



Board of Governors Annual Report 2021-2022

Chairman's Comments

I am pleased to present to you the report of the Board of Governors for Magherafelt Primary School. Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to build for the future by working together as staff, parents and pupils. I trust that you find the contents of this report useful and informative.

Rev Dr Jonathan Curry

Board of Governors 2021-2022	
Chairman	Rev Dr J Curry
Vice-Chairman	Archdeacon T Scott
Transferor Representatives	Mrs L Fullerton Mr S Hudson Archdeacon T Scott Rev Dr J Curry
Education Authority Representatives	Mr C McCullough Mrs D Caskey
Parent Representatives	Mrs G Hatrick Mrs D Field
Teacher Representative	Mrs L Wilson
Principal	Mr I Somerville

Statement of Governors' Responsibilities

Governors' Responsibilities include:-

- (a) the oversight of the curriculum;
- (b) the control of the budget;
- (c) the provision of information to parents;
- (d) the recommendation to Education Authority – North Eastern region of applicants to fill staff vacancies;
- (e) the maintenance of the premises;
(This responsibility is shared with Education Authority- North Eastern Region)
- (f) the Admissions Policy.

SCHOOL ETHOS

Our mission is to give every child the best possible start in life by providing a caring environment in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect, enabling children to develop their full potential by learning, enjoying and succeeding together.

Aims

In the context of the school ethos, the aims of the school are:-

- to promote the intellectual, spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of pupils;
- to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum for each pupil;
- to encourage pupils to develop a positive attitude to learning;
- to encourage pupils' independent endeavour through the development of lively, inquiring minds and confident application to tasks;
- to provide pupils with a range of worthwhile experiences to assist in the development of skills, understanding of concepts, assimilation of knowledge and acquisition of appropriate values;
- to enable pupils to appreciate the achievements of others in the fields of art, music, science, mathematics, technology, literature and sport and having developed appropriate skills, find enjoyment in their own participation and thereby fulfil their potential;
- to foster the development of a personal Christian faith;
- to enable pupils to appreciate their environment, both in the school context and in the wider community;
- to encourage pupils to develop habits of self-discipline and acceptable behaviour, respect for the opinions of others and consequently the capacity to become contributory members of the community, both in the school and beyond it;
- to prepare pupils for their teenage years and adult life, at home, in the workplace and at leisure as co-operative and useful members of the local community and society in general.

Teaching Staff

Mr I Somerville B Ed Hons PQH(NI)	Principal
Mrs D Doherty B Ed Hons M Ed PQH (NI)	Vice Principal and P3
Mr M Anderson BA Hons PGCE	P7 (Term 2, 3)
Mrs R Toner BA Hons PGCE QTS	P7 (Term 2)
Mrs E Beckett B Ed Hons	P7 (Term 1)
Miss A McAuley B Ed Hons	P6 (Term 2,3)
Mrs H Hutchinson B Ed	P6 (Term 1)
Mr R McAuley B Ed Hons	P5 (Term 2,3)
Mrs H Barnes B Ed Hons	P5 (Term 1)
Miss K McAllen B Ed Hons	P4
Mrs J Barkley B Ed Hons	P3
Miss N Burns MA Ed PGDE	P2
Mrs L Wilson BA Hons QTS	P1

Peripatetic Staff

Mr G Murray	Brass & Woodwind
Mrs S McConnell	Strings
Miss L McAuley	Literacy Training & Support

Classroom Assistants

Mrs M Clements	Mrs J Anderson	Mrs S White
Mrs J Greer	Mrs L Suiter	Miss S Hogg
Miss C Martin	Miss E Wojcik	Mrs A Stewart
Mrs E Bradley		

Administrative Staff

Mrs V Sloss	Secretary
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Ancillary Staff

Mr N Davidson	Building Supervisor	Mrs J Fleming	Senior Supervisor
Mrs V Caskey	Cleaner	Mrs M Clements	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs S White	Cleaner	Mrs J Anderson	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs B Rauchs	Cleaner	Mrs E Bradley	Supervisory Assistant
		Mrs A Stewart	Supervisory Assistant
		Mrs S White	Supervisory Assistant
		Miss E Wojcik	Supervisory Assistant
		Miss C Martin	Supervisory Assistant
		Mrs J Greer	Supervisory Assistant
		Miss S Hogg	Supervisory Assistant

Management Structure

Senior Leadership Team

Mr I Somerville	Principal
Mrs D Doherty	Vice Principal
Mrs E Hutchinson	Senior Teacher

Curriculum Coordinators

Mathematic & Numeracy	Mrs E Hutchinson
Language and Literacy	Mrs D Doherty
Assessment	Mrs D Doherty
SENCo	Mrs D Doherty
UICT (Using Information Communication Technology)	Mr M Anderson
The World Around Us	Mrs L Wilson
Music	Mrs L Wilson
Physical Development and Movement	Mrs A Campbell
PDMU (Personal Development and Mutual Understanding)	Mrs J Barkley
Religious Education	Mrs J Barkley

Curriculum

Strategic Targets

- Leadership and management - Managing Covid-19 Disruption to School and subsequent recovery of learning
- Leadership and Management – Health and Wellbeing: Planning for Take 5/Solihull Approach
- Pupil Development and Curriculum- Updating of the Numeracy scheme.
- Teaching and Learning- Developing and introducing our new short term planning and Evaluation Template

Areas of focus included:

- Embedding of Take 5/ Solihull Approach to Wellbeing
- Access to continued professional development
- Continuation of Shared Education

Professional Development / In-Service Training

This included

- Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy Training
- Child Protection training
- Take 5 steps to Wellbeing Training
- Solihull training
- SENCO training

School & Community

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions, our activities trips and activities were greatly reduced this year. However, we still were able to continue with some of our community links and initiatives.

P1- P7 Took part in Anti Bullying week, commencing with Odd Sock Day which took place on 19 November 2021.

The Dog's Trust came in to run some workshops for our P4, P5 and P6 pupils on Thursday 25 November. All the children learnt a lot and each class received an individual lesson.

Pupils from the Rainey Endowed School came in to run a PE event in our sports hall for our P6 children on Monday 6 December. This was a really fun event which our P6 children really enjoyed.

We maintained our links with the local Runwood Nursing Home and also Milesian Manor. Our choir, led by Mrs Wilson, visited throughout the year to sing for the residents.

All classes P1-P7 took part in lessons to celebrate Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 8 February. These lessons focused on how to keep safe online by following the SMART rules.

Our P5 Children had a visit from Habitat from Humanity on Thursday 24 February which focused on dealing with waste and recycling.

In Term 3, our P1-P4 classrooms all received new Clevertouch Interactive touch screens. These new interactive white boards replace our previous projector based screens.

We hope that these will serve as an effective tool for learning and teaching for many years to come. We hope to be able to purchase these for the remaining P5-P7 classrooms in the next academic year.

Worship

Assemblies

In September SERVE Youthwork came out to present a bubbled assembly for all classes. This ran on a timetabled basis with each class/bubble having their own slot throughout the day.

Regular whole school assemblies were able to take part through online Assemblies provided by Scripture Union NI (SUNI) and through class recording assemblies to play for the other classes. These assemblies happened in classes to preserve class bubbles in Term 1 and Term 2. Mr Somerville went round the classes and presented any awards and Golden Postcards each Thursday morning.

We were delighted to be able to return to in-person assemblies in Term 3. It was wonderful to be able to invite the local churches to take assemblies and also for classes to present their assemblies in person. Mr Somerville was very pleased that awards and Golden Postcards were all able to be presented with the whole school present for these assemblies.

Christmas Performances

Parents and friends enjoyed two wonderful Christmas performances by our children. However, these were unable to take place in person. These were recorded and shared on our website and social media accounts.

It's Your Move

During Term 3 Scripture Union NI (SUNI) came in to deliver a programme called "It's Your Move," for our P7 children. This programme is designed to help the children think about moving on to secondary school and manage this transition effectively.

Literacy

National Poetry Day

In October this year all of the children had the opportunity to take part in activities for National Poetry Day.

World Book Day and School Book Fair

The theme for this year was “My Favourite Book Character.”

We were delighted to be able to recommence our World Book Day parade through the town. This took place on Thursday 3 March 2022. This was a really lovely community occasion and was greatly loved by the children.

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we also were able to have our annual Book Fair in school during this week. Thanks to those parents who supported us by buying books and earning commission for the purchase of classroom library books.

Sports Programmes and PE

Swimming

P5, P6 and P7 took part in swimming lessons each week in Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3.

Disney Football - IFA

P3 and P4 girls took part in the Disney Sports Programme organised by the IFA.

Healthy Body Healthy Mind

Activity NI came in throughout the year to run a programme called Healthy Body, Healthy Mind. This ran for all classes P1-P7 for a 10-week block in Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3.

The Daily Mile

Each week throughout the year, all children from P1 – P7 had the opportunity to take part in the Daily Mile initiative. This is a 15min block each day, where the children go outside and walk/run and try to complete at least 1 mile. We have found that this is very beneficial to the children’s concentration levels and academic attainment.

The Santa Fun Run

As part of the national Daily Mile initiative we took part in “The Daily Mile Santa Run”. This took place on Friday 3 December. All the children dressed up with Santa hats or other Christmas items and we had a whole school walk on this day.

Cycling Proficiency

In Term 3, our P7 children were able to take part in the NI Cycling Proficiency Scheme (CPS).

The CPS teaches children who can already ride a bicycle, how to do so more safely. It covers what to wear, bicycle maintenance and the rules of the road.

It also allows children to practice cycling manoeuvres in a safe environment.

Colour Run Fundraiser

In June 2022 we ran a sponsored Colour Run in school. All the children got to take part in a Colour Run event on our sports field. Everyone had lots of fun and an amazing £4,700 was raised for school funds. Well done everyone.

Pupil Progress

Parent Teacher Interviews

Due to Covid-19 these took place via telephone this year. These happened during week beginning 18 October 2021 (Term 1) and the week beginning 4 April 2022 (Term 2).

P7 Transfer Interviews

Mr Somerville offered each of the P7 parents the opportunity to meet with him in February to discuss their secondary school choices for their children. This involved support for using the new online application portal provided by the EANI.

Annual Reports

After consultation with parents/carers and staff we revised our annual review template this year. The intention was to make our annual reports easier to understand and more informative for parents.

Annual reports regarding each pupil's individual progress were sent home to parents/carers on the week beginning 27 June 2022.

Summer Schools

In the Summer, the school took part in the DENI Summer School initiative. Activity NI and MR Sports both came in to run this. MR Sports organised two weeks and Activity NI organised two 2 weeks.

Teaching Practice Student Placements

We continued to host a number of students from Stranmillis University College and from the Northern Regional College throughout the year.

Shared Education

This was year four of our Shared Education programme. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions this was mainly conducted remotely. Our children enjoyed working in partnership with our colleagues and children from Spires Integrated Primary School, Holy Family Primary School and Gaelscoil an tSeanchai.

Due to the remote nature of the programme this year, the main focus was through Athletics.

In March 2022 we were able to partner with Holy Family PS to take part in a musical workshop lead by Beam Creative. Our P6 class took part in this via joint online workshops due to the restrictions in place with Covid-19.

In April 2022, with the restrictions lifting a little, we were able to have some face-to-face meetups with our partner schools. These mainly took place at Meadowbank Sports Arena, where the children took part in games and team building exercises.

Open Evening

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place regarding public gatherings, we could only offer an appointment based Open Evening which took place on Monday 10 January. Appointments were booked by prospective P1 parents for a tour of the school led by our School Councillors and P7 pupils. Parents and their children got to see round our wonderful school facilities, meet all our staff and ask questions about life in Magherafelt Primary School.

School Meals Service

Our kitchen continued to provide a marvellous service in support of school. This included various special meals throughout the year to celebrate significant events. These included a wonderful Christmas party day banquet and a special celebration meal for Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.

School Council And Eco-Committee

The School Council continued to play a very important role in school life. Many thanks to Miss McAllen, Mrs Allen and all the Councillors for their contributions.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Due to the disruption of Covid-19 our regular Extra-Curricular Activity clubs were unable to take place.

However, Activity NI and MR Sports agreed to run some afterschool activities each term. The clubs included: Football, Dodgeball, Multi-Sports, Lego Builders, Nerf Club, Art and Crafts and a Science Club.

Choir was able to take place with the Choir preparing for and performing in our Christmas shows and for the local nursing homes.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club

We were delighted to be able to offer our Breakfast Club right throughout the year. This ran each day from 07:45 to 08:50. Each day pupils who attended were provided with a healthy breakfast and a warm welcome to school.

Ruby Roos – After School Care

We were delighted to have Ruby Roos provide our afterschool care throughout the whole school year. This club has proven to be extremely popular and runs each day from the end of school, right up to 6pm if required by parents. During this time the children complete their homework, get a healthy snack and have some time from fun games/art/craft activities. All the children who attend this club really love it.

The Platinum Jubilee

In May 2022 we celebrated Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee. Our celebrations involved:

- A Kings' and Queens' dress up fun day where the children dressed up as Kings and Queens.
- MR Sports ran a programme of games and activities that all the children took part in.
- We had a celebration "Tea Party" provided by the school meals kitchen.

- We planted a Platinum Jubilee Rose in the school grounds to commemorate the event.

Charities

Our children and school community supported the following charities this year:

- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
- Brain Tumour Research – Wear a Hat Day March 2022

Digital Schools Award

In March 2022 we had a visit from a Digital Schools validator. The purpose of this visit was to validate our status as a Digital School. The validation visit was successful. Magherafelt PS received the Award and is now acknowledged as a Digital School. This is an excellent achievement and sets us out as a forward-thinking school.

Transfer to Post-Primary Schools

Records Of Achievement

We were delighted to be able to invite our P7 parents/carers into school this year for our annual Record of Achievement ceremony to say farewell to our Primary Sevens. We held a socially distant presentation during which the children were presented with the Record of Achievement folders. Some P7 children made a short presentation and Mr Somerville gave a speech. The P7 children left the school to a guard of honour from all the other children in school and Miss S Hogg played the bag pipes as they left for the last time.

Transfer

29 children transferred to post-primary education in September 2022. They took up places in Magherafelt High School, Rainey Endowed and Sperrin Integrated College.

Pupil Enrolment

The total enrolment at the end of June 2022 was 218.

The Primary 1 enrolment for September 2020 was 26.
The annual attendance rate for 2020/2021 was 94.3%.

Mrs Caskey's Retirement

Mrs Caskey retired in August 2022. She has been a cleaner in Magherafelt Primary School for 16 years.

We would like to thank her for all that she has done for school and wish her all the very best for her well-deserved retirement.

Site Security

Our school premises is a secure site, which operates in line with our site security policy.

Access control is in place to ensure that minimal risk is placed on staff and pupils.

- Every visitor is required to sign in and give a reason for visiting.
- Legitimate visitors will have their movement around school monitored and their departure time will be noted.
- Visitors will be given a lanyard which they should wear as long as they are on school premises.
- Pupils will be encouraged to speak to the closest member of staff if they see a visitor not wearing a badge.
- Children are instructed not to open the front door to school visitors.
- Contractors' activities will be considered before they are allowed on site and should always check in with the school before starting work.

Expenditure

<i>Teaching Staff</i>	<i>499,242</i>
<i>Non- Teaching Staff</i>	<i>134,513</i>
<i>Total Staff Costs</i>	<i>633,755</i>
<i>Running Costs</i>	<i>97,359</i>
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<i>731,114</i>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	<i>736,150</i>
<i>Less Expenditure</i>	<i>731,114</i>
<i>Initial Budget</i>	<i>741,432</i>
<i>Carry over Deficit</i>	<i>5,036</i>
<i>Total Budget</i>	<i>736,150</i>

Summary of Audited Accounts

All school accounts were externally audited in July 2021

2020/2021	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
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School Fund Account	5174.33	1554.99
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Appreciation

The Board of Governors would wish to take this opportunity to express their thanks and appreciation to the Principal and Staff of the school (teaching and non-teaching) for both their commitment shown to the pupils and the high standards achieved both inside and outside the classroom. Thanks are also due to the Education Authority North Eastern Region's Advisory Staff and to the representatives of the various external agencies who visited the school during the year.