Mrs Mairead Cunningham —Designated Teacher for Child Protection* (028 79628008)
- *Mrs Marie Molloy- Deputy Designated Teacher (C.P.)* (028 79628008)
- *Magherafelt Social Services* (02879301700)
- *Margaret Brady, Colleen Elison, Elaine Craig, Laura Dornan —Senior Child Protection Officer EA* (028 82411411)
- *Rita McCrory, Kieran McKenna - Senior Child Protection Officer CCMS* (028 7126 1931)
- *PSNI- Public Protection Unit* (028 7034 4122)



## *Medicines, illness and accidents*

- Pupils with medical problems will be given special consideration and supported in making a full contribution to the life of the school. Parents are asked to complete a form, at the beginning of the school year, giving details of his / her child's medical details / special medical conditions.
- Staff do not normally administer medicines to pupils. However, where any child has an on-going medical condition, appropriate arrangements will be made with medical advice and training.
- If child has asthma and needs an inhaler then it is advisable that one is kept in school.
- Children are not permitted to bring any other medicines into school.
- If your child is unwell or has an accident we will try to contact you at home. If this is not possible then we will contact the next person on the contact details form.
- If we are unable to contact anyone and your child needs urgent attention then we will contact his/her doctor's surgery or the Accident and Emergency Dept. of the nearest hospital.
- A note is sent home with any child who has sustained an injury.
- All teaching staff, classroom assistants and the Building Supervisor have been trained and accredited in First Aid.



## Head Lice

Notes are no longer issued from the school and the school nurse no longer carries out checks. The current advice that we have been given is that parents should regularly carry out checks themselves. Shampoo containing pesticides should only be used if lice are found. Nits (eggs) should be brushed or combed out. Contact your local chemist for advice.

## Drugs Education

We believe that this school has a vital preventative role to play in combating the misuse of drugs by young people and we therefore include a drugs programme in our curriculum.

We want our pupils to make informed and responsible decisions about drugs by increasing their knowledge and by developing in them appropriate values, attitudes and skills. However, we recognise that drug misuse is a whole-community issue and that schools alone cannot solve the drugs problem; the school is only one of a number of groups and agencies which must play a part in the education of young people and we make use of their expertise where possible in the delivery of the programme.

Copies of the above policies can be obtained on request from the school. The Principal contacts parents if there is any cause for concern about their children. Parents worried about their children are welcome to come and discuss matters with the Principal or teacher. Meetings can be arranged through the school secretary.



## *Positive Behaviour*

Children are expected to behave in a way, which shows consideration for other people and their property. Children are expected to treat their peers and adults with politeness and kindness and to have regard for the safety of themselves and others. The school operates a Positive Behaviour Programme based on rules, rewards and consequences, which encourages all children to make positive choices about their behaviour.

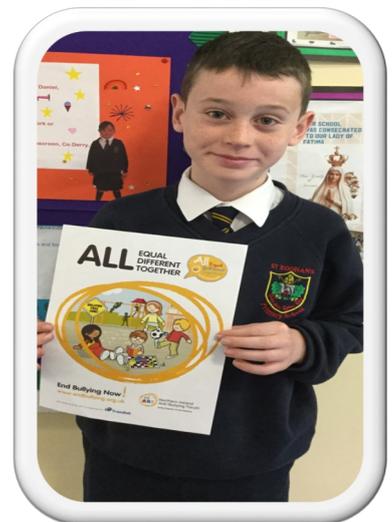
At the beginning of each academic year, the children in each class agree the Positive Behaviour Programme and a pupil code of conduct.

Pupils' are rewarded for making positive behaviour choices through their class rewards system, Head Teacher's Award as well as through class and whole school rewards.

Copies of the agreed Positive Behaviour policy and the pupils' code of conduct will be sent to parents in the first term.

## *Anti - Bullying*

We aim to create a culture wherein every pupil is respected, valued and cared for and so sees it as his / her responsibility to stand up against bullying. We encourage children and parents and staff to report it. We encourage pupils to support their peers and use strategies that equip them to play an active part in preventing bullying from happening. We encourage development of self-confidence and self-esteem by promoting an ethos of good communication among staff, pupils and parents where those who are vulnerable will feel able to come forward and confide in staff. Copies of our Anti Bullying Policy are available from the school office.





# Physical Activity

We promote physical education and activity in a variety of ways such as: during PE activities, in Gaelic football / Hurling & Camogie / After-schools Sports clubs, during break and lunch times.

This will encourage them to continue their participation in physical activities, out of school and in adult life, thus contributing to an active healthy lifestyle.

## Fundamental Movement

### **Programme Overview**

The Curriculum Sports Programme is a joint project with Ulster GAA, Irish FA and DENI. The programme was established 2007 by the Department of Education Minister and commenced in the 2007/2008 academic year.

The Ulster GAA and Irish FA each currently employ 30 specialist coaches who provide the Curriculum Sports Programme in over 600 schools nationwide. This means that on a weekly basis over 30,000 children and over 1,500 teachers receive access to the programme.

### What is the Curriculum Sports Programme?

The Curriculum Sports Programme is aimed at P1-P4 pupils and seeks to improve their health and wellbeing and encourage them to embrace a healthy lifestyle from a young age. The main aims of the programme are:

To develop fundamental movement skills through participation in enjoyable games.

Help raise confidence, self-esteem and motivation to learn in other curricular areas.

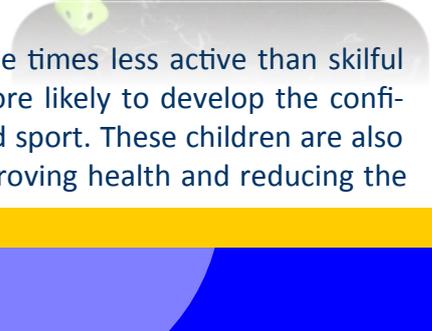
Raise the confidence of, and provide support to, primary teachers in delivering PE.

### What are Fundamental Movement skills

We are developing your child's Agility, Balance and Co-ordination through Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS). FMS are the building blocks of movement and allow us to do more complex skills or sports. Examples of FMS are running, jumping, throwing, catching and kicking.

### Why are we doing this?

Studies have shown that children who fail to develop FMS are three times less active than skilful children of the same age. Children who develop sound FMS are more likely to develop the confidence and self-esteem they need to take part in physical activity and sport. These children are also more likely to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle, thereby improving health and reducing the





## Healthy Eating

We encourage children to eat a balanced diet and develop healthy eating habits.

We encourage all pupils to eat fruit and / or vegetables and drink milk or water at break-time.

Pupils are actively encouraged to drink water throughout the school day and they can bring their own individual water bottles to school.

Pupils can bring their own lunch to school or order meals in the canteen. We have a policy on 'the Promotion of Healthy Eating Habits and Improving Oral Health in Children' in operation and children are encouraged to choose the healthy options for school lunches. Pupils are praised daily for making healthy choices at lunch-time and pupils are rewarded for making healthy break and lunch choices during weekly assemblies. The school dinner menu consists of numerous healthy options. The school canteen does not sell sweets, crisps or fizzy drinks as St. Eoghan's P.S., is a Health Promoting School and has won Canteen of the Year for the NEELB area.





## Home Learning

As outlined in our Homework Policy, we believe that homework can play an important part in the education process. It allows pupils to practice, apply, consolidate and extend what has been learnt in school and at the same time facilitates parental involvement in the child's learning. The type of homework set will range from informal tasks in the early years to more formal arrangements in senior classes. Tasks will be directly related to work going on in the classroom. We aim to establish a genuine partnership between teachers, pupils and parents, relating to homework tasks. Parental support and encouragement will be vital for the success of the homework programme.

## Attendances and Absences

All children should attend school for the requisite days which the law requires unless they are ill. If children have to miss school for illness or any other reason lasting more than a day the parents should send in a note explaining the absence. This information is required by the Education Welfare Officer (E.W.O) who regularly monitors attendance. All attendance is recorded on our computerised attendance register and parents may be asked to account for unexplained absences of their children.

We do have excellent attendance figures in St. Eoghan's Primary, Moneyneena, and we acknowledge full attendance annually with school and EA (NEELB) Certificates.

If your child is sick at the beginning of the school day please do not send them.

We are advised by the School's Medical Service about infections and other conditions. Some of these such as chicken pox, measles and impetigo require exclusion from school for varying lengths of time.



## The School Council

The School Council members have opportunities to work in collaboration with staff in the everyday running of the school. Each class has elected representatives on the school council. The School Council meets regularly to discuss ways in which the school community can work together.

The School Council have been involved in lobbying for more outdoor play equipment and wet play games. These children were involved in the whole process of selecting and ordering items within a set budget. The School Council also plays a significant part in the organisation of whole school celebrations.

## The School Eco Committee

The Eco Committee was set up by the pupils in consultation with staff and is responsible for developing the school's response to "green" issues.

Some of the achievements of the Eco-committee include:

- a reduction in electricity used, paper bills, waste in the black bins and water used
- the recycling of batteries, ink cartridges, milk cartons etc.

The Eco Committee was instrumental in lobbying for the erection of Solar Panels on the roof of our school.





# Assessment For Learning and of Learning/ Reporting

## Assessment of Learning

Regular assessments are carried out by Teachers and Learning Support Assistants to monitor and evaluate pupils' progress. A range of assessment strategies are used:

- Observations
- Talking to focus groups of children
- Class tests (Literacy, Numeracy, at the end of topic tests)
- Standardised Tests (Literacy, Numeracy, SWST and Mental Maths P3 - P7 May)
- Statutory End of Key-Stage Assessments (Literacy and Numeracy P4 - P7 April)

Staff use information gathered from the assessments to inform planning and set targets for improvement.

## Assessment for Learning

At the beginning of lessons, clear learning intentions are shared with pupils. Additionally, the Teacher works with pupils to agree success criteria so that pupils are aware of what the teacher is looking for them to achieve in a task or in a piece of work. Pupils are also aware of the purpose for learning. Staff encourage pupils to carry out self-assessments and peer assessments in lessons so that pupils are more aware of their strengths and areas for development. Additionally, teachers involve pupils in the marking and feedback process. Pupils are involved in setting their own targets and are aware of their preferred learning style.

Staff also use information from assessments to help identify pupils who may have special needs. Diagnostic tests are then carried out to find out more about the nature of the child's strengths and areas for improvement in learning.



## **Reporting**

The results of Standardised tests and Key-stage assessment outcomes are reported to parents in the end of year report. Each parent will be informed of his/her child's progress through twice yearly parent/teacher meetings, the usual written report which is issued in June of each year and other informal meetings as and when necessary. Pupils' P7 reports and Key Stage assessment outcomes are transferred to their post-primary school.

The teachers will keep detailed records of each child's work and progress, from P1 to P7, so that a clear picture is available for all to see. The teaching staff will monitor and evaluate their teaching and learning methods to ensure that the curriculum remains relevant to the needs of the pupils and is delivered at a pace appropriate to the ability of each pupil.

## **Records of Achievement**

A record of each child's work is kept. This contains samples of children's work from Primary 1 – Primary 7. In Primary 7 children complete a portfolio of work, which is a celebration of their personal achievements, skills and talents academic and non-academic inside and outside school, called a Record of Achievement. These are formally presented to the children at our Annual Presentation evening in June of the summer term. The children also leave St. Eoghan's with a leavers DVD with all their great memories from their time at Primary School.





## *After School Provision*

Our pupils are able to access and are encouraged to avail of a wide variety of activities after school. These activities include;

- Gaelic Football and Hurling/Camogie
- ECO Club
- Singing
- Traditional Music
- ICT
- Literacy/Numeracy Club
- Gardening
- Art and Crafts Club
- Quiz club
- Homework club
- Cookery club
- Cycling proficiency
- Transfer club

Appropriately qualified coaches, classroom assistants and teachers facilitate the after school clubs. All after school leaders and assistants are also vetted.

We also have a range of clubs provided by Glasgowbury such as pop dance, samba drums and digital music.





## *Links with the Parish*

The school plays a very active role in the religious life of the parish. The priest visits the school on a regular basis and we have school Masses where parents and members of the wider community are invited. The children from our school also take part in the Parish based, “Do This In Memory Of Me Programme” which prepares the children for the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

The children from St Eoghan’s make their Confirmation along with the other children from the parish. Every year in June, children from the various schools in Ballinascreen and from the Derry diocese that have received the Sacrament of Confirmation travel to the Celtic Park to attend an Open Air Mass. (‘Fan the Flame’). This is celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown.





## *Home School Links*

Our school does not function in isolation and we are grateful for the tremendous support that we receive from our parents and the wider community. We view parents as partners in the education of their children and we seek their active interest and involvement.

Parents are consulted on all school policies, the School Development plan and the Annual Report to Parents. They invited to a meeting to discuss the Annual Report to Parents each year. There are parent information / open evenings where current developments in Education, the content of policies and aspects of the school development plan are discussed.

Regular letters/text messages from the school, an up to date website keep parents informed of any relevant news, information or forthcoming events. Additionally, we invite our parents and into the school for class assemblies, Healthy Eating initiatives, school Masses and school shows etc.



The existence of our Parent Teacher Association has also proved very useful over the last number of years. We work closely with the Parent Teacher Association in organising fund raising events. Our P.T.A does excellent work in fundraising and has helped provide equipment and resources that the school would otherwise not have been able to afford through the school budget.



We welcome help from parents in the classrooms and on educational trips. We provide support for parents who would like to volunteer as helpers. If you would like to help in this way, please contact Mr Paschal Diamond (Principal).



# Uniform

In order to instil and foster a sense of pride in the school, children must wear the school uniform every day. It is particularly important that children wear sensible footwear whether indoors or out.

## Boys:

- Navy trousers
- White shirt
- Navy V neck school jumper
- School tie
- Navy socks
- Black shoes/ Black trainers

## Girls:

- Navy trousers/skirt
- Navy pinafore
- Navy cardigan
- White blouse
- Navy V neck school jumper
- School tie
- Navy socks/tights
- Black shoes/Black trainers

## P.E. Uniform:

- Navy shorts
- Light blue polo shirt
- Black pumps/trainers





# Uniform

***Other optional items such as school coat etc. are also available from the school range.***

## **Names on Clothing**

It is essential that **all** items should be labelled with the child's name.

## **Jewellery**

Children are discouraged from wearing jewellery to school because of the safety factor. If children have their ears pierced then they should wear studs and not earrings. If children do come to school with inappropriate jewellery then their teacher may require that they remove the items, or that they do not take part in activities where the teacher feels that the jewellery constitutes a safety hazard.



## School Milk

Milk is ordered on a termly basis. Your child pays in advance when milk letters are sent out. No refunds or credits can be given unless the child suffers a period of absence of more than one week.

## School Dinners

A Cash Cafeteria system is now in operation in the school.

A copy of the menu is sent home to each family on a weekly basis.

Pupils are able to choose what they want and pay for it on the day.

Please try to ensure the correct money is sent with your child.

**If you believe your child is entitled to have free meals you should complete an application form and send it to NEELB, County Hall, 182 Galgorm Rd, Ballymena.**

## School Lunches

Lunches and drinks should be packed separately from books to avoid damage in the event of spills.

Your child's name should be put on his/her lunch box

No glass bottles, fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolates and crisps.



## *Charging and Remission Policy*

Pupils benefit enormously from the stimulation and wider experience provided by educational visits to places of interest. Such field trips are organised within the school day when appropriate, both locally and province based.

The school will seek voluntary contributions from parents for Educational trips. Pupils will not be excluded from activities as a result of non-contribution. Parents will be notified in advance of the cancellation of any planned activity due to inadequate funding or unavailability of other financial backing to subsidise the activity.

### *Other schools*

Our staff and pupils work with a range of other schools on developing the curriculum, Staff Training and Personal Development and Mutual Understanding activities. These schools include:

- St. Mary's Primary School, Draperstown, Altayeskey Primary School, Draperstown, St. Columba's Primary School, Straw, St. Columba's Primary School, Cullion and St. Colm's High School, Draperstown.

### *The wider community*

- Maghera Garden Centre (Industry awareness)
- Maghera Fire Station
- Magherafelt District Council (Bee Safe, Recycling and Litter Initiatives)
- Ballinascreen Credit Union (Parish Quiz, various competitions etc.)
- Bank of Ireland, Draperstown (P.7 children visit the bank to learn all about the industry/practices, etc.)
- Ballinascreen Early Years (Transition to Primary One Programme)
- The Little Wombles Playgroup, Draperstown (Transition to Primary One Programme)
- Slieve Gallion Pre – School, Desertmartin (Transition to Primary One Programme)



Our staff use the wealth of resources in our community to enhance teaching and learning in our school. The school regularly takes part in community and local events such as the Ballinascreen Credit Union Quiz, the local Feis, sporting competitions and blitzes, Canteen of the year organised by the local Education Authority, Healthy Eating Competitions, Drugs Awareness Competitions, Writing/Mathematics competitions and Halloween Art competitions).

Staff and pupils are also very keen to welcome visitors from the community who can offer expertise or experiences to enhance the education of our pupils. These include coaches from the Derry G.A.A Primary Schools Development Programme, NSPCC, Local Fire Service, and charity & education groups such as Action MS, Cancer Research puppet show, N.I. Waterline, Cancer Focus – Sun Scientist, Bryson House Recycling and Anti-bullying talks. The school nurse also comes into talk to the P.7's each year. We also travel out to our local community to avail of both the expertise of members of our local community as well as the resources in the local community. We have visited Magherafelt District Council, Parliament Buildings, Stormont, Belfast, Maghera Garden Centre, Belfast Zoo, Armagh Planetarium, Dublin Zoo, Sperrin Fun Farm, Feeny, Croke Park and the Aviva Stadium, Crumlin Road Gaol, Newgrange World Heritage Site, Co. Meath, Trinity College, Dublin, National Waxwork Museum, Dublin, Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh, Titanic Building, Belfast, W5 at the Odyssey Arena etc.



## *Complaints Procedure*

All complaints with regard to the curriculum or any other matters should be made in the first instance to the principal whenever they feel this is necessary. Often potential problems can be avoided if they are detected early and dealt with promptly. The Principal is available after 3.30 p.m. daily. Whilst we operate an open door policy, parents are advised to make an appointment for all meetings.

At St. Eoghan's P.S., Moneyneena, we are committed to listening about our service. We use information in the form of comments and complaints, wherever possible to improve our service. We encourage and welcome all comments and views, both positive and negative. Our Handling Complaints Policy is designed to establish a clear mechanism for the resolution of complaints which can be verbal, written, taped or emailed.

Our complaints procedures do not replace or supplement other established procedures such as Child Protection procedures. We are unable to deal with anonymous complaints and therefore our complaints procedures do not provide for a resolution of anonymous complaints except for the referral of Child Protection concerns (in line with our Child Protection policy, procedures and guidelines).



# Admissions and Enrolment Policy

St. Eoghan's P.S., Moneyneena is a Catholic Primary School in the Parish of Ballinascreen, in the Diocese of Derry. The school's formula enrolment number is 127 and the school's admission number is 18.

St. Eoghan's P.S. is an inclusive school and welcomes applications for enrolment from any pupil, irrespective of their background.

The current policy is to admit children to who have reached the compulsory age, i.e. those children whose fourth birthday falls on or before 1st July the Primary 1 class on the first day of the Autumn Term.



As part of the P1 Induction Programme, P1 children are invited to spend a morning in school before the end of the summer term. Parents are also invited to an Information Evening with the principal and class teacher / assistants. In addition to this, staff from the school will visit the various nursery settings to meet the children transferring to the school. At the beginning of the Autumn Term, the P1 parents are invited to an informal meeting with the principal and the P1 teacher. The purpose of this is to gather information relating to the child so that the transition to primary school will become more effective.



The Board of Governors and the Principal will put into practice the admissions criteria if the enrolment number exceeds 18.





# *Admissions and Enrolment Policy*

***When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or attached to it.***

***Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the school being oversubscribed.***

***The criteria are listed in order of priority.***

- Children for whom St. Eoghan's P.S. is the nearest maintained P.S.
- Children who have brothers or sister enrolled in the school.
- Children whose parent/guardian, brother/sister (half-brother/sister) are prior pupils of the school.
- Children whose parent/guardian is a member of the school staff.
- Children who live closest to St. Eoghan's P.S. as measured by public road/footpath.
- Children from other areas of the parish.



## Inspection of Documents

Copies of our School Development Plan and all of our school policies are available on request from the school office.

The documents available:

- The Governors' statement of aims of the school.
- Any statutory documents.
- Any published HMI reports referring to the school.
- The School Development plan, Action plans and subject schemes, which are drawn up with respect to the Curriculum.
- All School policies - such as Pastoral Care, Anti-bullying, Child Protection, Intimate Care, Safe Use of the Internet, Positive Behaviour, and Handling Complaints etc.

## Conclusion

I hope that having read our prospectus, you have some idea of the rich and varied life that your child will have whilst being a pupil at St. Eoghan's P.S., Moneyneena.

Remember, the greatest help that you can give your child, as far as school is concerned, is time and interest in what they are doing.

You can be assured that, by working in partnership with our school community, your child will have optimum opportunities to learn and develop to his/her full potential. Additionally your child's happiness and well-being will be our concern at all times during his / her years at St. Eoghan's P.S.



## St Eoghan's Primary School Prayer



God our Father,

Bless our school,

Bless our families and friends,

Guide us through our school years, and help us to work hard,

May we use our talents each day to serve you, and to care for each other with joy,

Help our school to be a place of peace and harmony,

Help us to live like Jesus,

We pray for protection from all harm,

Keep us all in your love and care.

**Amen**

