



Saint Bronagh's P.S. Rostrevor Prospectus 2024/25

St Bronagh's Primary School,
53, Church Street,
Rostrevor, BT34 3BB.

Tel No: (028) 417 38450

Email: jmussen895@c2kni.net

Principal: Mr Jody Mussen

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to St. Bronagh's Primary School.

At St. Bronagh's, our mission is to empower every child to excel academically and grow into confident, well-rounded individuals. We are deeply committed to nurturing each pupil's unique potential, fostering both high standards of achievement and personal development.

Our dedicated staff are passionate about providing a caring and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and supported. We strive to create a positive, dynamic learning atmosphere that inspires excellence, promotes a love of learning, and encourages respect and discipline in all that we do.

We believe in the strength of partnership between school and home. Together, through open communication and mutual support, we can ensure your child thrives during their journey at St. Bronagh's Primary School.

Should you require further information or wish to discuss anything, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to working closely with you to make your child's time at St. Bronagh's both enriching and memorable.

Mr Jody Mussen
PRINCIPAL

St Bronagh's Primary School Staff - 2024/25

Teaching Staff

Mr Jody Mussen - Principal
Mrs Adele Murnion - Primary 1
Mrs Mary Joyce - Primary 2
Mrs Una Downey/Mrs Donna Fegan - Primary 3
Mrs Teresa Crimmins - Vice Principal & Primary 4
Mr Robert Belt - Primary 5
Mr Gareth McKibben - Primary 6
Mr Colm Murney - Primary 7

Ancillary Staff

Mrs Brigine Morgan & Mrs Val O'Hare - Clerical Officers (Job Share)
Mr Seamus White - Building Supervisor
Mrs Elizabeth Magee - Cleaner
Mrs Siobhan Ward - Cleaner
Mrs Amanda Fraser - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Mary Mc Grath - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Lorraine Lundy - Classroom Assistant
Mr Marc Bailey - Classroom Assistant
Ms Maria Flynn - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Roseleen Serridge - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Caitlin Clarke - Classroom Assistant
Miss Emma Taylor - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Carina Russell - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Kim Watson - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Hazel Don - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Philomena O' Hare - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Tina Pollard - Classroom Assistant
Miss Melanie Wells - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Dympna Cousins - School Crossing Patrol Lady

School Meals Staff

Mrs Philmar Turley
Mrs Dympna Cousins
Mrs Elizabeth Magee

Supervisory Assistants

Mrs Anne Sherry, Mrs Roseleen Serridge, Mrs Philomena O'Hare, Mrs Caitlin Clarke and Mrs Amanda Fraser

The School Uniform

Main Uniform

Maroon jumper/cardigan with crest
Navy trousers/Pinafore/Skirt
White shirt
School tie
Summer dresses (Optional during warm weather)

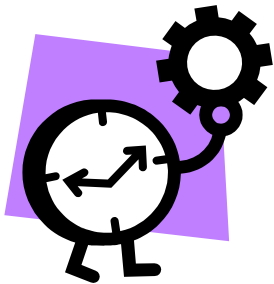


PE Uniform (P1-P3 daily and P4-7 on PE days only)

Maroon Sweat Top with crest.
Navy bottoms – strictly no leggings.
White Polo Shirt.
Navy socks.
Trainers with Velcro fastening.

Our school uniform is available to buy in Mc Evoys, Newry and Saints and Scholars, Newry.

School Hours



The school hours are as follows:

Morning supervision for pupils in the assembly hall from 8.45 – 9.00 a.m.
then in classrooms from 9.00 – 9.15 a.m.

P1-P3

Morning Class - 9.15 -10.30

Break - 10.30 -10.45

Lunch - 12.00 -12.45

Afternoon class - 12.45 - 2.00

P4-P7

Morning Class 9.15-10.45

Break - 10.45 – 11.00

Lunch - 12.30 - 1.15

Afternoon class - 1.15 - 3.00

P1 – P3 afterschool supervision is available from 2.00 – 3.00 p.m. each afternoon at a cost of £2 per pupil per session.

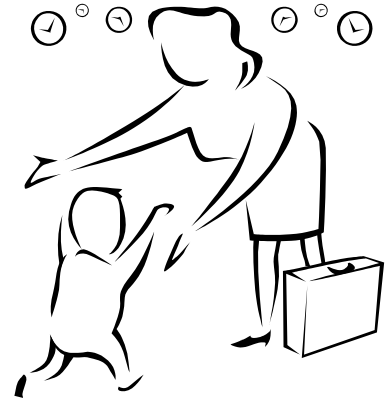
St Bronagh's Primary School Board of Governors

TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES	Fr Desmond Mooney Mr Paul Hughes Mrs Andrea Egan Mrs Briege Savage (Vice Chair)
BOARD REPRESENTATIVES	Mr Jarlath Farrell (Chair) Mr Aidan Mc Alinden
TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE	Mrs Teresa Crimmins
PARENT REPRESENTATIVE	Mrs Brenna Cullen
DENI REPRESENTATIVE	TBC
PRINCIPAL	Mr Jody Mussen

Term of office started in October 2024 and will run for four years.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

St Bronagh's P.S. aims to involve parents in the education of their children and to inform them as fully as possible about their children's progress. The arrangements for consultation are:



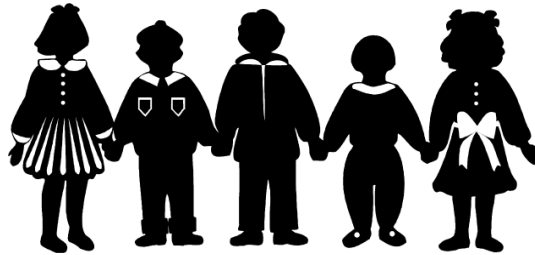
Before Enrolment

Entrants to P1:

All parents of prospective P1 children will be invited to meet the teacher and view the classroom during the Open Day in December and during the Induction Day in June of the year before their child starts.

Entrants who have previously attended another school:

- (i) An interview will be arranged with the Principal.
- (ii) Parents will be welcome to view the school.
- (iii) A meeting can be arranged with the prospective teacher/s of the child or children.



After Enrolment

School Organised:

- a) Parents will be invited to come to school on an appointment basis. All parents will be invited to meet with their child's teacher in the Spring Term and they will be informed accordingly.
- b) Parents will be invited to the school to take part in various activities that occur from time to time during the school year.



Parent Requested:

Parents are very welcome to come to the school to discuss their children's progress. To avoid disruption of classroom work, the following procedures should be followed:

i) Emergency

Parents should approach the school secretary, who will arrange a discussion with the Principal.

ii) Non-emergency

Parents should contact the school secretary who will arrange an interview with the class teacher at a mutually convenient time within one week of the request having been received.

THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Curriculum Policy Statements

It is the policy of the Board of Governors of St. Bronagh's Primary School that all pupils will receive their full entitlement under the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

Our School Vision

At St. Bronagh's Primary School, our vision is to create a supportive and inclusive environment where students are inspired to learn, think critically, and grow in self-confidence while developing strong moral and Christian values.

Overall Aims of the School

St. Bronagh's Primary School will offer a curriculum that is balanced and broadly based, and which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of the pupils. This curriculum will seek to prepare the pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. It will also be the aim of the school to maximise the potential of each pupil to develop self-confidence and to promote a spirit of tolerance towards others.

Detailed Aims

- *to foster a desire to learn.*
- *to help children think clearly, creatively and critically.*
- *to encourage a sense of self-esteem.*
- *to cultivate the motivation to apply themselves to worthwhile and satisfying activities.*
- *to help children develop physically.*
- *to help them understand the society and environment in which they live.*
- *to help children to acquire and develop moral and Christian values and a respect for the beliefs and values held by others.*

The curriculum will also:

- *be concerned with values and attitudes as well as knowledge and skills.*
- *be increasingly practical and build on the interests of the child.*
- *encourage children to become independent learners and take responsibility for organising their own learning.*

General Principles

The acquisition of knowledge and skills will be regarded as important. This acquisition will, however, be in the context of the development of positive attitudes to learning and the development of sound moral values based on the Catholic faith.

Access to the curriculum

The curriculum is seen as being a common curriculum for all the pupils of St Bronagh's Primary School. The school will consider the needs of all children when allocating resources.

Subject to resources being available, the school will provide access to the curriculum to children who have a disability.

Pastoral Dimension

The curriculum is seen as a whole curriculum which includes a pastoral care policy for the pupils. Details of this are given elsewhere in the prospectus. We are currently developing pupils' Social and Emotional Learning through the delivery of the PATHS Programme.

Curriculum Delivery

The distribution of the time among the Areas of Study will reflect the desire to provide a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school curriculum will be reviewed annually.

Parents will be informed of their child's progress:

- a) At parent/teacher interviews which will be held annually during the Spring Term.
- b) By receiving a written report from the school at the end of June.

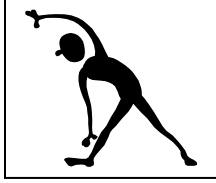
Shared Education

Our school participates in a programme of Shared Education lessons with pupils and staff from Dromore Road PS, Warrenpoint.



Sport/Extra-Curricular Activities

The school will provide opportunities to experience a range of sports and sporting activities, as part of the curriculum for physical education.

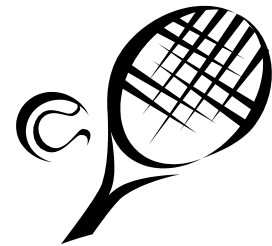


P1-P4 children will have opportunities to work with a variety of equipment, to take part in simple games and develop individual skills leading to co-operative play.

P5 – P7 children will develop co-operation and teamwork through playing a range of sporting activities e.g., football, netball, and they also will go to the swimming pool for lessons during one term each year.

All pupils will receive coaching from a Gaelic Football coach.

St Bronagh's PS offers a range of extra-curricular activities. Some examples of these are technology challenges, credit union quizzes, Cumann na mBunscol quizzes, entry to local feis for individual reciting of poems, choral speaking and singing, music, art, soccer, cross country running and debating.



Complaints Procedure

In cases where parents may have a query, they may express their concerns in accordance with the following procedures. In the vast majority of cases the problem will be solved by speaking to the class teacher. In the case of more serious issues the concerns should be specifically detailed in writing and given to the Principal, to enable the matter to be examined and a reply to be made.

Stage 1 contact the Principal.

Stage 2 contact the Chair of Governors.

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).

Religious Education



St Bronagh's PS is a Catholic school promoting the Catholic ethos. Each child is prepared for the sacraments of First Penance, Holy Communion and Confirmation. The school day begins with an act of worship and there is a fortnightly assembly. The school participates in monthly masses in the nearby church. If you wish to withdraw your child from Religious Education and/or Collective Worship, please contact the principal, Mr Mussen.

Special Needs Provision

All teachers will provide a full programme of work for all the children in their class, whatever their ability. Where pupils with Special Needs are identified, they will be allocated individual learning programmes in literacy or numeracy set at an appropriate level.

If a child is unable to cope in the school, a statement of that child's needs will be issued by the EA and these needs will be met by the EA either through extra assistance, or by a placement in another appropriate school.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Provision for a child with SEN should match those needs. There should be careful recording of a child's needs, the action taken and the outcomes. Appropriate consideration should be given to the ascertainable wishes and feelings of the child. Parents should be closely consulted. Outside specialists should be involved where appropriate at any stage, but particularly preceding any referral to the EA for a statutory assessment.

The Three-Stage Model

Stage 1 - School delivered special educational provision.

Stage 2 - School delivered special educational provision plus external provision e.g. the EA or an HSCT.

Stage 3 - Statement of SEN.

Homework

Homework is seen as an integral and co-ordinated element of the school's assessment policy and practice.

We view homework as valuable for the following reasons:

- It reinforces and consolidates basic skills in the classroom.
- It encourages independence.
- It enables the child to use materials and other sources of information which may not be available in the classroom.
- It can involve parents in the pupil's work for their mutual benefit.
- Parents can gather information about the nature and standards of their child's work, progress and education.



Homework tasks are varied and useful and the demands made on pupil's time are monitored. The approximate time to be spent on homework = P1 - 15 mins, P2 & P3 - 20 mins, P4 & P5 - 30 mins, P6 & P7 - 40 mins.

- Homework may not always be written work but can be a specific task.
- Generally, homework is not given at weekends or on special occasions.

Pastoral Care

Our Pastoral Care Policy is centred on the child in a Catholic School. All pupils are entitled to a happy loving caring and stable school environment. Any information medical or otherwise which may affect a child's performance would be appreciated by the teaching staff and will be treated in the strictest confidence.

If a child is sick or injured, the school will endeavour to contact by telephone the parent /guardian or the parent nominee. If this is not possible, then the child will, if necessary, be brought to the hospital/doctor. The school needs to have an emergency contact number.

If a child's medical details change at any time, parents are requested to inform the school immediately.

All telephone numbers must be kept up to date.

Child Protection/Safeguarding

The School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy states that we as a school have a responsibility towards the children in our care and we should take all reasonable steps to ensure that their welfare is safeguarded, and their safety is preserved.

The designated teacher is Mrs Teresa Crimmins, and the deputy designated teacher is Mr Mussen who are both on the Safeguarding Team, along with two governors. The designated teachers have a specific responsibility for Child Protection and all staff, teaching and non-teaching are aware of this.

The teaching and non-teaching staff have been given guidance on the signs of abuse or neglect and are aware of the procedure to be followed in the event of having to make a disclosure. Throughout the procedure, staff will offer only professional opinions based on fact, and be objective.

If a parent has a concern about their child's safety, they should make an appointment with Mrs Crimmins or Mr Mussen to discuss the matter.

All Pastoral Care and Safeguarding/Child Protection Policies are available to view or download from our school website www.stbronaghs.org

DISCIPLINE

The school has a Positive Behaviour Policy, and this is available to all present and prospective parents. The school also has an Anti-Bullying Policy. Both policies are available to view on our website.

It is the school's policy that the discipline should be based on respect for self, respect for other pupils and respect for adults. In those cases, where a child has transgressed the school rules there is a graded set of sanctions involving various members of staff in order of seniority. In any cases involving a serious breach of rules parents will be involved either by receiving a written report from the school or by being invited to come to school to discuss the matter.

CHARGES AND REMISSIONS

School dinners

School meals are cooked on the premises and dinners currently cost £2.60 per day. Dinner money is collected through our cashless system called ParentPay. Exceptions to payment have to be given by the DHSS. Forms for free dinners can be obtained from the Education Authority.

Under the Education Reform Order, all lessons are provided free of charge. Payment is requested for the GAA afterschool club, music/singing lessons and school trips. Charges will be remitted to those parents on Family Support, if appropriate.

The school will, as it has done in the past, appeal to parents from time to time for voluntary donations, but it is stressed that no child will be disadvantaged in any way if parents choose not to make a contribution.

The school may take part in “optional extras” which are not connected with the school’s formal curriculum e.g. theatre trips. Charges will be made for these, but it is again stressed that failure to participate in these will not affect a child’s performance at school.

The Board of Governors of St Bronagh’s PS realises that the information given in this prospectus is limited and parents are very welcome to make arrangements with the Principal or Vice-Principal, to discuss plans for meeting the needs of their child.

