



FAIRVIEW

PRIMARY SCHOOL

WELCOME TO FAIRVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is my great honour as Principal to welcome you to Fairview Primary School. Fairview is a very special place, not just for our children and staff, but also for me as a past pupil of the school and having had my three children attend the school in recent years. We are rightly proud of our reputation in the town and further afield. This is due to the dedication of a highly committed team of staff working in close partnership with our children, families and indeed the whole community.

We pride ourselves on all that we have to offer our children and, in turn, their achievements and outcomes. Our mission is to be a nurturing, kind and respectful community where each person is valued and empowered to be the best they can be. In all that we do, both in the classroom and out, we aim to INSPIRE creativity, SUPPORT growth and ACHIEVE excellence through a wealth of opportunities in every student's journey.

Our pupils are at the heart of all that we do at Fairview. We have a happy school. We have a staff who enjoy their work and we have pupils who enjoy coming to school each day. We have a strong Christian ethos that is reflected in our core values but also through the caring and welcoming atmosphere often commented on by visitors.

We firmly believe in a strong and open partnership between school and home. It is through this partnership we ensure high standards of our pupils' behaviour, presentation and their excellent attendance. Alongside our parents and carers, we strive to ensure that our pupils receive a truly outstanding education and develop the confidence and love of learning that will allow them to take their place in the world as responsible citizens of the future.

This prospectus will only give you a snapshot of life at Fairview. The best way to experience our welcoming, friendly and child-centred ethos is to arrange a visit or attend our open day.

I very much look forward to welcoming you, and your child, to Fairview Primary School.



MR McALLISTER
PRINCIPAL





THIS IS **WHO WE ARE**

OUR **MISSION**

Our mission is to be a nurturing, kind and respectful community where each person is valued and empowered to be the best they can be

OUR **VISION**

Our vision is to inspire creativity, support growth and achieve excellence through a wealth of opportunities in every student's journey

OUR **VALUES**



Inclusive

Everyone is a valued and welcomed member of our whole school community



Nurture

Our Fairview family cares for, supports and encourages one another



Kindness

We treat others as we would like to be treated



Respect

We show respect to ourselves, others and our environment



Empower

We enable each other to achieve our full potential

LEARNING AND TEACHING AT FAIRVIEW

In Fairview Primary School we offer all our pupils full access to the Northern Ireland Curriculum. As a school we regularly review and revise our curriculum to ensure it is meeting the needs of all our children, enabling them to reach their full potential. Your child's education will be divided into three stages:



PRIMARY 1 2

FOUNDATION STAGE

Primary 1 and Primary 2 form the Foundation Stage. Pupils transition from their pre-school setting and staff ensure this is carried out smoothly through building on their early experiences.

Play-based learning forms an integral part of their core experiences. Through skilful planning staff develop early reading, writing and mathematical skills, which begin to form a solid foundation of the pupils' learning as they move through Primary 1 and Primary 2.

Outdoor learning is a key feature of the Foundation Stage with many aspects of topic work as well as literacy and numeracy being taught and developed outside in our extensive grounds.



PRIMARY 3 4

KEY STAGE 1

As pupils move into Primary 3 and Primary 4, early foundation skills are developed further in a more formal way.

Activity-based learning is a means of developing enquiring and inquisitive minds, ensuring thinking skills and personal capabilities are at the fore of topic work.

PRIMARY 5 6 7

KEY STAGE 2

One of the main features of moving into Primary 5, Primary 6 and Primary 7 is the development of the individual learner. Pupils continue to embrace all areas of the Northern Ireland Curriculum while we support our pupils through the widening of their experiences and opportunities, such as through educational visits (across the school) and residential trips (for Primary 6 and Primary 7). By doing so, we have children who are not only prepared for transition to the next stage of their learning, but who are ready to become future contributors to society.

By having full access to the Northern Ireland Curriculum we are encouraging a climate of success and self-belief among our pupils. Activities and learning experiences encourage confidence, curiosity and creativity.



THE AREAS OF LEARNING FOR EACH KEY STAGE ARE:

Language & Literacy	Language and Literacy or 'Communication' (including Talking & Listening, Reading and Writing and opportunities to incorporate Drama)
Mathematics & Numeracy	Mathematics and Numeracy or 'Using Mathematics' (focusing on the development of mathematical concepts and numeracy across the curriculum)
The World Around Us	The World Around Us encourages children's natural curiosity and answers some of their questions about the world from the perspectives of Geography, History and Science and Technology.
Personal Development & Mutual Understanding	Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (focusing on emotional development, social skills, learning to learn, health, relationships and sexual education, understanding in the local and global community)
Physical Education	Physical Education (focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding through play and a range of physical activities)
The Arts	The Arts (including art and design, music and opportunities to incorporate drama)
Religious Education * Parents can withdraw their child from part or all of Religious Education or collective worship	Religious Education focuses on encouraging children to become informed and inquisitive about their own and others' religious beliefs and practices

At the heart of the curriculum lies an explicit emphasis on the development of skills and capabilities for lifelong learning and operating effectively in society.

Through opportunities to engage in active learning contexts across all areas of the curriculum, children will progressively develop:

Cross-Curricular Skills:

- Communication
- Using Mathematics
- Using Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities:

- Thinking, Problem-Solving and Decision-Making
- Self-Management
- Working with Others
- Managing Information
- Being Creative



Mrs McIvor and Miss Dickson, Literacy Leaders

MISS DICKSON LITERACY LEADER JUNIOR SCHOOL

I teach Primary 1, but I am also the Literacy Co-ordinator for Junior School, which means that I am responsible for the development and organisation of the teaching of Literacy in Foundation Stage and Primary 3. My favourite part of the role is getting to visit lots of different classes throughout the school and celebrate super Literacy sessions in action. It is a pleasure to see our pupils thrive in all areas of Literacy from Primary 1 through to Primary 7. I see lots of 'light bulb moments' and excitement as the children learn to read and write. There is nothing I love more than our daily 'Storytime' sessions. I enjoy putting on lots of funny voices and expressions to ignite a love of stories and reading with my pupils.

LITERACY

At Fairview we believe that our fundamental task is to teach our children to speak clearly and articulately and to read and write effectively. Reading across all curricular areas is a priority to extend and deepen pupils' understanding and use of vocabulary. We want our pupils to develop a love of reading during their time at Fairview and be exposed to a range of texts.



The use of the school's Accelerated Reading library and class-shared texts are pivotal to this. All pupils from Primary 4 to Primary 7 participate in the Accelerated Reader programme and various challenges are set throughout the year, with a variety of rewards to help motivate pupils.

Literacy is taught using a cross-curricular approach, meaning that the skills children learn can be applied in writing right across the curriculum, giving them a clear purpose and scope for creativity.

In the early years children participate in daily phonics and shared reading and writing activities. Once children develop an understanding of letter combination and sound association, spelling strategies and grammar conventions are introduced in a meaningful and stimulating way. This is built on as they progress through the school, with the valued support of parents and carers at home, producing pupils who

'enjoy reading a wide range of more complex texts, are knowledgeable about different genres and authors, and use confidently a wide range of effective reading strategies.'

ETI PRIMARY INSPECTION, NOV 2019

Our pupils love having the opportunity to share their work with peers, parents and other teachers, but especially Mr McAllister, who has a special place on his WOW board for those best efforts!

For those who need a little extra support, we have a dedicated teacher to support pupils with Special Educational Needs, we have fully trained speech and language assistants (SILSA) working with children throughout school, we have Booster Groups for pupils in Primary 2 to Primary 7 and we have community support through the Time to Read programme. As well as this tailored support, we organise Reading Buddies, Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils teaming up with a reading partner from Primary 7 and Primary 6. This is a two-way reading opportunity that allows both to practise their reading skills in an informal situation and all involved look forward to meeting their reading buddy during the week.





Miss McClelland and Miss Paul, Numeracy Leaders



MISS MCCLELLAND NUMERACY LEADER FOUNDATION/ KEY STAGE 1

I grew up in Omagh and my mum was a maths teacher, so maths has been a feature of my life for as long as I can remember! Listening to her stories fostered an early interest in the subject and that has developed into a love of all things mathematical! I love to find new ways to teach concepts to help children in their learning and I get so enthused when I hear them talking confidently and happily about their maths! I am passionate about maximising home-school links through our Seesaw app, and I have recently become a Seesaw Ambassador.

NUMERACY

Numeracy is one of the core subjects of our curriculum that we want our children to enjoy. It is important that our pupils have a positive attitude and become risk-takers and problem-solvers.

Throughout the year there are many opportunities for children to develop their understanding both within the classroom and through outdoor learning. From finding colours and shapes within the school grounds to measuring the height and circumferences of trees in our local Sixmilewater Park, the children are given opportunities to discover numeracy in real-life contexts.

The children are encouraged to work individually but also collaboratively, in pairs and in small groups where they develop their thinking skills and problem-solving techniques together. These experiences help them to grow in confidence, allowing them to explain and discuss their work alongside their peers while also developing the life skills of communicating and working with others.

There are many opportunities for the children to develop their numeracy through the use of iPads, laptops and interactive resources such as IZAK9.





ICT

ICT AND DIGITAL SCHOOL AWARD

Our pupils are growing up in an age of innovation where ICT and digital technologies form a huge part of everyday life.

At Fairview Primary School we embrace these technologies, helping to make learning and teaching more relevant, fun, interesting and meaningful. We are committed to partnering with our parents and carers to provide an app for home school links which is easily accessible and enables open communication between home and school, as well as a window into your child's classroom.

We have invested heavily in our digital resources over the years so that our pupils gain a variety of experiences and skills from simple desktop publishing to more advanced coding and programming using a range of tools and devices such as our drones and spheros. We have iPads in every classroom with age-appropriate apps to supplement and extend learning as well as ICT monitors in Primary 7 who are on hand to assist during ICT sessions as required.



With the advent of AI, we are preparing our pupils to handle this exciting opportunity responsibly while at the same time embracing what it has to offer.

Our innovative use of ICT has been recognised externally with a Digital Schools Award for our use of ICT and digital technologies. Our ICT leader, Mr Kennedy, has presented to groups of teachers beyond our own school and at the Education and Training Inspectorate annual conference regarding the innovative practice in Fairview, as well as being at the forefront of embedding Google Gemini in primary schools.



MR KENNEDY ICT LEADER

I graduated as a teacher in May 2001 and was appointed to Fairview Primary School a few weeks later. Well over 20 years later, I'm still teaching in Fairview and leading the development of ICT in school. I'm just 'part of the furniture' now, as they say, dedicated to supporting our staff with the most up to date professional development and providing the best possible education for our pupils, as well as making their time in Fairview as fun and enjoyable as possible.



MRS DAVIS THE WORLD AROUND US LEADER

I am a Ballyclare native. I spent seven happy years as a pupil in Fairview, I even had Mr McAllister as one of my teachers! I have been teaching in Fairview for 6 years now. Safe to say, Fairview is in my blood. I love this school and am driven to ensure we maintain the high standards and wealth of experiences open to all our pupils, especially within science, which offers so many opportunities to enhance learning right across the curriculum as well as having that WOW factor!

SCIENCE

In 2013 Mr McAllister was awarded Science Teacher of the Year, a UK-wide award, and became a Fellow of the Primary Science Teaching Trust. Mrs Davis, a KS2 teacher and The World Around Us Leader, was awarded this same accolade in 2021. Both awards came as a result of leading outstanding science teaching in Fairview Primary School and also supporting colleagues in other schools through high quality Continual Professional Development sessions.

Further awards have followed for the development of science in school and beyond, with a Primary Science Quality Mark in 2022 and becoming a Great Science Share Ambassador School in 2023. In 2022, Mr McAllister was recognised at an awards ceremony in York for his outstanding leadership in Primary Science with a prestigious STEM Learning award. Our most recent ETI inspection (2019) stated

‘the learning and teaching is characterised by: interactive, investigative learning experiences; open-ended questions; and appropriately challenging learning opportunities that matched the individual needs of the children.’



ECO SCHOOL

At Fairview we are a multiple-award-winning Ambassador Eco School. We have achieved our eighth Green Flag and are currently creating action plans for the next two year cycle.

On our most recent assessment the Eco Schools’ team were ***‘particularly impressed with the continuity and strength of the programme and the quality of the projects’***

within our school.

Our Eco Committee is particularly active within the school and cover all aspects of the Eco Schools topics. We were the first school in Ireland to be a Zero Waste school and the third in Northern Ireland to achieve the Gold Sustrans Award for Active Travel. This award recognises our focus on sustainable travel as over 80% of our children have travelled actively to and from school on a regular basis. We hold events such as Cycle Skills and Bling your Bike to teach the children about the importance of sustainable travel and road safety skills. Our new focus will be on Climate Change and how we can take action to prevent and reduce the effects of carbon on our environment.



PRIMARY SCIENCE TEACHING TRUST (PSTT)

Mr McAllister and Mrs Davis are both Fellows of the Primary Science Teaching Trust, having won Primary Science Teacher of the Year during their time in Fairview. Our link with the trust has enabled Fairview to put a focus on developing our own science teaching, as well as supporting schools in our own locality and further afield. Building science capital and promoting investigative skills have been central to our development and wider impact.



PRIMARY SCIENCE QUALITY MARK OUTREACH AWARD

Fairview Primary School achieved this accolade in 2021 after initially achieving Gold Award in 2017. Outreach Award is the highest award available, a charter mark indicating Fairview Primary School is at the forefront of primary science across the UK. The award is recognition of a whole school effort to raise the profile, standards and impact of science learning and teaching, as well as sharing best practice with other schools.



STEM LEARNING EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AWARD

To ensure high quality learning and teaching in STEM subjects, it is imperative staff are well trained and up to date with best practice. In 2022, Mr McAllister was awarded this accolade for his commitment to leading the staff in Fairview Primary School, with over 75% of staff having accessed training to support their teaching in the last two years, and then using this training to maximum effect across the school.



ECO SCHOOLS AMBASSADOR SCHOOL

We are not just an Eco School, we are a multiple award winning Ambassador Eco School, charged with maintaining the highest standards of environmental leadership in our own school and promoting the Eco Schools' programme around other schools who can learn from our experience.



SUSTRANS GOLD AWARD

Transport is one of our major topics within Eco Schools. It was a great honour to achieve our Gold Award, recognising Fairview's ongoing commitment to sustainable transport.



GREAT SCIENCE SHARE AMBASSADOR SCHOOL

We promote high-quality learning and teaching each year in the UK-wide Great Science Share. Pupils share results from investigations they have carried out in class and at home with peers throughout school, other teachers, parents and visitors. Our innovative approach led to us becoming the first and only Ambassador School in Northern Ireland.

is a
FAMILY!

THE ARTS

The Arts is one of our widest learning areas, encompassing art, drama, music and physical education.

I joined the Fairview team as a Primary 1 teacher in September 2008 after graduating with a specialism in Physical Education and Early Years. The main sport I love is netball; it's such a fun, fast moving, competitive sport. I enjoy playing, watching and coaching it. It's truly rewarding to see a team, in any sport, come together and implement different strategies to improve performance.

As well as sport, I personally love to paint. I feel it is very therapeutic and love that in my role in Primary 3 I can establish this thought process at an early age. I've had children tell me they want to be an artist when they grow up – how wonderful is that? I love to see how creative our pupils can be and it's a pleasure to see their talents refine over the years to produce some amazing pieces of artwork right up to Primary 7.



MRS MCQUEEN
THE ARTS LEADER

As someone who started their musical journey in primary school, I know how important those first foundations are. Children are inherently musical and it is my job to tend those seeds of talent and encourage them to grow and blossom in time. To me, there is nothing more rewarding than seeing students develop from hesitant beginners to competent young musicians and to share the enjoyment this journey brings.

MRS PENNEY
MUSIC LEADER



MUSIC

We have a long tradition of music at Fairview and offer pupils lots of additional opportunities to develop their musicality alongside their regular classroom music-making activities.

For those who love to sing, we have three choirs – Infant, Junior and Senior. Over the years we have enjoyed sustained success with our choirs in local and province-wide competitions. This has led to many invitations for us to perform at prestigious events in the local and wider community and even a few TV appearances!

We offer instrumental lessons in upper and lower strings, brass, woodwind, drums and piano led by experienced specialist teachers. These children then have opportunities to play together in ensembles and in our school orchestra. We also encourage the children to complete music exams to gain qualifications for proficiency in their chosen instruments.

A walk along the corridor might allow you to hear anything from Georges Bizet to George Gershwin or even George Ezra – there's always music going on somewhere in Fairview!

PASTORAL CARE

MRS NORRIS

VICE PRINCIPAL AND HEAD OF PASTORAL CARE

I consider it a great privilege to lead the Pastoral Care Team at Fairview Primary School as I understand how important this work is in supporting our pupils, families, and wider school community.

I am incredibly fortunate to work in a school that caters for every single pupil, breaking down barriers and providing the necessary support to allow them to reach their full potential while feeling happy and safe in school. The welfare and happiness of our pupils is paramount to ensuring they receive the best education and become well-rounded individuals.

As a parent of two young children, I know first-hand that parenthood is one of the hardest jobs any of us can have. I also know the difference the support provided at Fairview can make. I pride myself on working with our families, supporting them throughout this journey at Fairview.



BESPOKE PASTORAL CARE

As a school we view our pupils, parents and staff as part of our Fairview family, which is why we prioritise the health and well-being of all in our care. We are proactive in our approach to support our pupils through our preventative curriculum. The positive relationships established between staff and pupils enable our pupils to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

In our most recent Inspection Report, the Education and Training Inspectorate stated that,

'The safeguarding preventative curriculum includes a bespoke pastoral programme for the children and an extensive range of interventions and support mechanisms'

We place our children at the heart of everything we do.

Our child-centred pastoral care system ensures that we address barriers to learning by offering a range of supportive programmes that help

our pupils in all areas of their development – academically, socially, physically and emotionally.

We value our relationship with you as parents and carers, and we know that for our children to succeed it is vital that we work in collaboration – pupils, parents and staff.

We are aware that all children may, at some point, need help to overcome any worries they may face or support to navigate through challenges in their lives. We have a highly experienced team of staff who are trained to meet and support our pupils' needs.

A large number of staff have been trained as Social Guardians through the Women's Aid Helping Hands Programme. We offer drawing and talking therapy for children who benefit from a more structured 1-1 intervention approach. We also have been awarded Level 3 in the Take 5 School Programme which is a simple, child-friendly programme that helps pupils manage their emotions and build resilience.

As well as this we offer:

Individual Pastoral Support Sessions

Children can be identified by both teachers and their parents/carers. They are offered sessions on a 1-1 basis with our school counsellor or through our Transforming Lives for Good programme, facilitated by trained coaches from Glenabbey Church. We also support pupils with initiatives like 'Hearts from Home', where parents and pupils would each receive a crocheted little heart and the pupil can carry this heart with them to feel safe and go to their heart when they might feel anxious or miss their parents.

Individual Parent Support Sessions

We recognise that there are times when parents also need a caring and listening ear.

Mrs Norris offers sessions to parents who wish to avail of them, including a coffee hub as a safe space for parents and the "Parent Talk" program, encouraging open discussions about mental health at home to better support their children.



PAAS Programme

We assess children in terms of their attitude towards school, such as self-confidence and perception of abilities in literacy and numeracy. If children are identified as having difficulties in any of the areas, we offer them the opportunity to attend sessions with an experienced and trained teaching assistant to boost their self-esteem and self-confidence. We have had great success and feedback from all pupils who have attended these sessions.

Links with external agencies

We have worked hard to establish relationships with external agencies to support the pastoral work we do in school. As part of our preventative curriculum we have Women's Aid in school to run programmes linked to self-esteem, self-confidence and anti-bullying. The NSPCC visits school every two years to share the importance of staying safe. We have introduced mindfulness sessions through PDMU to support our older children in developing their positive mindset and teaching mechanisms to manage stress and anxiety. We aim to keep our parents informed of training opportunities and information to support their children through services such as Parenting NI. We also have had the opportunity to run nutrition and exercise sessions through our links with Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

In recognition of all the work we do in school, we have earned the Carnegie Mental Health Award for schools and the TES Pupil Mental Health initiative of the Year.

The judges said, "By carefully monitoring every child's mental health and behaviour, Fairview Primary School effectively supports every child.



Through innovative practices, such as their collaboration with a vast number of external agencies, the school has accessed a wide range of therapies, including music and canine therapy, and built sensory rooms and gardens to meet various children's needs."

Positive Behaviour

We believe in the importance of promoting the positive aspects of behaviour and we celebrate pupil achievement in this area through our various reward systems in school. We have agreed and shared Golden Rules that the children have ownership over. They are encouraged to respect themselves, their peers and their school environment. We have high but realistic expectations of our pupils and we are committed to developing their self-esteem, confidence, resilience and independence. We want our children to feel safe, secure and happy in school.

Safeguarding

We provide a safe, caring, positive and stimulating environment that promotes the learning and care of all alongside the social, physical, emotional and moral development of the individual child. Safeguarding is the responsibility of all and our prime concern is always the well-being of our pupils.



Tes Schools Awards 2024

Winner

Pupil Mental Health
Initiative of the Year
Fairview Primary School

#TesAwards



The judges said, "***By carefully monitoring every child's mental health and behaviour, Fairview Primary School effectively supports every child. Through innovative practices, such as their collaboration with a vast number of external agencies, the school has accessed a wide range of therapies, including music and canine therapy, and built sensory rooms and gardens to meet various children's needs.***"



MISS EARLS LEARNING SUPPORT COORDINATOR

I joined the Fairview family when I qualified in 2009 and it has been my much-loved home ever since. I am proud to be part of the team and relish my roles as both a P6 teacher and as learning support coordinator. I love being able to help support our children holistically, encouraging them to overcome any difficulties they might face and seeing challenges as opportunities to learn. Working with the children and watching them flourish really is an honour – their achievements at every level really do make me smile and it's why I adore being a teacher.



LEARNING SUPPORT

In Fairview we pride ourselves in providing high-quality support and intervention for all our pupils, especially those with a Special Educational Need. We believe early intervention is key and use a combination of teacher observations and assessments to identify and provide for additional needs across all our classrooms while working closely with our parents. Some children may receive support within class, some may come out of class for sessions of small group or individual support that may include use of our innovative Sensory Room and Sensory Garden at the front of school.

Whatever the need, intervention is tailored for the individual child and is continuously monitored and adapted to meet those needs as targets are met, such as through our highly impactful Booster Groups. As a staff we have a wide and varied specialist skill set with training opportunities sought and engaged in annually. We work closely with many outside agencies such as the Education Authority's Educational Psychology Department, Autism Advice and Intervention Services and RISE NI. We delight in the progress our children make both academically and personally.



OUTDOOR LEARNING

In addition to our two playgrounds, football field and play park you'll find, nestled behind our school building, our vegetable garden, polytunnel and environmental garden. The environmental garden is our hidden gem featuring a wooden trim trail, bird boxes, hedgehog homes, a nature pond, bug hotels and a superb outdoor teaching area. It's a gorgeous setting with trails set amongst the trees, long grass and wildflowers; it really is the perfect space for our children to become nature detectives.

In Fairview we understand the importance of outdoor play and learning in developing our pupils as holistic children and ensure all year groups have lessons outside on a regular basis. Our school is a Forest School Ranger School in recognition of our commitment to outdoor learning. Our Nature Rangers after school club is one of the most popular we offer!

Our pupils develop self-confidence, independence and awareness of a healthier lifestyle as they are given time to be creative in our outdoor environment. We encourage children to appreciate the beauty of nature and to understand that learning takes place anywhere, any time, as they complete cross-curricular lessons in our school grounds, including our innovative History Trail telling the tale of our town's past. Each term, we host Blitz Days for our pupils and school community to work together on projects to enhance our already burgeoning school grounds.



AWARDS

We have achieved our Level 5 RHS Gardening Award and our children, through use of our vegetable garden and orchard, have the opportunity to grow and taste various fruit and vegetables including potatoes, carrots, rhubarb, apples, pears, plums, berries and beans.

Not only are we an accredited Forest School, we are a Forest School Ranger School, meaning we support other schools to achieve Forest School status. All our year groups enjoy outdoor lessons in the school grounds, with Primary 5–7 making use of the local park, in collaboration with Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, to extend opportunities including a river study, tree and air-quality studies and exclusive use of the conservation area.

With outdoor learning as an integral part of our curriculum, we hope to develop a lifelong love of the outdoors within our pupils.



FAIRVIEW AMBASSADORS

Fairview Ambassadors is the name we give to our School Council. It includes pupils from Primary 5 to Primary 7 and gives 'pupil voice' to the whole school. Each class votes on two representatives who will attend Ambassadors with a huge responsibility to bring ideas from their class with them to meetings and also feedback what has been discussed and get thoughts. Following meetings, Ambassadors will visit a junior class, share with them what has been discussed, gather feedback and get ideas from them for what they would like to see in the future. Pupil voice is at the centre of all we do in Fairview.



HOUSE SYSTEM

We have four houses to which children are assigned when they enter Key Stage 2: Rashee, Collin, Cogry and Ollar. Throughout the year Houses compete against each other in a range of events. We even have some staff House competitions which can get very competitive! House Captains represent their houses and work closely with Mr Creighton to organise and promote House events. House points are also awarded for good work, good behaviour and various positive actions observed.

BUDDY SYSTEM

Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils take on the role of Lunchtime Buddies each day supporting our Primary 1–3 pupils with games and friendship in the playground. A firm favourite with all pupils, young and old, is when the senior pupils get to do Buddy Reading with the Primary 1s and 2s outside during the summer term.



TRANSITION

NURSERY – NURSERY BUDDIES

We are delighted to partner with our friends in Ballyclare Nursery School on a number of occasions each year, including visiting them for some exciting outdoor learning and our choir taking part in their Christmas festivities. These visits, and getting to know the children, give our youngest pupils a sense of familiarity before starting in Primary 1.

POST-PRIMARY

We have strong links with the local post-primary schools. Each year we get a number of senior pupils from both schools in Fairview on work experience and to assist with after-school activities. We have developed a partnership with the science department at Ballyclare High School and are delighted to welcome STEM Ambassadors from them to team teach with our own staff as we deliver high quality science teaching. In recent years we have visited Ballyclare High School for PE lessons and ICT workshops. In addition, our hockey, rugby and football clubs have benefited from the use of our local post primary facilities and coaching staff.

Added to the above, both post-primaries invite Primary 7 to their annual musical performances, and our P6 year group get to visit both schools each June to sample what the school has to offer. By the time our Primary 7 pupils are ready to move on to their next adventure, the transition links we have in place make the move much less daunting.

LANGUAGES – INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

For many years Fairview has been recognised for developing languages and this resulted in being awarded the International Schools Award by the British Council. We have strong links with a school in Ethiopia and celebrate International Day of Languages.

Language Leaders from Ballyclare High School deliver a block of Spanish lessons to our Primary 4 year group each year, ensuring our pupils are well prepared for taking on a language in post-primary school.





THE FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY

Fairview is a school connected to its local community and beyond. We have strong links with the local nursery school as well as the local post-primary schools.

Pupils are given many opportunities to participate in activities in their local community, such as the Christmas Light Switch On or environmental initiatives. Often visitors will come into school and pupils will also engage in activities outside school, such as Forest School in the Sixmilewater Park. We have strong links with Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

Situated in the heart of the town, we want our pupils to know about Ballyclare and how it has become the town it is. Our recently developed History Trail around our school grounds, created by our own Fairview Ambassadors, tells the story of Ballyclare's growth over many years.



ASSEMBLIES AND CLASS VISITS

Assembly twice a week is an important part of school life when our year groups can come together. Each week we have local church representatives in to lead an assembly and our pupils join in a weekly time of praise. During our time together, we acknowledge the achievements of our pupils and celebrate their successes, as well as Mr McAllister reinforcing our Core Values. Throughout the year, we have visits from local churches and Christian organisations, such as CEF and Stand by Me, with whom we sponsor a child in Ethiopia.

CHARITIES

The Fairview community is actively involved in a range of charities both at local and global levels. Donating to charities is an important part of our role in society and acknowledging those who are in need, either at home or further afield. In recent years we have supported charities such as Hope 365, Stand By Me, Children in Need, Children's Heartbeat Trust, Macmillan Cancer and the Newtownabbey Foodbank.

ONLINE SAFETY

At Fairview Primary School we believe that regularly educating our children about online safety, including wellbeing, is very important. In school we continue to embed clear rules about using the internet and these are displayed in every classroom and in our school corridor. We are also pleased to present our own Online Safety Team within school, made up of Primary 7 children who show an aptitude towards computing and a particular interest in online safety. The team works diligently to create and publish various online safety materials used across the school and also deliver assemblies to promote these important messages.

BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION

Our Breakfast Club is an essential part of supporting working parents. Pupils can be dropped off from 7.45am when they can have a breakfast of cereal, toast and juice. Pupils are then taken to their classes for the start of the school day. After school sports and activities are available every afternoon from 2pm, including a range of clubs led by our own teaching staff and assistants. Our extended after school provision runs from 3pm to 5pm Monday to Thursday, and 2pm to 4pm on a Friday.



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Fairview has a strong history of having a healthy, thriving PTA. Every parent/carer can join the PTA, with a committee and office bearers elected each year.

The committee coordinates the organisation of a range of fun events for pupils throughout the year.

It is an opportunity to strengthen our links with parents and everyone can feel that they have an active role to play. Fundraising from this very active and committed group has helped provide many valuable and appreciated resources that enhance the learning experiences for all our pupils.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND TEAMS

At our most recent ETI inspection (2019), it was noted how our pupils

'enjoy participating in a wide range of after-school clubs'

We have clubs every afternoon with options for Primary 1 right through to Primary 7. If your interests are music, sport, art or the environment, we have something for everyone. Every child has the opportunity to take part in activities in Fairview Primary School.

As well as embracing a range of sporting and activity-based opportunities that come our way, we have teams of boys and girls representing the school with huge success in:



Football



Hockey



Netball



Rugby



Cricket



Dance



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Fairview Primary School takes great pride in the appearance of our pupils and we seek to set high standards. Wearing school uniform gives our pupils a sense of pride and belonging.

For full details on uniform, see attached sheets.



PAST PUPILS

LAURA CHESTNUTT

What journey did you take after Fairview to where you are now?

After leaving Fairview, I went on to secondary school and then joined PwC as a school leaver, where I worked full time while studying towards my ACA qualification. It was a challenging but incredibly rewarding path, and I'm now proud to be a Chartered Accountant. Looking back, Fairview gave me the confidence and curiosity that set the tone for everything that followed - it really laid the foundations for my journey.

Can you remember any of your teachers from Fairview? Did any make a particular impact - advice, inspiration, influence, confidence

What really stood out about Fairview was that it wasn't just one teacher who made an impact - all of the staff were fantastic. It was a really positive environment where every teacher played a part in helping us grow.

What were some of your best experiences from your time in Fairview?

Some of my best memories from Fairview come from the wide range of extracurricular activities and clubs that were available to us. Taking part in sports, especially hockey, had a huge impact on me. It was at Fairview that my love for the game began, and that early encouragement helped shape my path. I continued playing through secondary school and was incredibly lucky to represent both Ulster and Ireland at U16 and U18 level.

Another unforgettable moment was playing the Wicked Witch of the West in our P7 school play - I'm sure I made quite the impression! I may not have won any beauty pageants with that green face paint and pointy hat, but it was an amazing experience. It taught me the value of stepping outside my comfort zone and having a bit of fun while doing it. Fairview really encouraged us to try new things and embrace whatever came our way, whether it was sports, drama, or just making the most of every opportunity.



CALLUM IRWIN

What job are you doing now and how long have you been doing this?

I am now the Senior Sous Chef in The Rabbit Hotel and Spa. Alongside this I have my own private cheffing business, doing 3/4/5 tasting menus in the comfort of people's homes.

How did you find this career...was it something you always wanted to do?

I started working in kitchens at an early age to fund my golfing hobby and fell in love with the atmosphere, buzz, passion and craic. From then I knew it was the career for me!

Career highlights to date

I have had many to be honest, winning Northern Ireland Master Chef 2020; I earned a scholarship to Hong Kong in 2021; being part of the team who won a Michelin Star in the Muddlers Club; my 1st Class Honours degree from Ulster University; launching my own business and gaining online presence; being asked to do Great British Menu; featuring in a book called "Plates of Northern Ireland"; cooking for multi billionaires in the Rosses for the Open Championship, many more to come!

Did anything you experienced in Fairview help you with the job you are doing now, or the person you are now?

Fairview taught me about manners, respect, social skills etc. Everything I learned at Fairview at a young age I have carried through my whole life which has made me the person I am today. Fairview taught me to stick at things and has a large part to play in my motto today... Don't wish for it, work for it!





Our school has grown substantially since opening in 1980. At almost 50 years old, we are due an upgrade and we are delighted to share that plans are now completed for a ten classroom extension with work starting imminently. Following completion of the building work, we will fund a multi-use games area (MUGA) which will revolutionise physical education and sports provision in our school.



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