

Welcome to Sacred Heart Primary School

Primary One Induction



June 2020

What can parents expect from Sacred Heart PS?

- High Quality Teaching and Learning
- An enjoyable educational experience that promotes holistic development (trips, Afterschool Clubs and resources)
- Additional Support when required
- Excellent rapport between families and school
- A commitment to continuously evaluate and improve
- Continuous investment in Staff Training
- A school connected to its community
- Excellent communication with parents
- Excellent transition from the Local Nursery Schools and Playgroups



School Staff 2020-21

Primary 1

Miss Laura Murray (Class Teacher)
Mrs Betty Hogg (Classroom Assistant)
Mrs Orla Quinn (Classroom Assistant)

Primary 2/3

Mrs Grace Mc Polin (Class Teacher)
Mrs Marie King (Classroom Assistant)
Miss Victoria Nicholl (Classroom Assistant)

Primary 3/4

Mr Donal Brennan (Class Teacher)
Ms Toni O'Neill (Classroom Assistant)
Miss Maria Hogg (Classroom Assistant)

Primary 5/6

Miss Nadine Crozier (Classroom Teacher)
Mrs Maura O'Donaghue (Classroom Assistant)
Ms Annette Kelly (Classroom Assistant)

Primary 7

Mr Aaron Doyle (Class Teacher)/
Ms Laura Smyth (Classroom Assistant)
Ms Laura McDowell (Classroom Assistant)

Secretary

Mrs Carmel Milligan

Young at Heart

Ms Toni O'Neill
Mrs Dana Stott

Literacy Support

Mrs Elizabeth Byrne

Numeracy Support

Mrs Anne Martin

Spanish Tutor

Senor Jorge



School Uniform

Your child is expected to wear full school uniform at all times. The wearing of earrings is restricted to studs only. Rings are prohibited at all times. Earrings are prohibited on PE days as they are contrary to Health & Safety Regulations. Long hair must be kept tidy at all times.

GIRLS

Grey pinafore or skirt,
Red cardigan or jumper with school crest,
(Binghams, Newcastle)
White blouse,
Red and grey striped tie.
Grey/white socks or grey/black/red tights.
Red checked dresses may be worn in the
Summer Term.

BOYS

Charcoal grey trousers,
Red jumper with school crest,
(Binghams, Newcastle)
Grey shirt,
Red and grey striped tie.
White Polo Shirt may be worn in the
Summer Term.

SHOES

All children must wear regular black school shoes.
NB No high heels or trainers.
Trainers may be worn in the Summer Term.

PE

Grey school jacket, school football shirt and black tracksuit bottoms should be worn for PE lessons.



Typical School Day

- Breakfast Club from 7.45am
- School begins at 9.10am
- School Finishes at 2pm for P1-P2



- School Finishes at 3pm for P3-P7

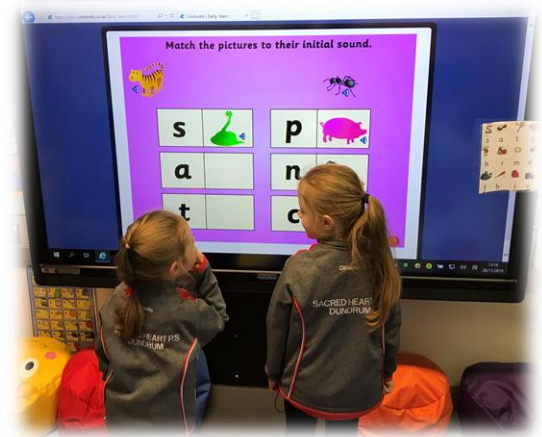


- Extensive After School Clubs from 2.00-4.45pm

Accommodation/Facilities

The school consists of:

- Five classrooms
- Outdoor Classroom
- Assembly/ PE hall
- Library/ SEN Area
- Use of excellent ICT equipment, such as laptops, iPads, sphero balls.
- Offices and stores



All classrooms have the latest Smartboards, Apple TVs and a number of classroom computers as well as regular access to a school set of iPads.

This is a spacious building which facilitates children's practical-based learning.

Primary 1 & 2 have their own safe play areas with a well maintained and marked out playground in which to engage in outside learning.

We have a beautiful play park that we use during playtimes and outdoor lessons. Younger children also have access to a set of go-karts to develop gross motor skills.

The children in P3-7 have their own playground with marked areas for cycling, basketball, netball and football. The Eco-Gardens provide outdoor education for all.

Use of Community Hall and Dundrum GAC Playing Fields.



Ethos

- **A warm welcoming ethos where each child is truly valued and important.**
- We create a family like atmosphere. Children show a real pride in their work.
- Parental concerns are addressed quickly. We respect and listen to our parents and regularly seek their views formally and informally.
- Weekly, monthly and termly rewards are presented to celebrate hard work and achievement.
- Our standards of behaviour are excellent.
- A dedicated and hardworking staff who go over and above to ensure pupils reach their potential.



Smaller Class Size

- Smaller class size promotes in-depth one to one attention from teacher.
- Excellent relationships and strong bonds developed between pupils and teacher.
- We know your child and how to ensure they reach their full potential.
- High teacher to pupil ratios are so beneficial to pupil development in their early years and vital in ensuring the best start to school.





Extra Curricular Activities



- An excellent range of extra curricular activities including ICT/Homework Club, Transfer Club, Cookery, Dance, Gaelic, Football, Acti-Sport, Construction, ICT, Coding, STEAM, Drama and Music.
- Breakfast Club from 7.45am - 9am. Children are provided with a healthy breakfast selection including fruit, cereal and yoghurts.
- Clubs are continually rotated ensuring new learning experiences are always explored.
- Excellent value for money £1.50-£2 per hour.
- Links to community clubs and high coach to pupil ratio ensure skills are fully developed.
- Outside agencies/partners include GAA/IFA, Mairead Trainor's Irish Dancing, Jorge's Spanish Tuition and NI Tennis.



Investment in ICT

- A class set of laptops for all pupils to fully develop their ICT skills.
- Digital School of Distinction.
- Two innovative programmes:
- Education City and Bug Club.
- Whole school WIFI.
- A class set of iPads.
- Apple TVs within each and every class.
- We have a school website and Twitter account to ensure excellent communication with parents.



Location

- Located in an area of outstanding natural beauty- full use is made of the beach, countryside, forest and village.
- P1 pupils this year have visited Murlough beach, discovered senses at W5 and visited Knockevin on numerous occasions to take part in Shared Education lessons.
- Other trips have included Tayto Park, Dundrum Castle and Delamont Park.



Educational Experiences

- Education City and Literacy Bug Club.
- Online homework tasks.
- Outside coaching from GAA, IFA, and Actisport.
- School and Eco Council - we encourage our pupil voice.
- Learning through Problem Solving and Investigation.
- Exciting STEAM opportunities.
- Drama Productions e.g. Oliver, Talent competitions.
- A partnership with Mourne Heritage Trust.
- Parent workshops: Weaving, writing, art, pottery, traditional music.
- Trips to W5, Beach, Planetarium, Cinema, Funtasia, Library, local parks, neighbouring schools and overnight residential.

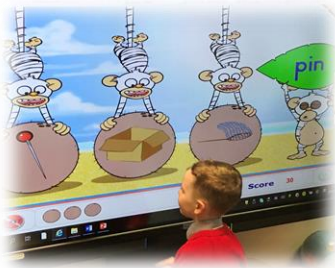




Early Years Curriculum

- Play Based Learning
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- World Around Us
- Religion
- The Arts – Music, Drama, Art and Design
- Physical Education
- PDMU (Personal Development and Mutual Understanding)





Literacy



- **Phonics (Jolly Phonics Programme)**
- **Speech and Language (Weekend News, Show and Tell, Sharing thoughts/ideas, listening to others).**
- **Reading (Big Books – Literacy Bug Club/Oxford Reading Tree).**
- **Writing (Recount, Narrative, Instructional, Persuasive, Discussion and Report).**



Numeracy



Number:

Understanding number.

Understanding counting.

Understanding number recognition.

Understanding money.

Measures:

Length

Height

Capacity

Time

Weight

Shape and Space:

2D shapes

3D Shape

Position

Direction

Sorting

Patterns

Relationships

Data Handling:

Sorting for criteria/resorting

Making and reading tables

Pictograms/Bar Graphs/Venn diagrams

Processes:

Mathematical Reasoning

Problem Solving-addition and subtraction



Play Based Learning

- **Dramatic Play (Roleplay)**
- **Sand and Water Play**
- **Table Top Play**
- **Dough and Clay Play**
- **Small World Play**
- **Construction**
- **Creative Area**
- **Outdoor Play**
- **Investigative play**
- **Writing and fine motor**
- **Numeracy**
- **ICT**



World Around Us



Children will be given opportunities to explore the world in which they live and to use their senses in order to develop their powers of observation.

They will be encouraged to:

- Ask questions about why things happen.
- Look at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
- Explore and examine photographs and objects.
- Listen to stories that introduce an aspect of time.
- Develop an awareness of aspects of the environment.
- Talk and find out about past times in their lives and those of others.
- Talk about topics that arise naturally from their own experiences.

This will be taught under 4 strands:

- **Interdependence, Place, Movement and Energy, Change over time.**





Religion



- **Sacred Heart is a Catholic School and as such we follow the Grow In Love Religion Programme as set out for the children in Primary 1.**
- **Children attend Mass on a Monthly basis.**
- **At Sacred Heart, pupils' spiritual development is always in full consultation with parents.**

Physical Development and Movement

- Structured P.E. lessons in Athletics, Gymnastics, Games and Dance
- Ambrose Rodgers GAA Fundamentals Coach
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Acti-Sports
- Balance
- Coordination



PDMU

Through Circle Time and the Religion programme children will;

- Be encouraged to form relationships with adults and children and to build up their confidence and self-esteem.
- Work co-operatively in the classroom.
- Talk about their feelings and emotions and begin to understand how their actions affect others.
- Be encouraged to experiment, choose activities, make judgements and express ideas.
- Be part of Shared Education Programmes.



The Arts

- Creative thinking
- Music
- Drama
- Art



How can you prepare your child for school?



- **Help your child to be independent (independence develops confidence)**
- **Talk about School (happy place, new friends, games, stories, places to visit etc.)**
- **Watch our 'welcome to P1' video for a tour around the school!**
- **Encourage independence e.g. dressing themselves.**
- **Toileting (we know accidents can happen)**
- **Personal Hygiene – washing hands after toileting, before eating.**
- **You can support your child to recognise and write their name.**
- **Play 1-5 counting games, play colour and shape games.**

- We look forward to seeing you in late *August.
(A letter will be emailed with further information on a return to school).
- *Subject to guidance from the Education Authority.

