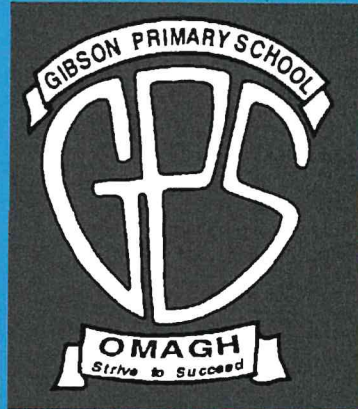


Gibson Controlled Primary School

Prospectus

2019-20



Gibson Primary School, 64 Old Mountfield Road, Omagh, BT79 7EG

e-mail: ksterritt616@c2kni.net

www.gibsonps.co.uk

Tel: 02882244552



CONTENTS

WELCOME	2
MISSION, ETHOS AND AIMS	2
SCHOOL LIFE	3
UNIFORM	4
GENERAL INFORMATION	5
ADMISSIONS	6
CURRICULUM	7
EXTRA-CURRICULAR	7
SCHOOL TRIPS	8
PASTORAL CARE	8
LINKS WITH PARENTS	9
CHARGING/REMISSIONS	9
CONTACT INFORMATION	10



CONTACT INFORMATION

Mr Sterritt, the Principal, will be happy to clarify information contained in this Prospectus or answer any other queries. Any parent wishing to make an appointment with Mr Sterritt or any member of the teaching staff, may do so by telephoning Mrs Diane Clarke, the school secretary, on

028 8224 4552.

Copies of all school policies and other documents are available, on request, from the Principal or on the website

www.gibsonps.co.uk



PARENTAL LINKS / PTA

Parent interviews take place in October (Year 4 – 7) and in February (Year 1 – 3) and all parents receive a written report on their child's progress in each of the above areas.

As well as the annual teacher parent meeting and each child's annual report all Year groups have parent workshops in September to share and discuss information about classroom organisation, school routine, homework, pastoral care, promoting positive behaviour and the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

Parents are encouraged to maintain regular contact with the class teacher to ensure that there is a clear understanding of what we are trying to achieve with our pupils. We believe that it is important for children to see that there is a good working relationship between their parents and teachers.

We have a flourishing Parent Teachers' Association. Parents and Teachers are elected to serve on the committee on an annual basis and they help to organise various fundraising and social events throughout the year. These are always well supported by parents and friends of the school and help create the child centred ethos the school is known for.



CHARGING AND REMISSIONS

It is the policy of the Governors to charge for: -

1. Board and lodgings on residential visits
2. The cost, in cash or kind, of ingredients or materials needed for practical subjects (such as craft) if parents have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.

Charges will be remitted as follows: -

- The charge for the board and lodging of a residential visit will be remitted in the case of pupils whose parents are in receipt of Income Support or Family Credit if the education provided on that visit must otherwise be provided free, that is, the activity takes place mainly or wholly in school hours.

Please note the following; -

1. The Board of Governors reserves the right to seek voluntary contributions from parents or others in support of any school activity or for the benefit of the school. Pupils whose parents are either unwilling or unable to make such contributions will not be treated differently. However, the school reserves the right to cancel planned activities if the voluntary contributions are insufficient to meet the costs of the planned activity.
2. The Board of Governors reserves the right to seek to recover from parents the whole or part of the cost of breakages and losses incurred as a result of a pupil's behaviour.
3. This policy statement refers only to charges which may be made by the Board of Governors and payable by the parents of the pupils concerned.
4. The Board of Governors has delegated the day to day management of its policy statement to the Principal of the school.
5. The term parent(s) wherever used should be interpreted as also meaning guardian(s).



WELCOME TO GIBSON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents

Thank you for taking time to consider Gibson Primary School as a school for your child. We would encourage all parents to take time to visit us either on our Open Evening, which is planned for **Thursday 28 November**, or by contacting me at any time.

Gibson Primary School has some of the best facilities on offer anywhere in Northern Ireland including our very own forest. We are extremely proud of all of our pupils and their achievements and I strongly believe it is our pupils and excellent staff who make Gibson what it is!

Our wish is that while your child is at Gibson they will grow into happy, confident young people who have made good friendships and developed skills in all the key areas.

If you require any more information on any aspect of school life or would like to visit the school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

K Sterritt (Principal)



MISSION, ETHOS AND AIMS

We aim to provide the highest quality educational experiences in a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment.

We are recognised as a school where high academic standards are achieved in an environment which promotes the social and emotional development of all our pupils.

We provide a wide range of educational experiences and are extremely proud of the achievements of all of our children. We strive to maintain the highest possible standard of classroom teaching and to offer all of our pupils a wide range of educational opportunities.

Mission for our School

We aim to provide each pupil with:

- A safe, secure and stimulating learning environment
- An ethos of challenge and support
- A broad and balanced curriculum
- High quality learning and teaching experiences
- A wide variety of extra-curricular activities
- Opportunities for personal development

Aims for our Pupils

- Fulfill their potential in all areas of the curriculum
- Have high self esteem
- Feel valued
- Develop good literacy, numeracy & ICT skills
- Work independently and collaboratively
- Have pride in coming to Gibson

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

We currently have two classes in every Year group except our Year 1's. Teachers plan weekly and provide the highest standard of educational experiences.

SCHOOL HOURS

8.40am – School Opens

9.00am – School begins

12.15 – 1.00pm – Lunchtime

2.00pm – Year 1-3 Pupils leave school
(unless attending Late Class)

3.00pm – Year 4-7 pupils (and Late Class pupils) leave school



BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club provides a healthy breakfast and supervised activities from 8.15 a.m. until 8.40 a.m. every morning in the school canteen. At £1.50 per child per day or a maximum £6 per week, it offers the children an opportunity to relax and enjoy their breakfast in the company of friends

LATE CLASS

All children in Years 1, 2 and 3 leave school at 2.00 p.m. except for those who are entitled to attend Late Class. Opportunities to apply for a place are available on enrolment or at the beginning of each academic year.



HOMEWORK

Homework may include reading activities, the learning of tables and spellings and the completion of written work. The amount of work varies according to age, but on average the time taken to complete homework is likely to range from 15 minutes in Year 1 to approximately 1 hour in Year 7.

Parents are asked to monitor work done at home and to offer support and encouragement to their children, when appropriate

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We aim to identify children who are experiencing difficulties in their learning as early as possible.

All teachers provide differentiated work in the classroom. Individual help or additional learning support in small groups is offered to those who experience difficulty in Literacy or Numeracy. We monitor performance to identify children who may benefit from additional support.

If necessary, the children will be placed on the SEN Register with the parent's permission and appropriate support may be sought from other staff and outside agencies.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Educational visits can enhance the learning experience for our pupils therefore all classes are given opportunities to participate in a wide variety of educational visits to places of interest and activity. Many of our classes make annual visits to Omagh Library as well.

Years 6 and 7 also get an opportunity every year to go on an Educational Trip to York or Edinburgh. This four-day trip is a highlight of the school year and it provides the children with the unique opportunity to experience a wide range of educational activities while further developing their social and emotional intelligences.



PASTORAL CARE

Every member of staff contributes to the pastoral care of our pupils. We view each pupil as an individual and pride ourselves on our relationships with them. We welcome information from parents and children when problems arise at home or in school.

If you've a concern, please contact the class teacher. If a more serious issues arises Mr Sterritt is always available to discuss matters with.

We will act promptly and fairly to combat bullying whenever and wherever it occurs. If a parent or child has a concern regarding bullying, it should be reported immediately. Designated Teachers for Child Protection

- Mr Sterritt (Designated Teacher)
- Mrs Irwin (Deputy)
- Mrs Shortt (Deputy)



SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners are made on site in our own canteen. Pupils can choose to have dinners all week or on any day which they choose. Money is sent in at the start of the week and we have different events throughout the year which promote healthy eating.



UNIFORM

GIRLS

Pinafore/skirt	-	Mid grey
Blouse	-	Blue
Jumper	-	Light grey plain knit, v-neck
Tie	-	Blue and grey (school design)
Socks	-	White (or grey tights)
Shoes	-	Black



P.E. KIT: - (Boys and Girls)

Polo Shirt	-	Light blue with school logo
Shorts	-	Navy
Footwear	-	Trainers – without plastic sole



This uniform is available from local shops such as Wattersons, Russells and Select Schoolwear. Most of it can, however, be purchased elsewhere. The P.E. shirt is only available from Wattersons or Select Schoolwear.

BOYS

Trousers	-	Mid grey (short or long)
Pullover	-	Light grey plain knit, v-neck
Shirt	-	Blue
Tie	-	Blue and grey (school design)
Socks	-	Grey
Shoes	-	Black



CURRICULUM

We believe children learn best when they are motivated and fully engaged. We ensure that all pupils will have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. We have a long tradition of academic excellence and outstanding sporting achievements. Children will have the opportunity to develop a variety of skills throughout their time in primary school especially in Literacy, Numeracy and ICT through a variety of fun filled activities.



Our school choir practises on Tuesday/Wednesday afternoons and performs in assemblies, within the community and to parents throughout the year. Our most talented musicians also receive weekly lessons from peripatetic teachers specialising in woodwind, brass and strings.



EXTRA CURRICULAR

A full range of extra-curricular activities is available to all children in Years 4, 5, 6 and 7 promoting their cultural, recreational, creative, musical and sporting talents. The following is a list of what is on offer over this year: -

Monday	Thursday
Rugby	Hockey
Football	Computer Club
Girls Games	Art & Craft
Scripture Union	Gardening
First Aid	Speech / Drama
Little Bakers	Cookery
Dance / Fitness	

We are renowned for our sporting successes and we aim to encourage a positive attitude to sport and physical exercise by providing opportunities for all of the children to experience a broad range of activities. Those selected for school teams also participate in many tournaments and competitions throughout the year. We also have our very own branded sportswear for our teams.



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

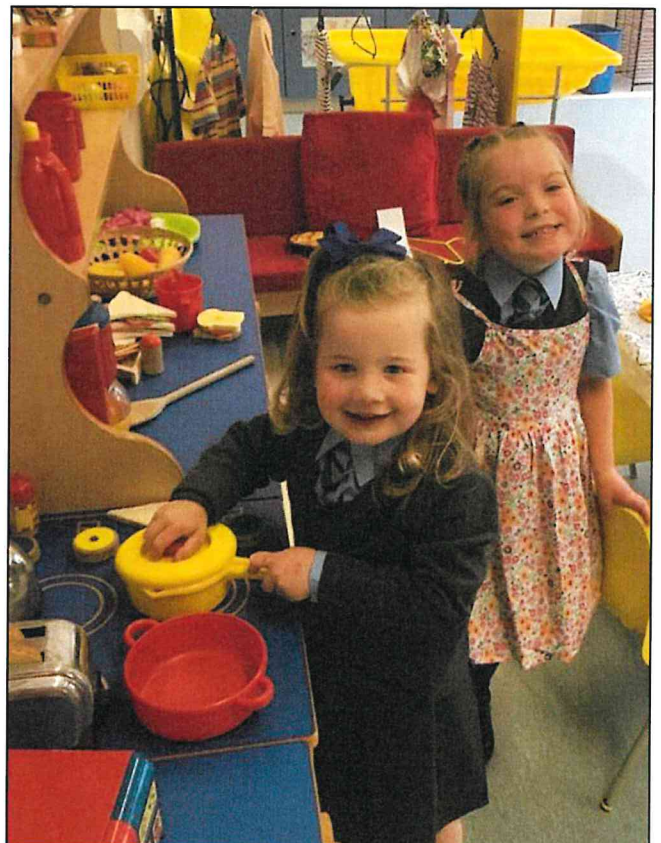
The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) inspected the school in October 2016. The school received the highest grading possible. A number of key strengths were identified including:

- The outstanding quality of the pastoral care for the children;
- The very good standards achieved by the children in literacy and numeracy;
- The very good quality of the teaching observed;
- The involvement and support of the parents and governors

Parents highlighted: the distinct caring, family ethos evident in the school; the friendly, approachable staff; the happy children and the enormous respect the children have for the principal.”

KEY STAGE ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

Our results in both Literacy and Numeracy are consistently above the Northern Ireland average by the end of Key Stage 2. All our Year 7 pupils have gained entry to their first preference Post Primary School for the last five years. The Inspectorate concluded that the standards and quality in both English and Maths are very good.



ADMISSIONS

Applications for a Year 1 place in September 2020 should be made online in January 2020. The school will be able to assist you throughout this process.

In June, all new parents and children who will be enrolling in September 2020 will meet the teachers and receive further information about school routines. Admission to Year 1 may be staggered. Parents are advised of the children's start date in June.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

In the event of the number of pupils applying for places in Year 1 being greater than the admissions number pupils will be selected according to the following criteria. Priority shall be given to children resident in Northern Ireland.

Please note that the provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by primary schools can result in the withdrawal of a place.

1. Children of compulsory school age who have brothers/sisters, half-brothers/sisters enrolled at the school during the 2019/20 school year.
2. Children of compulsory school age for whom this is the nearest controlled school.
3. Children of compulsory school age whose parent is, or is about to become, a member of the permanent teaching staff of the school.
4. Children of compulsory school age, regarded by the Board of Governors, on the basis of written or other medical evidence supplied by parents or other agencies, to have special social, medical or security reasons for attending the school.
5. Children of compulsory school age who have family connections with the school (considered in the following order): -
 - a) Children whose older brother/sister attended Gibson
 - b) Children whose mother/father attended the school
 - c) Other children of compulsory school age

Where there are more applicants than there are places available for the last criterion which can be applied, selection will be on the basis of distance from the school, as measured by the shortest road route. Outlined below is the number of applications and admissions to Year 1 during the past 3 years:

	<i>Number of Applications</i>	<i>Number admitted to Year 1</i>
2016/2017	39	39
2017/2018	52	52
2018/2019	34	34



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA YEARS 2 – 7

Where there are more applications than there are places available, pupils will be selected according to the following criteria, applied in the order set down: -

- (i) Children, regarded by the Board of Governors on the basis of written or other evidence supplied by the parents or other agencies, to have special social, medical or security reasons for attending the school.
- (ii) Other children, selected on the basis of distance from the school as measured by the shortest road route.