

St. Patrick's Primary School, Annaghmore



Foundation Stage The Right Start



Foundation Stage

► Teachers

Primary 1- Mrs Eithne Lyons

Primary 1/2- Miss Kathy Hughes

► Number of Children

Primary 1- 31

Primary 1/2- 22



School Day

- ▶ Gates open: 8.50am
- ▶ Class begins: 9.10am (Children should be in school for 9am)
- ▶ Snack time: 10:20am
- ▶ Break time: 10.30am
- ▶ Lunch time: 12.00pm
- ▶ End of school day: 1:50pm

Morning Club is available from 8am- registration required

2-3 Club is available to help with sibling pickup at 3:00pm- registration required



Aims of St. Patrick's

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

- ▶ practice the Catholic faith;
- ▶ have high self-esteem – respecting themselves, others and the environment;
- ▶ acquire knowledge and skills to be their individual best;
- ▶ become highly motivated life-long learners;
- ▶ be able to work independently and collaboratively;
- ▶ gain technological skills to equip them for the 21st century.



Saint Patrick's P.S. Policies

See our School website:-

[St Patrick s PS Administering Medicine Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Anti-Bullying Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Attendance Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Drugs Education Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS eSafety Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Intimate Care Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Newcomer Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Parental Complaints Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Period Dignity.pdf](#) (16th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Positive Behaviour Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)

[St Patrick s PS Pupil Wellbeing Policy.pdf](#) (6th Jun 2025)



School Attendance

Attendance is crucial to your child's development and school must be notified of any absences.

If your child's attendance drops to 90% and no explanation is given, a letter will be sent from school.

If the figure drops below 85% a referral will be made to Educational Welfare.

▶ 100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
▶ 95% Attendance	9 Days Missed 1wk & 4 days
▶ 90% Attendance	19 Days Missed 3wks & 4 Days
▶ 85% Attendance	28 Days Missed 5wks & 3 Days

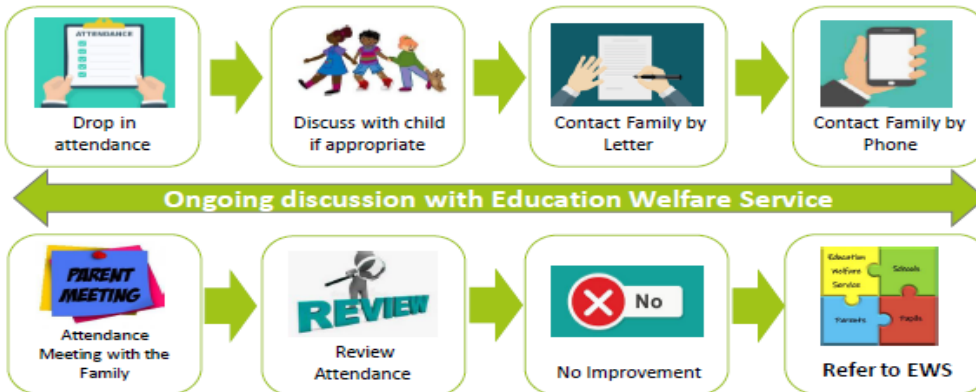


Education Welfare Service Referral Process

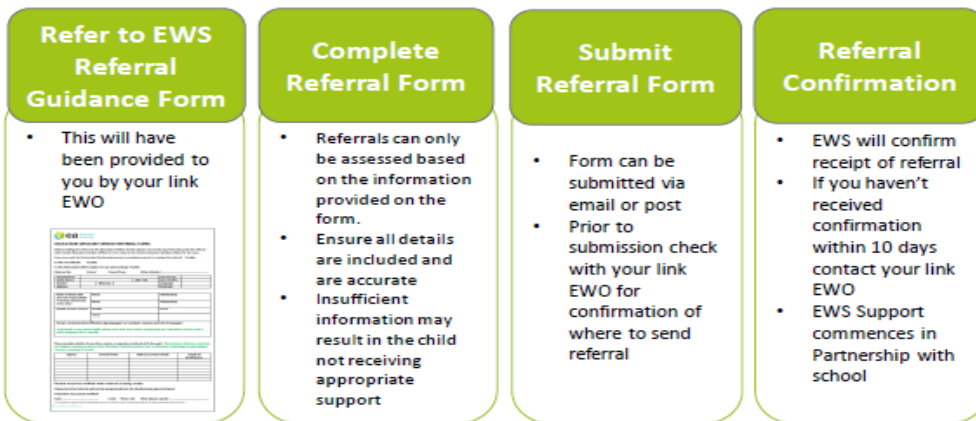


Pre-Referral Process

Preventative actions in accordance with school's attendance policy



Referral Process





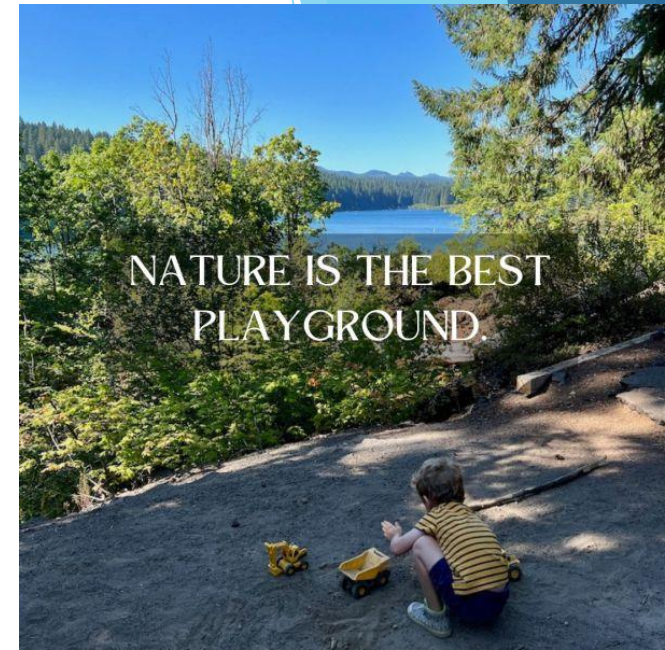
Aims of this presentation

- Northern Ireland Curriculum- know what it looks like in Foundation Stage
- Give you some insight into your child's day and what we will cover in the Foundation Stage.
- Help you understand how best to support your child.
- Practical advice / support for parents / guardians.



The Foundation Stage Curriculum

- ▶ Based on how children learn
- ▶ Based on areas of learning rather than separate subjects
- ▶ Skills based
- ▶ Needs of children being met more appropriately
- ▶ Builds self-esteem and confidence
- ▶ No sense of failure.
- ▶ In Primary 1 and 2 we say,
“Our work is our play and our play is our work!”





“

Scientists have recently determined that it takes approximately 400 repetitions to create a new synapse in the brain - unless it is done with play, in which case, it takes between 10 - 20 repetitions.

DR. KARYN PURVIS



Play is a large part of our school day... it helps children develop language

- ▶ Poor language affects all areas of learning and development.
- ▶ Language delay in 4 year olds is on the increase.
- ▶ Attention and listening skills are crucial for learning.
- ▶ Talking and listening are the foundations for reading and writing.
- ▶ In school we place a strong focus on modelling clear and correct speech.





Play helps Development of Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities- These skills are developed through the Seven Areas of Learning

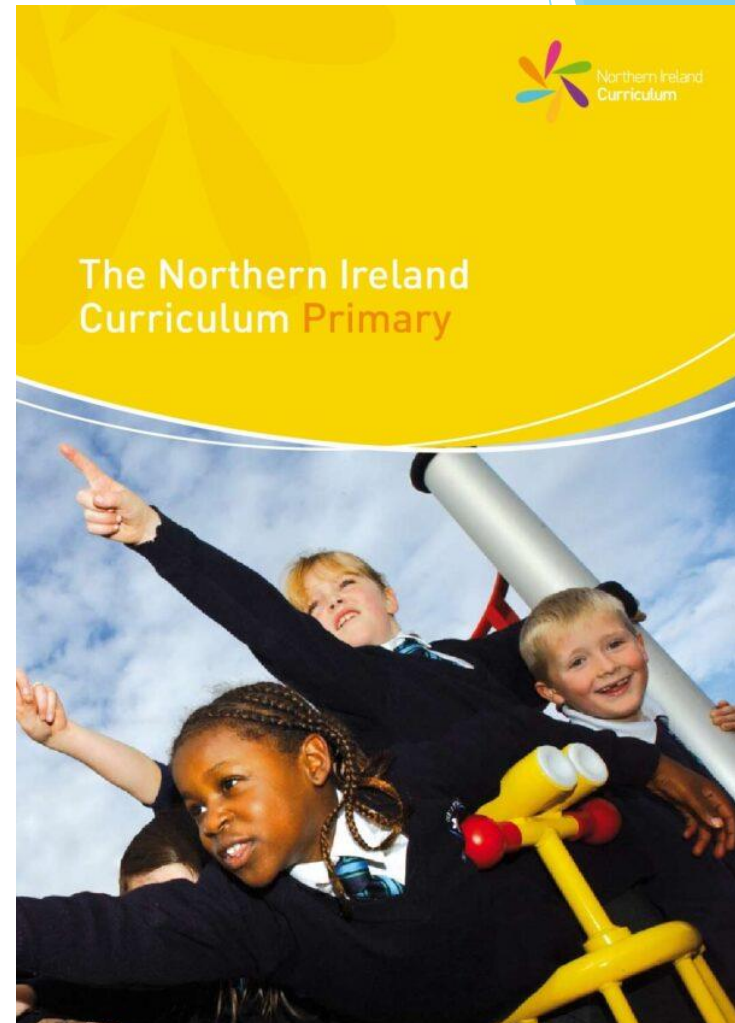
- ▶ Being Creative
- ▶ Managing Information
- ▶ Thinking, Problem Solving & Decision Making
- ▶ Self-management
- ▶ Working with Others





Seven Areas of Learning from the Northern Ireland Curriculum

- ▶ Language & Literacy
- ▶ Mathematics & Numeracy
- ▶ The World Around Us
- ▶ Religious Education
- ▶ Personal Understanding and Mutual Understanding
- ▶ The Arts
- ▶ Physical Development and Movement





Readiness to Read and Write

Before learning becomes more formal in Primary 1 we ask this question...

Is the child ready...

- ▶ To listen
- ▶ To concentrate
- ▶ To speak in a sentence
- ▶ To know that words carry meaning
- ▶ To recognise some words
- ▶ To hold/control a pencil
- ▶ To spot the odd one out
- ▶ To see the same/different



Children in Foundation Stage can be at various stages of readiness at any given time – some children will be ready before others.





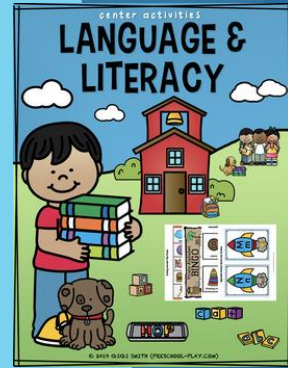
Preparing for Reading!

- ▶ Read from left to right.
- ▶ Use language books e.g. front, cover, title, first page.
- ▶ Know the difference between letters, words and spaces.
- ▶ Begin to recognise some words e.g. character names, a, and, the.
- ▶ Use the title and pictures as clues to read for meaning.
- ▶ Read one spoken word for one in print.
- ▶ Begin to use sounds to work out words.





Language and Literacy

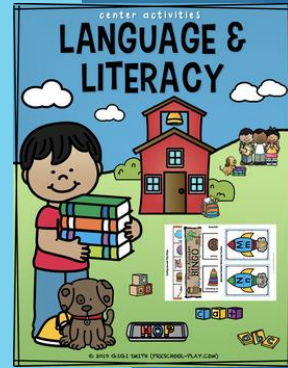


In Primary 1 and 2 we are learning to...

- ▶ Speak clearly in sentences
- ▶ Take turns at talking, listening and asking questions
- ▶ Use the pincer grip and develop our fine motor skills (getting our fingers ready for writing)!
- ▶ Hold a writing tool correctly
- ▶ Extend our listening time and talk about stories heard
- ▶ Use the language of books- cover, title, words, spaces
- ▶ Handle books with care, hold them and turn pages independently
- ▶ Begin to recognise some words- our names, I, the Mum, Dad (and soon the Oxford Reading Tree character names e.g. Biff, Chip and Kipper)
- ▶ Recognise that spoken word is represented by one word in print
- ▶ Phonics- know 26 individual letter sounds, know the letter names, how to form them correctly and begin to blend sounds together to read initially and then spell!



Language and Literacy



In Primary 2 we are continuing to build on...

- ▶ Speaking in clear and more complex sentences
- ▶ Listening skills- teacher and each other
- ▶ Following whole class instructions
- ▶ Children will begin to write independently
- ▶ Have a go! Use sound knowledge to attempt unfamiliar words
- ▶ Sounds- develop blending and apply to both reading and writing
- ▶ Learn tricky words that cannot be sounded out
- ▶ Spellings- Phonics and tricky words
- ▶ Read in a group, follow other readers using finger or eyes
- ▶ Choose what to read, read for enjoyment and from a range of texts
- ▶ Complete reading activities independently
- ▶ Handle books independently with care, hold them and turn pages.



Mathematics & Numeracy

In Primary 1 and 2 we are learning to...

- ▶ Recognise the same and different
- ▶ Sort sets for colour/ shape/ size
- ▶ Count forwards/ backwards within 10
- ▶ Count sets reliably up to 10
- ▶ Understand addition and begin adding mentally
- ▶ Begin to recognise and form figures correctly
- ▶ Use money
- ▶ Use measure of length/ weight/ time
- ▶ Work in groups
- ▶ Talk about what we are doing and have fun!





Homework in Primary 1 and Primary 2

- ▶ Reading books and homework will be sent home on a Monday and returned to school on a Friday
- ▶ Online homework will be assigned weekly and can be accessed through your individual QR code for Mathletics attached to the front of your homework bag
- ▶ The front cover page for homework will outline guidance for activities assigned that week
- ▶ We strongly encourage reading to be completed each day to best support your child's progress.
- ▶ Learning homework i.e high frequency words and the sound of the week should be reinforced at home.

homework





Number Formation Rhymes

0

Around and around
And around we go...
When we get home we have a zero.

1

Number 1 is like a stick.
A straight line that is very quick.

2

Around and back on the railroad track.
Two, two, Two, two!

3

Around a tree.
Around a tree.
That's the way to make a three!

4

Down and over,
Down once more.
That's the way to make a four!

5

Straight line down,
Then around.
Hat on top
And fives a down!

6

Make a curve.
Then make a loop.
There are no tricks to make a six!

7

Across the sky
And down from heaven.
That's the way to make a seven!

8

Make an S
And do not wait.
Go back up
And that's an eight!

9

A loop and a line.
That makes a nine!

10

Straight line down,
Then around with a grin.
That's the way to make a ten!



Letter Formation Rhymes

<p>a</p> <p>Around the apple and down the leaf.</p>	<p>b</p> <p>Down the laces to the heel and around the toe.</p>	<p>c</p> <p>Curl around the caterpillar.</p>	<p>d</p> <p>Around the dinosaurs bottom, up his tall neck & down to his toes.</p>	<p>e</p> <p>Lift off the top and scoop out the egg.</p>	<p>f</p> <p>Down the stem and draw the leaves.</p>
<p>g</p> <p>Around the girls face, down her hair and give her a curl.</p>	<p>h</p> <p>Down the head, to his hooves and over his back.</p>	<p>i</p> <p>Down the body and dot for the head.</p>	<p>j</p> <p>Down his body, curl, dot for his head.</p>	<p>k</p> <p>Down the kangaroo's body tail and leg.</p>	<p>l</p> <p>Down the long leg.</p>
<p>m</p> <p>Down Maisie, mountain, mountain.</p>	<p>n</p> <p>Down Nobby and over his net.</p>	<p>o</p> <p>All around the orange.</p>	<p>p</p> <p>Down the pirates plait and around his face.</p>	<p>qu</p> <p>Round her head, up past her earring, down her hair, and flick.</p>	<p>r</p> <p>Down the robots back and curl over his arm.</p>
<p>s</p> <p>Slither down the snake.</p>	<p>t</p> <p>Down the tower, across the tower.</p>	<p>u</p> <p>Down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle.</p>	<p>v</p> <p>Down a wing, up a wing.</p>	<p>w</p> <p>Down, up, down, up.</p>	<p>x</p> <p>Down the arm and leg, repeat the other side.</p>
<p>y</p> <p>Down a horn, up a horn and under head.</p>	<p>z</p> <p>Zig-zag-zig.</p>				



Reading Strategies

Sharp Eye

Look at the pictures.



Hop, Skip and Jump

Read to the end and come back.



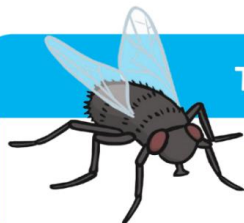
Mouse the Mouth

Say the first sound.



Try on the Fly!

Try a word that makes sense.



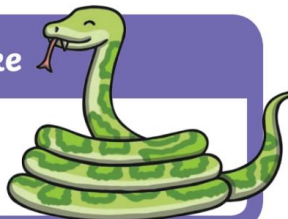
Sound Talk It

Say each sound.



Slide the Snake

Blend the sounds together.



Chunky Monkey

Look for chunks.



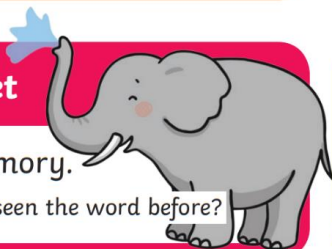
Tommy Tracker

Point to each word as you read.



Don't Forget

Use your memory.
Where have you seen the word before?



Flippy Dolphin

Flip the vowel from short to long.





Keeping You Informed on Progress

Curriculum Evening (term 1) – Initiatives, targets and objectives have been laid out for the year.

Parent Teacher Meetings (term 2) – This will take place in January. Further details to follow.

School Reports (term 3) – School reports are sent home at the end of the academic year in June.



If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress (or any other matter) contact your child's class teacher to arrange a meeting throughout the school year.



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Updates and Information

- ▶ All news and information is regularly posted on our school website. All letters issued from school are posted in the parent section of our school website: www.stpatricksannaghmore.com
- ▶ Facebook page - Please like and share  @ Saint Patrick's Primary School, Annaghmore
- ▶ School App – Available via our school website  Schools NI



Questions

If you have any questions in relation to your child's development or seek clarification on the information provided, please contact your child's class teacher by contacting the school secretary who can pass your details on in order to discuss.

Call: 028 877 40 661



Thank You

