

DONAGHMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

September 2018 – August 2019

**Annual Report of the
BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF DONAGHMORE PS
ANNUAL REPORT
2018/2019**

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**Donaghmore Primary School
35 Main Street
Donaghmore
BT70 3EZ**

Principal: Mrs L Watt BEd, Med

Telephone: (028) 8776 1503

6th November 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

On behalf of the Board of Governors I am pleased to present this Annual Report.

Although the report is largely a review of the academic year from September 2018 to June 2019, it contains a list of Governors together with a note of their main responsibilities and outlines the school's involvement in many community events.

The Annual Parents' Meeting is now optional and as has been the case for the last few years, we will not be holding one this year. However, if you wish to raise an issue or seek clarification on any matter raised in the report, please forward your request in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Governors, Mrs Watt at the school.

As the report shows, the past year was again a very successful one with the pupils excelling both in school and the wider community. Learning experiences were varied and engaging. I am particularly pleased to note that a strong partnership with St Patrick's Primary School continues to develop and extended wrap-around care is now provided.

The Governors appreciate the work of the Principal Mrs Watt, the teaching and support staff, outside organisations, the PTA for their fundraising efforts and local clergy and church representatives who lead school assemblies.

Governors commit a great deal of time to serve the school. They are extremely interested in the school and their continued support is much valued.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support of this school over the past year; it is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

James I Paisley
Chairman, Board of Governors

Membership of the Board of Governors for Donaghmore PS

2018-2022

Chairman

Mr I Paisley

Board Representatives

Mrs J Henry

Mr I Paisley

Transferor Representatives

Ms E Boyle

Mr F Kelly

Mrs K Rainey

Mrs P Ferguson

Parent Representatives

Mrs A Hayes

Mr G Watt

Assistant Teachers' Representative

Mrs J Parks

Governor Responsibilities

The Governors are ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. They are required to meet for a minimum of three times each year but in practice meet more often than this.

Some of their duties include: -

- The oversight of the curriculum
- The control of the Budget
- The provision of information to parents
- The selection of staff
- The maintenance of the premises (*shared with the EA*)
- The Admissions' Policy
- Fostering links with the local community
- The safety and welfare of the Pupils and Staff

The Security of pupils and Staff

The responsibility we have for providing adequate security arrangements for both pupils and staff in school is one we take very seriously. All visitors to the school are vetted using the Security system. The monitor is in Mrs Watt's classroom and she decides if a person is to be admitted to the premises. If Mrs Watt is absent, Mrs Parks is consulted regarding the admission of visitors. Children are taught not to open the outside door. Individuals entering school for limited periods, for example, to make deliveries, or visitors for a meeting, are not left unsupervised with children.

Pastoral Care – Child Protection

The Governors are profoundly aware of the issue of Child Protection in education. The school has a Child Protection Policy; the designated teacher Mrs Parks has received up-to-date training. All the staff, both teaching and non-teaching, are trained in the issues of Child Protection.

Indicative School Budget Allocations for 2018-19

School Name: Donaghmore Primary	Cost Centre Code 20458
School Reference Number: 501-2632	Primary FSME 9 Primary FSM Band 1
School Type: Controlled Primary School	Nursery JSA/IS Nursery JSA/IS Band

(A) <u>AGE WEIGHTED PUPIL UNITS</u>	AWPU Cash Value	1,998.0913	(For a weighting of 1.0)	
	Pupil Numbers	Weightings	AWPU Totals	Funds Allocated £
Nursery Class Part-time				
Nursery Class Full-time				
Reception				
Year 1	13	1.08	14.04	28,053
Year 2	9	1.08	9.72	19,421
Year 3	3	1.08	3.24	6,474
Year 4	12	1.08	12.96	25,895
Year 5	14	1.08	15.12	30,211
Year 6	7	1.08	7.56	15,106
Year 7	7	1.08	7.56	15,106
Special Unit				
Total Pupil AWPU Funding				140,266

(B) <u>OTHER FUNDING</u>	Number of Units	Funding per Unit £	Funds Allocated £
Premises By Area	463.00	8.62	3,989
Pupil Related	65.00	83.89	5,453
Nursery TSN Social Deprivation Additional Funding			
Primary TSN Social Deprivation Additional Funding	9.00	613.60	5,522
Assessed		Assessed	237
Small Schools Support	Assessed	Assessed	45,183
Primary Principals' Release Time	Assessed	Assessed	16,420
Foundation Stage - Mainstream	Assessed	Assessed	16,205
Foundation Stage - Irish-medium Unit	Assessed	Assessed	
Teachers Salary Protection			
Irish-medium - Curriculum Support			
Irish-medium Unit - Admin. Support			
Service Personnel Children			
Children of the Traveller Community			
Looked After Children			
Newcomer Pupils	1.00	999.05	999
Special Unit Lump Sum			
Total Other Funding			94,009

Total School's Delegated Funding Allocation 2018-19
(Sections A + B + Transitional Funding)

234,275

The balance in the School Account at the end of August 2019 was £5313.35

Donaghmore Primary School

Staffing Complement 2018/2019

Teaching Staff

Mrs L Watt	Principal + P6/7 teacher
Mrs J Bennett	P3/4 teacher 2 days per week + P6/7 teacher 2 days per week
Mrs J Parks	P3/4 teacher 3 days per week
Mrs Y Little	P1/2 teacher 4 days per week
Mrs R Kelly	P1/2 teacher 1 day per week (maternity leave from February)
Mrs C Beacom	P1/2 teacher 1 day per week from February

Ancillary Staff

Mrs F Boyd	P1/2 Classroom Assistant (Mon-Thurs)
Mrs H Cuddy	Classroom Assistant and Lunch Supervisory Assistant
Miss K Lagan	Classroom Assistant
Mrs A Paisley	Classroom Assistant and Lunch Supervisory Assistant
Mrs Jill Burnside	Building Supervisor, Supervisory Assistant 8.10-9am, 2-3pm
Mrs R Watt	Cleaner
Mrs K Haughey	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs S Khan	Clerical Assistant

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The School implements the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs. In line with the Code of Practice the school identifies and assesses any child with Special Educational Needs. The School follows the Guidelines laid down in the Code of Practice. We support children at various stages (1 to 5), and develop individualized plans when needed. These plans are closely monitored and evaluated, and any changes to these plans are carried out, depending on the progress the child makes.

In class, tasks are differentiated appropriately to the needs of the individual child, and the pupil teacher ratio has been kept low to facilitate this.

The school has established a working relationship with the Special Educational Needs Section within the EA and the Psychology Service. This ensures that children are provided with appropriate support, and offered every opportunity to succeed.

Charity

This year our chosen charity was Community First Responders. We were pleased to present this charity with a cheque for £200.

We also collected donated £55 to Donaghmore Horticultural Community and supported the Poppy Appeal.

PTA Fundraising

Fundraising efforts for 2018/19 were as follows:

Carol Service:	£430
Cake Sale	£220.70
Fireside Quiz	£274
BBQ	£3495.77

PTA purchases for the school during 2018/2019 included:

Silver Band donation:	£50
Gifts:	£128.50
General expenses including Christmas and Sports Day events:	£194.41

REVIEW OF THE YEAR INCLUDING COMMUNITY LINKS

There were 65 pupils enrolled in school by October 2018.

Seven P7 pupils transferred from Donaghmore Primary School in June 2019. Three transferred to the Royal School Dungannon and four transferred to Drumglass High School.

Attendance

The attendance figure for the school year 2018/2019 was 96.6%

Consultation with Parents

In November and March parents were invited to consult teachers about their child's progress.

In February, parents of Primary 7 were given the opportunity to discuss their child's Transfer Report and nominate the secondary schools of their choice.

One written report was issued in June 2019.

Music

Mr E McGarrity provided weekly guitar tuition to a number of pupils from P4-7.

P4-7 children enjoyed participating in a series of Garageband sessions using ipads. These children also had the opportunity to learn to play the recorder.

The children sang and performed for parents during the school's annual Carol Service in St Patrick Parish Church Donaghmore and during the Prize Day celebration in June.

Sport

Sport remained a popular area of the curriculum with children participating in a range of activities.

P1-4 children benefited from weekly PE sessions from September to February facilitated by Judith from Irish Football Association.

During term 1 P5-7 children attended weekly gymnastic sessions in the Torrent Complex.

Swimming lessons in Dungannon were organised for P3-7 classes during term 2

Hockey and rugby after school clubs proved very popular.

Teams of children participated in the Tri-County Football league and in Ulster hockey blitz days.

To raise awareness of the importance of ensuring a healthy lifestyle, a Fun2Bfit week was organised in June. There was a different theme and healthy snack offered each day. During the week the children enjoyed nerf gun challenges; running a 5k course around the school; walking and forest school activities in Drum Manor; fitness circuits and retro playground games.

Sports' Day was held on Friday 28th June.

The Class Sport Shields for best boy and best girl for 2018/2019 were presented to:

	Best Boy	Best Girl
Primary 1/2	Harry Parks	Linda Vidava
Primary 3/4/5	Louis Allen	Laura Moore
Primary 6/7	James Montgomery	Emily Watt

ECO

Our focus on ECO activities remained strong and we were delighted this year to be awarded with our third green flag for our emphasis on environmental education. Part of our success in this scheme was due to our involvement with RSPB and our participation in their wild challenge. This required us to provide evidence showing 9 tasks we completed to help wildlife and 9 further tasks to explore nature. This was a rigorous challenge and we were delighted to be the first school in County Tyrone to be awarded with the RSPB Gold award.

We were also pleased to be presented this year again with the Marjorie McMillan Shield for the best KS2 school entry at the Castlecaulfield Horticultural Show. The theme was a garden in a tub and the P5-7s cleverly produced a tub depicting Jack and the Beanstalk.

Work also began on erecting an ECO greenhouse in the school playground. The frame was kindly made by Nigel Johnston and children worked alongside parents to begin to make the panels by recycling 2L plastic bottles.

Community

Links with St Patrick's Primary School were further strengthened this by our involvement in a number of funded projects.

This year Primary 5 to 7 participated in a Good Relations Project which was facilitated by the Speedwell Trust and funded by Mid Ulster Council. This programme aimed to support children as they developed social and coping skills to help build resilience.

In addition to this, a PEACE IV Shared Education Programme developed collaboration between P1-3 teachers and pupils. Each class met for a total of 30 hours with a focus on developing literacy skills through Play and World Around Us.

This year again we benefited from participating in St Joseph's Grammar School's Community Link Programme. Each week three Year 13 students visited school to offer support in classes and in April, the Foundation Stage class enjoyed a fun morning with pupils from St Patrick's Primary at St Joseph's Grammar School's annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Prior to the Christmas holidays P7 organised a very successful Bring and Buy Sale to raise money for this year's chosen charity, Community First Responders. They also organised a Christmas Post Office in school. Together these events raised £199.90.

Enriching the Curriculum

In term 1 P4-7 pupils enjoyed an informative tour of the Tayto Factory in Tandragee.

Prior to the Christmas holidays P1-4 children visited the Bardic Theatre to watch the panto, while P5-7 pupils travelled to the Grand Opera House to watch Aladdin and enjoyed at lunch stop at Frankie and Benny's on route.

During term 2, a team of P6/7 children enjoyed participating in the Mid Ulster heat of this year's road safety quiz at the Glenavon Hotel Cookstown.

In April we were pleased to welcome Karen Shiel, RSPB, back to school. Karen shared lots of interesting facts about bees with each class and then the children got to work on varied minibeast activities. P1/2 went on a minibeast safari and then created minibeast heaps in the school grounds. P3/4/5 carried out a plant and pollinator survey and P6/7 made bee first aid kits using recycled materials.

Also in April, P6 enjoyed participating in a Moy Park Challenge Young Enterprise event held in the Cohannon Inn. The class worked with children from other local schools to produce business plans for chicken dishes that would appeal to children. There were many creative ideas and impressive displays of teamwork.

Under the leadership of Miss Ewing, a student teacher from Stranmillis University College, the P6/7 children organised a very enjoyable coffee morning to say thank you to special people in their lives. Parents, grandparents, childminders and friends enjoyed a cuppa, chat and quiz challenges that kept everyone on their toes.

At the end of the academic year P1-5 pupils enjoyed a fun trip to Captain Green's Crazy Golf.

During the last week in June, P6/7 children headed to Ganaway Activity Centre in Millisle for a 2 night residential. The children thoroughly enjoyed the wide range of activities on offer with one of the highlights being a speed boat trip around the Copeland Islands.

Appreciation

The Governors would like to take this opportunity to express their thanks and appreciation to both teaching and non-teaching staff, for their high level of commitment throughout the year.

The Governors wish to thank the PTA for their fund-raising efforts during the 2018/2019 year. They also wish to thank parents and friends for their support.

The Governors would like to thank the Revd P Thompson, Sister Valerie Thom, Revd Dodds, Emma Reid (CEF) and Cheryl Roberts (The Vineyard) for visiting the school, taking assemblies, and supporting special services throughout the year.