



www.kirkinriolaps.co.uk

028 2564 4959

The information contained in this prospectus is believed to be correct at the time of printing—November 2023

KIRKINRIOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL



"The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and action to promote improvement is now good."

"The staff reflect on, and improve continuously...to meet the individual needs of the children. The teachers connect effectively and creatively the key aspects of ...the curriculum."

"The standards and achievements remain good" and "all of the children work collaboratively and take increased levels of responsibility"

ETI Report of the Follow-up Inspection in September 2016.

Prospectus
2023/24



Welcome to Kirkinriola Primary School

On behalf of the governors, staff and pupils, I welcome you and your child to Kirkinriola Primary School. This prospectus provides an introduction to our school and has some of the information you will need to help your child settle in here.

I hope you will find this information useful, however if you have any unanswered questions please do not hesitate to call us on 02825 644 959.

E. McCaffery

(Principal)

*'Where learning is an adventure
and everyone can shine.*

*Our growing school with a big
heart. '*

KIRKINRIOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kirkinriola Primary School has a rich historical heritage and is committed to upholding its fine educational traditions. Many of our past pupils still attend our annual events and talk fondly about their early days as pupils of this family-orientated school.

Kirkinriola Primary School was opened in October 1929 and continues 93 years later as the vibrant heart in this community.

Our rural location, just off the Cushendall Road, Ballymena, offers our children an idyllic setting for learning and enables us to access outdoor education with ease. We are a recognised Forest School and promote regular outdoor learning and play for all pupils.

Kirkinriola Primary School was also certified as a Digital School in 2022. We are recognised for excellence in integrating digital technologies in to learning and teaching for all pupils.

It has always been important at Kirkinriola Primary School to work closely with our parents, creating a happy and caring environment that encourages every child to develop their full potential.

In keeping with our Christian ethos, the pupils are expected to act responsibly and in a caring manner from an early age – looking after themselves, others and their environment. Older children are encouraged to set an example for the younger ones and develop independence in preparation for the next steps of their educational journey.

AIMS

- To ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to participate in rewarding educational experiences, learning skills and concepts, attitudes and values according to age, aptitude and ability.
- To create a happy, secure, supportive and stimulating environment.
- To encourage an awareness of different cultures and an appreciation of their own culture.
- To maintain good relations with parents and ensure effective communication.
- To develop the pupils' awareness of social and moral values which lead to courtesy, good manners and respect for themselves and others.
- To encourage participation in sport and extra curricular activities as part of social and personal development.
- To promote the spiritual development of the pupils through the Christian ethos of the school and an approved Religious Education Programme.
- To foster links between the school, home and community.

CREATIVE LEARNING

During the school year we work with various organisations to provide learning experiences in our classrooms that are a 'Little Bit Different' such as the AMMA Centre, SENTINUS and the Crescent Arts Centre to name just a few.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Kirkinriola Primary School has developed strong links with our local community. This enhances both the quality of life and learning experiences of children. It also plays a vital role in helping pupils to develop as active citizens who positively contribute to their communities.



PASTORAL CARE AND CHILD PROTECTION

Our Staff team are committed to caring for all of our pupils and will always act in the best interests of the child. We endeavor to promote openness, self-confidence and trust between all pupils and adults in our school.

Kirkinriola Primary school works in close partnership with parents to support and promote pupils emotional, social and academic needs. We maintain regular contact with parents using Seesaw to share learning and messages. However, we will call parents directly for an matters that require immediate attention.

A copy of our school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available on the school website and Mrs Crabbe is the Designated Teacher to contact in respect of Child Protection matters.

CHARGES AND REMISSIONS SUMMARY

Education in Kirkinriola Primary School is provided free of charge.

Exceptions are detailed below:-

All board, lodging and travel costs on residential trips/educational visits (except where statutory remissions apply)

Costs associated with optional extras. (e.g. visits to the theatre or extra curricular activities)

Tuition in a musical instrument.

Swimming

The school will appeal to parents from time to time for voluntary donations but no child will be disadvantaged in any way if parents chose not to make a contribution.





BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL

PROVISION

Breakfast Club

All Pupils can attend our Breakfast Club Monday to Friday at a cost of £1 per day from 8.15am to 8.45am

After School Club

Children in P1, 2, & 3 can attend the After School Club Monday – Thursday from



UNIFORM

BOYS	GIRLS
Polo shirt (sky blue)	Polo shirt (sky blue)
School trousers (dark grey)	Pinafore, skirt (dark grey)
School sweatshirt (navy)	School sweatshirt (navy)
Shoes (black)	Shoes (black, no high heels)
School Raincoat or Fleece	School Raincoat or Fleece
Socks (mid or dark grey)	Socks / Tights (white or dark grey)
<u>P.E.</u>	<u>P.E.</u>
Polo shirt and navy	Polo shirt and navy
Tracksuit bottoms & trainers	Tracksuit bottoms and trainers

CONTACT WITH SCHOOL

Kirkinriola Primary School involves parents in the education of their children and inform them regularly about their child's progress. It is important that every child feels happy and secure at school and knows that the parents and teachers are working together.

To build positive partnerships, Kirkinriola Primary School encourages our parents to keep teachers updated with any changes to their child's health or routines. In Primary 1-3 parents can directly message their child's class teacher using the Seesaw App. However, pupils in P4-7 are encouraged to foster a more independent approach to sharing messages. Should an issue require immediate attention or if you would like to make an appointment we ask that you call the school office.

The school telephone number is:- 028 25 644 959
 Email address:- info@kirkinriolaps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk
 Website :- www.kirkinriolaps.co.uk
 Facebook:- Kirkinriola Primary School



ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

Assessment involves the continuous monitoring of the individual child's progress combined with more formal tests or examinations. A formal progress report or pupil profile is issued at the end of each school year.

Parents may make an appointment at any time to discuss their child's progress and are invited to attend parent teacher consultations.

HOME LEARNING

All home learning activities are intended to develop independent study and provide additional practice for skills learned in the classroom. We also promote opportunities for pupils to carry out topical research tasks and learn in greater depth about areas that are of particular interest to them.

Parents are encouraged to actively engage with, support and extend home learning. Reading to / with your child, playing games, solving puzzles and encouraging creativity will enhance your child's learning beyond the classroom.



THE NORTHERN IRELAND CURRICULUM

It is our policy that the pupils of Kirkinriola Primary School shall receive their full entitlement under the Northern Ireland Curriculum and we are committed to maintaining a broad, well balanced, and relevant Programme of learning which gives each child access to the acquisition and development of skills, knowledge, values and attitudes, appropriate to his/her needs.

Information Communications Technology (ICT)

As a school we attach importance to the use of digital technologies. During their time at Kirkinriola your child will have opportunity to explore and express their understanding using a range of ICT equipment, including digital cameras, programmable toys, robots, drones and handheld tablet devices. They will also use the internet to support their learning activity.

Language and Literacy

Literacy is central to primary education. It is our policy in Language and Literacy to lead children, through a progressive and balanced curriculum which provides opportunities to engage in talking and listening activities and reading and writing, to a level of competence which will equip them to meet the needs of secondary level education with confidence. Ultimately, having mastered the mechanics of reading, the goal for our pupils is to read competently both for pleasure and information.

Mathematics & Numeracy

The school's Mathematics and Numeracy Policy and schemes of work have been prepared in accordance with the N.I. Curriculum. Children study number, processes in mathematics, shape and space, measures, and data handling. Emphasis is given to quick mental recall of the basic number facts and the development of the ability to tackle problems in a practical and systematic way.



THE NORTHERN IRELAND CURRICULUM

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU)

The provision of a supportive and safe environment for learning, in which pupils have lots of opportunities to mature to their full potential socially and emotionally is a prime characteristic of our school ethos in addition to the curricular PDMU programme. The school has extended children's opportunities to talk about their thoughts or feelings and share any concerns, for example, through use of 'feelings' charts and the strategy of 'circle time'.

The World Around Us

The World Around Us includes interrelated aspects of Science & Technology, History and Geography, with an emphasis on development of relevant skills. Children learn about themselves, the variety and diversity of plant and animal life, materials and physical processes. Opportunities are also provided to encourage pupils to develop a positive attitude towards having a healthy lifestyle. History is seen as the interaction, in the past, between people, places and events. Through a study of history strands children should come to understand, to some extent, how events have affected the present. Geography in the first instance, gives our children the opportunity to study their own environment and culture. Secondly, it assists in the development, knowledge and understanding of people in different places and of different cultures. Educational visits to sites of historical and geographical interest are undertaken.

Religious Education (RE)

The school follows the core syllabus for RE in the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Parents may remove their children from Religious Education and/or Assembly on the grounds of conscience. In such cases the school will try to make alternative arrangements for the periods concerned.

Play Based Learning

The school is committed to play based and activity based learning as a means of delivering the N.I. Curriculum. At each level planned opportunities for learning through play will be offered for the promotion of every child's emotional, social, physical and intellectual development.

The Arts

In keeping with over a century of tradition, the arts, including Art and Design, Music and Drama continue to be highly valued in this school. Art and Design activities provide further opportunities for children to develop their intellectual and practical capabilities.

Physical Education & Sport

We recognise the benefit of sporting activities, not only as a source of enjoyment but as a means of developing intellectual, physical and social skills through interactions with fellow-pupils in situations less structured than the classroom. The school aims to provide the children with a range of sports activities, appropriate to their age and ability, as part of the curriculum for physical education and as extra-curricular activities.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We encourage Primary 4, 5, 6 & 7 children to participate in extra curricular activities.

Where it is practical we also try to offer occasional after school activities for pupils in P1-P3.

These include activities such as:

- Multi-Sports
- Football
- Dance
- Arts & Craft
- Music
- ICT
- Youth Ministry
- Swimming
- Forest School
- Cycling Proficiency (P7)

STAFFING

Mrs E McCaffery	Principal
Mrs J Crabbe	Senior Teacher
Mrs A McKelvey	Teacher
Mrs J Crawford	Teacher
Miss C Kernohan	Teacher
Miss K McMullan	Teacher
Mrs G Todd	Classroom Assistant
Mrs P Gaston	Classroom Assistant
Miss E Adams	Classroom Assistant
Mrs S Logan	Classroom Assistant
Mrs M Walker	Classroom Assistant
Mrs L Scott	Classroom Assistant
Mrs E Laird	Classroom Assistant
Ms V Stewart	Classroom Assistant
Ms Lindsay	Classroom Assistant
Mrs J Cunningham	Classroom Assistant
Mrs K Hanna	Clerical Assistant
Mr S McCullough	Building Supervisor
Mrs V Balmer	Catering Assistant
Ms D Millar	Supervisory Assistant



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The Board of Governors and the Principal have set the Admissions Criteria and have the final decision. The enrolment number and admission number for Kirkinriola Primary School are:-

Current Enrollment: **93**

Enrolment Number: **95** (under review)

Admission Number : **14** (under review)

Only children of compulsory school age will be considered for admission.

Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the school being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in order of priority.

- ⇒ Children who has a sibling enrolled in the school.
- ⇒ Children who attend Kirkinriola Early Years (KEY).
- ⇒ Children whose siblings or parents are former pupils of the school.
- ⇒ Children whose home address is closest to the school as measured by public road using Google Maps.

Criteria for admission of pupils from Primary 2 to Primary 7; the school will admit any pupil provided all the following criteria are fulfilled:-

The schools enrolment number will not be exceeded.

The school will, in the professional judgment of the Principal, be able to meet the educational needs of the pupil.

The admission of the pupil into a particular class will not, in the professional judgment of the Principal, prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.

Applications and Admissions to Primary 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2020/2021	15	15
2021/2022	14	14
2022/2023	14	14