

## CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE

If a child lives with criticism  
He learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility  
He learns to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule  
He learns to be shy.

If a child lives with shame  
He learns to feel guilty.

If a child lives with encouragement  
He learns confidence.

If a child lives with praise  
He learns to appreciate.

If a child lives with fairness  
He learns justice.

If a child lives with security  
He learns to have faith.

If a child lives with approval  
He learns to like himself.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship  
He learns to find love in the world.



# St. Brigid's Primary School



## Information Booklet

## Developing your child's Numeracy Skills

Provide plenty of sorting and matching activities, for example setting the table, sorting clothes, toys etc.

Begin counting by using small objects- asking questions such as—how many altogether? Develop the language—more, less, most, least, same etc.

Let him/her sort toys into shape, size, colour and weight. Use language such as big, small, heavier, lighter.

Draw attention to colours in the home and in books. Sort and match colours.

Let your child fill jugs, and containers of all sizes,; use words like empty, full etc.

Develop recognition of numbers by playing with calculators, phones, matching games, books, jigsaws- anything with numbers

Point out shapes in the home and in books. Let them find and match circles, triangles, squares and rectangles.

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Developing writing skills

Being able to write involves a fine control of hands and fingers. The activities below develop control and your child's hand /eye co-ordination

- Duplo, Lego and building bricks
- Cutting out and sticking activities
- Jigsaws
- Plasticine/Play dough
- Drawing– using thick crayons, markers or pencils
- Painting

Encourage your child to hold their pencil, using the correct grip- one finger on top and two fingers and thumb supporting at either side



Dear Parent,

A very warm welcome to St. Brigid's P.S. Cranagh. I am sure that, as your child sets off to Primary One, you are feeling slightly anxious about their new beginning. We hope, that by reading this booklet, you will find answers to any queries and feel more reassured. If you have further questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the school.

We look forward to working together with you, in order to give your child the best opportunity to learn and develop over his/her years in St. Brigid's.

Yours sincerely,  
Olivia Coyle

## School Timetable

School begins at 9.10am.  
For pupils travelling by car, school doors open at 9 am.

For the first two weeks of term Y1 children go home at 12.00 noon. This gives them time to adjust to a longer day and gives them an opportunity to get to know each other before staying through dinner time. \*

Dinner time is from 12.30pm to 1.15 pm

Following their first fortnight at school, pupils will stay until 1pm.  
\* Your child can be collected at the back door.  
The person collecting your child must be one of the contacts on the list you have provided. (Form 1) If not, the school should be informed in writing or by phone call.

**From the beginning of October, most children will stay until 2pm.  
Transition may vary from child to child.**

## Literacy

There will be an emphasis on Oral Language and Understanding and developing Listening Skills. Children will learn to read and write in P.1. through

- ⇒ Shared Reading/Writing
- ⇒ Rhyme and Syllable work
- ⇒ Jolly Phonics
- ⇒ Language Development
- ⇒ Key/Tricky words
- ⇒ Use of Oxford Reading Tree scheme

### Helping at home

- Your child's language skills can be developed at home through talking to an adult. Make time to talk to your child each day.
- Use the library- let him/her browse
- Develop listening skills through listening games (I spy), music, story tapes, nursery rhymes.
- Make a point of reading to your child every day- choose a suitable time for both of you.
- Develop letter recognition through his/her name, alphabet games, jigsaws, fridge magnets, alphabet songs, alphabet books
- Provide him/her with matching and sorting activities-jigsaws, snap, odd one out etc.

The Curriculum

Please see 'Quick Guide to the Curriculum' in your folder

Aims  
The Northern Ireland Curriculum aims to empower young people to develop their potential and to make informed choices and decisions throughout their lives.



Your child will have P.E. lessons during the week. Times will be confirmed by the teacher during the first weeks. Pupils will need trainers for P.E.



Break time is at 10.45. p.m. We operate a healthy breaks policy in St.Brigid's. We recommend your child brings a snack of fruit, vegetables or bread for break. Pupils can bring water to school to drink during the day. (Juice is allowed only with lunch.)

If your child is absent from school, please inform the school by phone call or note, providing a reason for absence.

## Dinner/Milk

Dinner costs £2.60 per day. We ask, where possible, that dinner is ordered and paid for on a Monday. Menus will be sent home at the beginning of the year.

## Uniform

Please ensure all parts of your child's uniform, their bag, lunch box and coat are labelled clearly.



## Settling In

Most children settle in quite easily and quickly- the staff are here to help if there are any difficulties!

Over the first few months, we will aim to help your child grow in confidence and independence- you can help at home by letting your child do more things for him/herself.

In order to assist the settling in period, encourage your child to:

- Play and share with other children
- Tidy up
- Take part in conversation- talking and listening
- Dress himself/herself

## Home Activities

Activities to complete at home are given from Monday to Thursday. Homework will be in a homework folder in your child's bag. Directions will be included. Homework will include a variety of activities from across the curriculum.

Below are a few tips for happy homework time!

- ⇒ Choose a quiet, distraction free environment
- ⇒ Choose a suitable time- bed time or morning time should be avoided
- ⇒ Switch off the television
- ⇒ Concentrate on praising and encouraging your child
- ⇒ If you have a concern, talk to the class teacher.