

# SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

Saint Tierney's Primary School  
Roslea

2025 / 2026



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Roslea, Co Fermanagh  
BT92 7JS

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Website: [www.sttierneyspsroslea.com](http://www.sttierneyspsroslea.com)



Dear Parents / Guardians

Thank you for taking the time to read our school prospectus.

I hope that you find it both interesting and informative and that it gives you a flavour of our wonderful school community and our amazing students and staff.

Our aim at St. Tierney's Primary School is to provide a high quality learning environment in which all students feel safe and secure, where they are valued as individuals and can develop their knowledge, skills and attitudes in a nurturing child-centred school community.

We are a Catholic school where prayer and worship play a central role in our daily routines, but most importantly we live out our Catholic values, meaning that we are welcoming and inclusive to everyone regardless of race, class, colour, creed or gender. Our school is a community that works in a supportive and respectful atmosphere where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Walking into our school you will immediately see smiling faces, classrooms and play areas that are stimulating, as well as engaged students and staff. You will see the array of educational opportunities that are provided for all our children from our youngest 4 year olds all the way up to our oldest children in Primary 7. As well as high standards across the curriculum, we strive to offer pupils a wide range of extra curricular activities that nurture and showcase the skills and talents of all our pupils.

Please feel free to visit our up to date school website to get a further taste of all that goes on in St. Tierney's. If you were unable to attend our Open Morning and have any further questions please feel free to give me a call and a private visit to the school can be arranged.

God bless

Mrs Elaine Murray

Principal



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## Admissions criteria for entry September 2025

St Tierney's Primary School  
8 Eshadarragh Road  
Mullaghconnelly  
Roslea  
Enniskillen BT92 7JS

Tel No: 028 6775 1493  
E-mail: [info@sttierneysps.roslea.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@sttierneysps.roslea.ni.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.sttierneyspsroslea.com](http://www.sttierneyspsroslea.com)

Maintained Primary School

Enrolment No: 196  
Admissions No: 28

PRINCIPAL: Mrs Elaine Murray

CHAIR OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Rev Fr John Chester

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### RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS

The Board of Governors, including the [Principal](#), will apply the criteria when necessary.

#### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – YEAR 1

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria [punctual applications](#) will be considered before [late applications](#) are considered. The application procedure opens on 10 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 24 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a [punctual application](#). An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 24 January 2025 and up to 4 pm on 29 January 2025 will be treated as a [late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances](#). After 4 pm on 29 January 2025 no applications will be processed until after the close of procedure on 9 April 2025.

#### COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Any child who reaches their 4th Birthday on or before 1st July 2025 is of Compulsory School Age. Under the School Age (NI) Act which became law in Northern Ireland in April 2022, 'compulsory school age' also includes those children who deferred commencing Primary 1 in September 2024 as defined by the new School Age (NI) Act (both groups to be treated equally).

Priority will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school before those who are not so resident.

The following criteria will be applied, in the order set down, by the Board of Governors of St Tierney's Primary School [in the event that](#) the number of pupils seeking places is greater than the admissions number.

Priority will be [given at all times](#) to pupils, regarded by the Board of Governors, on the basis of supporting evidence by parents/guardians and/or statutory agencies, as having special circumstances (medical, social, security factors).

**In the event of the school being oversubscribed the Board of Governors will apply the following criteria. The criteria are listed in order of priority.**

- 1 Children of compulsory school age whose older brother/sister, half-brother/half-sister is presently enrolled at the school.
- 2 Children of compulsory school age who reside in the Parish of Roslea.
- 3 Children of compulsory school age who reside outside the Parish of Roslea.

#### SUB-CRITERIA

In the event of over-subscription in any one of the criteria, taken in order, the following Sub-Criteria will be applied in the order set down. |

Updated November 2024

[www.eani.org.uk/admissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/admissions)

## Admissions criteria for entry September 2025

- (a) applicants who are a Looked After Child (LAC)
- (b) other children of compulsory school age.

If over-subscribed in any one of the Sub-Criteria, then final selection will be by a tie breaker to distinguish applicants to the last available place.

**C H B Z V L M c X I G O K E A T J M M a c P S Q R D Y N F U W**

### YEAR 1 ADMISSIONS – AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Children who apply to enter the school during the academic year will be considered using the same criteria as for Year 1.

### DUTY TO VERIFY

Documentation submitted in support of your application should be provided directly to the school of first preference. The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

### WAITING LIST POLICY

Should a vacancy arise after placement letters have been issued, all applications for admission to Primary 1 that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the published criteria applied. This waiting list will be in place until the end of the academic year. The school will contact parents in writing if a child gains a place in the school by this method. A child's name will be automatically added to the list. Parents should contact the school if they wish for their child to be removed from the list.

### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – YEARS 2-7

Pupils will be considered for enrolment provided that:

- (i) the school would not exceed its enrolment number; and
- (ii) in the opinion of the Board of Governors their admission would not prejudice the efficient use of the school's resources.

If, at the time of the consideration of the application, there are more eligible applicants than places available then the Admissions Criteria for entry to Year 1 of pupils of compulsory school age will be applied.

Applications and Admissions to Primary 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2022/2023	18	18
2023/2024	10	10
2024/2025	11	11

## CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Education in St Tierney's Primary School is provided free of charge for all lessons and activities connected with the child's entitlement under the Education Reform Order. In the event of a school trip, requiring an overnight stay or music tuition (not statutory lessons), payment may be required.

The school may appeal to parents for voluntary contributions, but no child will be disadvantaged if parents choose not to make a contribution.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*'Where great minds grow'*

*In St. Tierney's Primary School, as a Catholic School we endeavour to promote a living faith and to create a secure environment which enriches and compliments the love and care experienced at home. Staff work individually and collectively to support each other and to create conditions which foster learning, self-discipline and respect for others. As part of a believing community committed to a Catholic way of life, we believe that all are equal in the sight of God and that each child should know that they are important, whatever their individual talents and abilities. We welcome children of all faiths and cultures and treat all members of our school community fairly. Our school is characterised by a spirit of compassion and understanding and we aim to promote the dignity and wellbeing of all.*

*In St. Tierney's Primary School, we are aware of the role that the school has in promoting the life of each child in our care and involves more than academic considerations. As a Catholic school, we seek to reflect the values, attitudes, beliefs and practices of our Catholic faith and our local community. Religious Education is an integral part of our catholic education provision and this incorporates Liturgical Celebrations and Personal Development and Mutual Understanding activities.*

*It is the Policy of our Board of Governors that in accordance with our Catholic ethos and in line with the Northern Ireland Curriculum, a balanced and broadly-based curriculum, which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development, will be offered to all pupils.*

*The governors and all staff strive to promote an ethos in which fairness, tolerance, compassion and forgiveness will permeate all relationships within the school community. High standards of respect, self-discipline, commitment*

*and sensitivity are sought and everyone is encouraged to set / achieve the highest personal, physical, spiritual, social and academic goals.*

*In Literacy and Numeracy, we follow the N.I. Literacy and Numeracy Frameworks and aim to provide high quality education for all pupils. Our results in English and Maths are excellent and above the NI Average in all areas. Analysis of data shows that almost all children are achieving as expected or above in both literacy and numeracy. Our pupils are given opportunities to learn through well planned and purposeful teaching. We are continuing to develop Active Learning methods to promote learning. We provide a stimulating learning environment using a variety of teaching methods. Expectations for all pupils are realistically high and teaching is matched to the needs and abilities of our pupils. Positive behaviour is encouraged using rewards and we celebrate successes achieved at all levels. Children are at the centre of the learning process and the pupils' voices are valued and celebrated.*

*St. Tierney's Primary School has strong links with Roslea Cross Community Play Group and continues to develop a learning community with its neighbouring primary schools and post-primary schools and with the many groups and associations within the Roslea community and the surrounding areas. As a school community, we are committed to building relationships at all levels. This partnership consists of the Board of Governors, the staff, the pupils and parents all working together to ensure that our children receive the best education possible. The ethos of the school is experienced through the warm welcome given to all. All contributions are valued, whether from pupils, parents, staff, governors, external agencies or other stakeholders and we are committed to a process of self-evaluation to ensure we continue to improve on our previous best.*



Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal



Planting in our Eco-Garden



Outdoor Maths Problem Solving



Sustrans Walk to School

## AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

### Aims:

St Tierney's Primary School believes in promoting the spiritual, personal, social and academic goals desirable for our pupils. We wish to promote in all our pupils such values that will help them to become caring responsible citizens of the future. These Catholic values are inherent in all areas of the school's life. At St Tierney's we aim:

- to provide a caring, sharing environment based on Christian values.
- to become an extension of the Catholic home.
- to develop the academic, physical, social, moral and emotional abilities of each child.
- to provide each child with a broad, balanced curriculum in keeping with the aims of the Northern Ireland curriculum and encourage each child to achieve his / her potential in all curriculum areas.
- to promote each child's awareness of his / her identity and heritage and have respect for other traditions.
- to develop a sense of fairness, tolerance, respect and responsibility towards others.
- to promote an awareness of the need for rules and regulations within the school environment and to encourage respect for them.
- to develop enquiring minds and a sense of curiosity.
- to celebrate their self-worth and realise their abilities, achievements, strengths, and personal preferences.
- to instil in pupils life-long learning by motivating them take responsibility for their own learning.
- to take ownership of their environment both locally and globally.

We believe that each child will achieve success through experiencing;

- a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum,
- a stimulating learning environment,
- a varied programme of extra-curricular activities and school visits,
- an ethos that is supportive, encouraging and friendly,
- an effective partnership between school, home and the wider community,

- a variety of teaching approaches and strategies to meet the needs and styles of pupils,
- access to a range of varied and up to date resources.

We demonstrate our commitment to working as a learning community by:

- On-going self-evaluation to improve on our previous best,
- Working collaboratively with all our stakeholders.

## ETI Report June 2021

We welcomed members of the Education and Training Inspectorate to St. Tierney's in May 2021 to conduct a 2 day Follow-Up Inspection. They focused on Provision for Learning, Outcomes for pupils and Leadership and Management within the school. We were delighted that their findings and report emphasised the high standards of provision for our pupils and reflected the ongoing hard work and commitment of our Board of Governors, staff, parents and pupils.

Some of the Key Findings are listed below. You can find the full report at [www.etini.gov.uk](http://www.etini.gov.uk)

- ❖ *The outcomes for learners remain **very good**. The teachers have high expectations of the children and, in turn, the children take pride in their achievements*
- ❖ *They are motivated, confident and independent and engage enthusiastically in a broad range of curricular experiences. The children are caring and respectful to one another, and responsive to staff and visitors.*
- ❖ *The quality of provision is **outstanding**. The teachers provided opportunities for the children to be involved actively in practical, challenging, activity-based learning in a stimulating outdoor environment.*
- ❖ *There is improved provision for high quality cross-curricular and connected learning experiences in the outdoors; suitably informed by the 'children's voice'*
- ❖ *Learning and teaching strategies and topics are challenging, meaningful and engaging for all the children.*
- ❖ *All of the lessons observed during the follow-up inspection were **very good or outstanding**.*
- ❖ *The quality of leadership and management is **outstanding**. The whole-school culture of improvement, where 'great minds grow,' is robust, agile and adapted to the needs of the children and staff; it is well-focused on maintaining the children's health, well-being and progress in learning across all areas of the curriculum.*
- ❖ *St Tierney's Primary School has a **high level of capacity** for sustained improvement in the interests of all the learners.*

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## STAFFING COMPLEMENT 2023/2024

### **Teaching Staff**

Mrs Elaine Murray (Principal, P3 teacher)  
Mr Gerard McMahon (Vice Principal, P7 teacher)  
Mrs Fiona Kelly (P4/5 teacher) Mrs Conlon out on secondment  
Mrs Maeve McElroy / Mrs Edel Trotter (P5/6 teacher)  
Mrs Michelle Beacom (P1/2 teacher)  
Mrs Edel Trotter (P3 teacher for Principal Release)  
Mr Pat McCabe (Music teacher)

Our School Chaplain is Fr. John Chester PP.

### **Classroom Assistants**

Mrs Stella Beagan	Mrs Sinead McKenna	Mrs Keelin Reilly
Mrs Fiona Conlon	Miss Amie Sreenan	Mrs Carmel Killen
Miss Colleen Murray	Mrs Diana Connolly-McQuillan	
Mrs Dervla Flynn	Miss Shannon Mullan	

### **Secretary**

Mrs Joanne Connolly

### **Lunch Time Supervisor**

Mrs Helen Flynn

### **Caretaker/Cleaner**

Mr Paul Quigley

### **Kitchen Staff**

Mrs Caroline Pearson Mrs Anne-Marie Callaghan Mrs Mary Rooney

## SCHOOL HOURS

Normal school hours are as follows:

P1 - P2 8.50 am - 1.50 pm

P3 - P7 8.50 am - 2.50 pm

Morning Break 10.45 am - 11.00 am

P1 - P4 Dinner 12.00 pm - 12.45 pm

P5 - P7 Dinner 12.30 pm - 1.15 pm

## RAINBOW AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

We are extremely lucky to have the provision of Rainbow Afterschool Club on site which offers daily afterschool provision up until 6pm during term time. They also run a summer scheme as well as opening for pupils on other specific school closure dates.

# SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: SEPTEMBER 2024-JUNE 2025

The School Calendar for the 2024-25 school year  
will give you an idea of how the school terms are broken up.

## SCHOOL CLOSURES

SEPTEMBER 2024 - JUNE 2025

*These dates are provisional and may be subject to change.*



August	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Non Contact</u> Day (Staff Only) <u>Non Contact</u> Day (Staff Only) <u>Non Contact</u> Day (Staff Only) <u>Non Contact</u> Day (Staff Only)
October	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	<u>Non Contact</u> Day (Staff Only) Holiday
November	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Parent Teacher Meetings
December	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> (Finish at 12) Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Holidays (Half Day Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> ) Holidays
January	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holiday Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
February	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Mid Term Break
March	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday for St Patrick's Day
April	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> (Finish @12) Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Contact Afternoon (Staff Only) Easter Holidays
May	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
June	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Holidays (Half Day finish @ 12)

Term 1 commences Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 Term 2 commences Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 Term 3 commences Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025

The school has employed a texting system to inform parents; the success of this system depends on parent providing us with up-to-date contact details. In the event of an emergency closure every attempt will be made to notify parents to enable them to make alternative arrangements.

Please check that we have your full address and up to date phone contact numbers and if you are not receiving regular texts, please let us know as soon as possible.

## PASTORAL CARE ARRANGEMENTS

We will endeavour to provide a comfortable and safe environment for learning. Each class teacher has the responsibility to look after the pastoral needs of the children in his/her class. Parents are asked to inform the teachers of any medical problems their child may suffer, any medication their child is receiving and an up to date address or phone number at which they (or the child minder) may be contacted. In the event of an emergency, arrangements will be made to have the child taken to hospital. In all cases it will be the school policy to act in the best interest of the child. In the event of a parent having concerns about a Pastoral Care or Child Protection issue the following teachers should be contacted:

**Mrs Maeve Mc Elroy (Designated Teacher for Child Protection),**

**Mr Gerard McMahon (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection) or**

**Mrs Elaine Murray (Principal/Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection).**

**TELL! TELL! TELL!**

Remember, we want you to be happy and safe in school. If you are worried about anything or anyone....please TELL somebody.

Mrs Murray – Principal  
Mrs McElroy is the Child Protection teacher.  
Master McMahon is the Deputy Child Protection teacher.

They know how to help get things sorted out for you.  
You could also speak to your own teacher or another adult in school that you trust!

## SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

In St. Tierney's Primary School, we understand that without discipline there is no learning. A positive approach is used. Children will be encouraged to be polite and good mannered to teachers, other members of staff, visitors and to each other. In the interest of safety, children will be encouraged to walk at all times within the school and show caution in the school grounds. Good behaviour will be expected from all pupils within the school grounds and at all times when pupils from St. Tierney's leave the school during school hours for school trips, sporting activities or religious ceremonies. Merit and reward systems operate at class and whole school level to encourage positive behaviour. When unacceptable behaviour occurs, the necessary sanctions will be employed as detailed in the School's Discipline Policy.

Copies of the School's Child Protection, Behaviour Management and Discipline Policies are available in the school or on the school website.



# SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils of St. Tierney's will be encouraged to wear the full school uniform at all times.

We have partnered with My Clothing - <https://myclothing.com> for jumpers, coats, cardigans & a few other items which have the school logo on them. Jumpers are also available in S.D. Kells, Lisnaskea.

**Boys** Navy trousers & Navy Jumper with School Crest

Blue Shirt & Red Tie Black shoes

**Summer** Navy Shorts & Blue Polo T-Shirt

**Girls** Navy pinafore or skirt or navy trousers

Navy jumper or cardigan with School Crest

Blue blouse & Red tie Black shoes

**Summer** Blue Check Gingham Dress

All items should be clearly marked with the child's name and full uniform should be worn at all times unless children are told otherwise. Further to this, in order to make your child's life at school as stress free as possible we make the following suggestions:

1. For boy's trousers should be elasticated rather than buttons and zips.  
(Not jogging bottoms).
2. Ties should be elasticated.
3. Shoes should have velcro strips rather than laces until your child can tie them.
4. Runners/trainers for PE days.
5. In cold weather girls are permitted to wear trousers and these should be navy.

**Jeans are not part of the school uniform.**



# SCHOOL CURRICULUM POLICY

## Curriculum Policy Statements

It is the policy of the Board of governors of St Tierney's Primary School that each child will receive, at a minimum, their full entitlement under the Northern Ireland Curriculum. "The Northern Ireland Curriculum aims to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives"

It comprises seven general learning areas: Language and Literacy; Mathematics and Numeracy; the World Around Us; the Arts; Personal Development and Mutual Understanding; Physical Education and Religious Education. At the heart of the curriculum lies an emphasis on the development of skills: (a) Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities and (b) formally assessed cross curricular skills: using Mathematics, Communications and ICT. The Northern Ireland Curriculum embraces the principles of Assessment for Learning with an emphasis on improvement, raising achievement and celebrating success.



This curriculum will seek to build on the range of learning experiences children will have experienced before they enter formal education in Primary 1. It aims to provide children with the skills and competencies they will need to succeed in school and future life. The curriculum seeks to prepare the pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. Other aims of the school are to maximise the potential of each pupil, to develop self-confidence in the pupils and to promote a spirit of tolerance towards others.

St Tierney's Primary School offers a balanced and broadly based curriculum which promotes the intellectual, spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of pupils. The curriculum is designed to encourage the desire to learn and to stimulate thinking and reasoning. It is important that children learn to apply themselves to their school work. The acquisition of knowledge and skills is important; however, this must be placed in the context of the development of sound moral values based on Catholic Faith. The school will promote the principles of Catholic Education by giving everyone the

opportunity to make themselves educated Christian persons. Staff will be available to attend to children's needs, these problems and confidences will be taken seriously so that they gain in self-confidence and are certain of the teacher's love and friendship.

Learning will be a source of pleasure; this can be achieved through work of a practical nature. Practical work includes Drama in Literacy, RE, PDMU etc; practical work and experiments in Numeracy, World Around Us and Activity Based Learning.



Outdoor Maths Work



Story Time in our Outdoor Classroom

Pupils are offered a range of extra-curricular activities, either within the school day or after school through our popular Extended Schools Clubs. Activities on offer include; Gaelic football, camogie/hurling, tin whistle, fiddle, choir, art, games, drama, cooking, athletics, sports, ICT, cycling proficiency, gardening and much more.



Cycling Proficiency



Working in the School Gardens



Gaelic Coaching Session



Mullaghmore Equestrian Schools League

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Tierney's is a Catholic school, conducted in accordance with the rites, practices and observance of the Catholic faith. Christian belief and attitudes will pervade all teaching. Christian values and beliefs are not just confined to the Religion class but are part of the whole school curriculum. Formal religious education is based principally upon the Grow In Love religious scheme. Prayer is part of the daily school life and school masses, confessions and other religious services are part of the yearly programme.

We acknowledge the role of parents in the children's religious education; the school builds on the foundation they have laid. Parents are also involved in the preparation of their children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. Fr Chester and parish representatives also assist the children and their parents in the preparation for these sacraments.

*Parents of children from a non-Catholic background can contact the school regarding arrangements for religious instruction or if they wish to have their child(ren) removed from Religious Education classes.*



## COMMUNITY LINKS

We see our school as a central part of the local community and we are proud of the strong links we have nurtured with local businesses, Roslea Shamrock's GFC, St. Tierney's Church, neighbouring primary and post primary schools and indeed the wider community. By working together to give our pupils the best opportunities and experiences, we enable them to grow and develop life skills and find their place as valuable members of society.



Roslea GFC Coaching Day



Leading the parade at Fermanagh Fleadh

## VOICE OF THE CHILD

At the heart of St. Tierney's are the pupil voices and we are committed to listening to the views, wishes and experiences of all children and young people in our care. We place value on what our children and young people tell us about their experiences and aim to involve them in key decision making and school improvement. We do this in various ways such as School and Eco Councils, Class Councils and Circle Time, Suggestion Boxes, Feedback Questionnaires and much more.

By promoting the Voice of the Child we are happy that in our school we are helping to build confidence and prepare young people for roles in society.



Eco Council for 24/25



School Council for 24/25



Digital Leaders for 24/25

## DRUGS EDUCATION

St Tierney's Primary School is a caring, responsible school with the children at the core of our activities. We strive to respond to the personal, emotional, social and educational needs of our pupils through our interaction with them in the classroom and beyond.

Each primary school is obliged to refer to its drugs education policy within its prospectus. The emphasis of our drugs education programme is on the dangers involved in the misuse of tobacco, alcohol and medicine. The school may avail of the Education Authority's Pastoral Care and Personal Development team for the delivery of the RSE programme. As our programme responds to need, we will include other substances when appropriate. This programme is delivered mainly through religious education, PDMU and the World Around Us curriculum. All other subjects contribute to this, where and when appropriate.

We do not condone the misuse of drugs nor do we wish to sensationalise or dramatise the drugs situation. We believe in providing a drugs education programme, which is appropriate to the experience of children in our school. The programme we provide helps to equip our pupils with the skills to respond and react appropriately to situations, which are hazardous to their health. Underpinning our teaching is the belief in building the children's self-esteem; in helping them value themselves and others; in giving them a sense of their responsibility to themselves and others. We recognise this as a partnership between the school and the parents, where we work together towards educating and preparing our children for each stage of their lives.

## WELLBEING AND OUTDOOR LEARNING

It is our aim to be proactive in fostering positive mental health and wellbeing in our staff and pupils. Each teacher dedicates time to PDMU and Circle Time when pupils are encouraged to explore topics around personal wellbeing and relationships. We also work in partnership with Action Mental Health to deliver age appropriate 'Healthy Me' workshops to our pupils from P1-7, transition workshops for our P7 pupils and wellbeing sessions for staff and parents.

We promote tolerance and understanding amongst our school community, pupils are respectful of each other and celebrate differences. We participate annually in Anti-Bullying Week, NSPCC workshops and Love for Life Programme as well as working with other external agencies to complement our RSE programme.

The benefits of being able to utilise the 'Outdoor Classroom' as an integral part of our teaching and learning further adds to the positive mind-set for staff and pupils. This is an area we have focused on developing and are able to facilitate outdoor learning across the curriculum. Pupils also partake in the Daily Mile challenge.



Outdoor Assembly



Learning in the Community



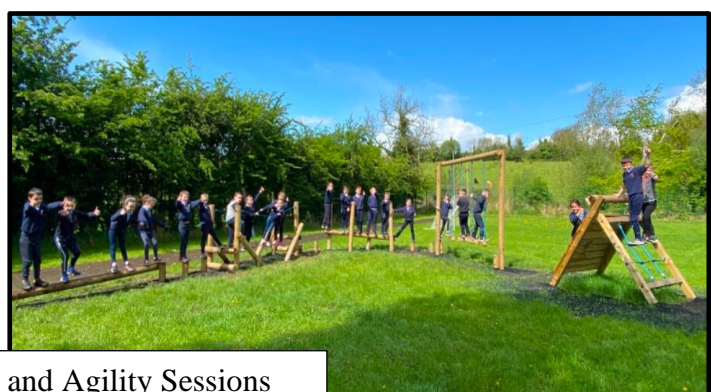
Daily Mile Challenge



Outdoor Play Equipment



Trim Trail Fun and Agility Sessions



## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We pride ourselves on being a fully inclusive school. Some of the children attending the school will have special educational needs. These may arise from the child's physical incapacities or learning difficulties. As it is the policy of the school to maximise the potential of each pupil - the school will endeavour, within its resources, to meet these needs. Having been informed of, or having identified, an educational need the school will follow the requirements of the Code of Practice in regard to parental involvement, school based help and the involvement of other agencies such as Educational Psychology, Literacy Support, Play Therapists, Speech and Language and RISE NI. Recently we have developed our 'Rainbow Room' which is a safe and relaxing sensory space for pupils to unwind or work on one to one or small group activities.

A Register of pupils with Special Educational Needs is maintained by the Learning Support Coordinator. To supplement differentiation within the classroom, children experiencing difficulties may receive additional assistance.

### HOMEWORK

Homework is an important part of the learning process. It is a means of revising work done in class, extending work done in school and using information, which is not available in the school. Homework also involves the parents in the learning process and is a means of keeping parents abreast of the curriculum that is being taught. Homework will be based on one or more of the following: Reading, Spellings and written Numeracy or Literacy. Homework may involve work from other curricular areas or personal research. The amount of homework should generally not exceed that which can be done in:

- 15 - 20 minutes in Primary 1 and 2
- 20 - 30 minutes in Primary 3 and 4
- 30 - 40 minutes in Primary 5
- 45 - 60 minutes in Primary 6 and 7.

Normally homework will be set each week night, though this may be relaxed for holidays and other special occasions.



Active Learning in Numeracy

## **ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING**

Knowing how your child is performing at school is important. Monitoring progress has always been a key responsibility for teachers. The main purpose of assessment is to:

1. Establish through a variety of means the progress that each child is making.
2. Assist the teacher in planning appropriate tasks for each child.

Formal assessments are carried out at the end of Key Stage 1 (P4) and Key Stage 2 (P7) and the results of these are included in the child's end of year report. A written record of achievement will be provided for each child transferring from the primary school to a secondary school. Information on the school's end of Key Stage results is available on request. Parents will be informed of their child's general progress at the November Parent - Teacher meetings and through the annual report which is issued in June. The Principal or teacher can arrange a special meeting for an individual parent if there are particular matters of concern. Parents of children on the Special Education Register will be invited to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher or SENCO at least once per term.

## **COMPLAINTS REGARDING CURRICULUM**

Where parents consider that the curriculum provision is not satisfactory they are welcome to express their concerns. This should be done in accordance with the following procedure:

1. Contact class teacher after obtaining Principal's consent.
2. Contact Principal
3. Contact Board of Governors
4. Request that the matter be considered by the EANI Complaints Tribunal for Curriculum matters.

In the vast majority of cases the problem will be resolved at Stages 1 or 2. In the case of serious complaints the concerns should be specially detailed in writing and given to the Principal or to the Secretary of the Board of Governors to enable the matter to be examined and a reply to be made.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

It is hoped that this prospectus has given you the information that you require. However, more detailed information is available from the Principal or in the various school policies that have been produced. Parents will also be kept informed of any changes that may arise during the year through letters, school text service, the school website and a school news sheet issued every half term.

Parents of prospective pupils, particularly those who are new to the school, are encouraged to attend our annual Open Morning or if this does not suit, please contact the school secretary to arrange a visit to the school or for assistance with the completion of the online application form.