

St Dallan's Primary School Warrenpoint



School Prospectus



St Dallon's Primary School
Clonallon Road
Warrenpoint BT34 3RP
Tel: 028 4175 2655
e-mail:
info@stdallans.warrenpoint.ni.sch.uk
www.stdallans.com

Letter of Introduction from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians

Thank you for choosing St Dallan's as the school best suited to providing a sound education for your child. On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to extend to you and your child, a warm and sincere welcome, as we begin a partnership with a common goal to do the very best we can for the benefit of your child.

As a Catholic school, our overriding aim is to establish and foster Christian values for life, and to that end our staff is dedicated to promoting a positive and caring atmosphere where the children feel safe, secure and valued.

While we feel that school should be an enjoyable experience, it must also be an industrious and fruitful one, and so we depend on strong support and co-operation from you, in order to assist your child to achieve his/her full potential.

During the years ahead, please feel free to approach me, or any member of staff, regarding any aspect of your child's welfare or development.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs U Farrell
Principal*

Vision

The vision for St Dallan's Primary School is one where each child is recognised as being unique and where their full potential is nurtured in an environment committed to our Christian values.

In fostering such a commitment a community of faith can be established, creating an environment of love and security valued by all members, encouraging each member to embrace every aspect of school life through which they feel valued respected and loved, and where they will strive to discover and fulfil their talents to their greatest potential.



Aims of the School

St Dallan's Primary School is a place where both staff and students work in the pursuit of all aspects of spiritual, educational and personal excellence.

To achieve this we have the following aims:

1. To foster a love of learning where children will be stimulated, motivated and challenged to become independent thinkers and learners.
2. To provide a Pastoral Care System where every child feels valued and respected in all that they do and in all that they achieve.
3. To develop an awareness in each child of their skills, talents and abilities and to give children the confidence to try new things and pursue the many windows of opportunity available.
4. To develop a school community which respects the rights and beliefs of others and where good discipline, courtesy and good manners are the very foundation of our relationship with others.
5. To provide a broad and balanced curriculum appropriate to the needs of each child, where high expectations are set and children have the desire and determination to work to the best of their ability.
6. To establish effective relationships between school and home and to utilize the many skills and talents in our community to enrich the provision for all our pupils.



School Profile

St Dallan's Primary School is a Catholic maintained, co-educational primary school situated within walking distance of Warrenpoint town centre. The school was opened in 2000 as a result of the amalgamation of Star of the Sea Girls' School and St Peter Boys' School. The school is an integral part of the local community and has strong links with the parish and the local football club. Most of the pupils who attend the school live within the local parish, a number of pupils also travel from neighbouring parishes including Newry. Our pupils are mostly driven to school and a percentage walk to school from the local housing estates.

The school enjoys 'state of the art' purpose built accommodation. This includes, 24 classrooms, designed in blocks of 4 which lead to a shared resource area. The school is very well resourced and there is an interactive whiteboard in each classroom with ICT facilities including laptops and iPads. There is a separate, central library, a music room and 2 reading rooms which house the range of levelled readers used to develop reading skills throughout the school.

In the main block there is a separate school canteen. School meals are cooked on site and currently 28% of the pupils have FSME. There is a fully equipped school gym/hall with a portable stage to facilitate school plays and assemblies.

There are three separate, spacious hard-core playgrounds for external activities. One playground has been especially developed as a bespoke, secure P1 playground to meet the needs of the pupils and the delivery of early play experiences. The Friends of St Dallan's Parents' Group provided additional funding to begin to resource the two remaining playgrounds to enhance the pupils' outdoor play.

The overall presentation of St Dallan's accommodation reflects an attractive, well-maintained environment for the children who attend the school.

There are currently 508 pupils in St Dallan's usually with year groups having a three form entry, the P1 intake for 2018-2019 being 71 pupils. The school has a number of newcomer pupils who greatly enrich the school's overall population. The pupils are highly motivated and well nurtured in a caring environment. The pupils' level of attainment is very high throughout the school and this is reflected year on year in the school's data. Pupils' attainment is tracked from P1-P7 and intervention is used to support pupils, within the resources of the school.

The pupils access a wide range of after school activities including: Gaelic football, hurling, camogie, basketball, hip hop, golf, tennis, etc. A number of the pupils avail of the EA music service to access tuition in a range of instruments. St Dallan's school choir is renowned in the local community and parish and participates in many events including supporting the liturgy of the sacraments. The choir and choral speakers also compete in the local Feis in Warrenpoint.

The teaching staff comprises of the Principal, 23 teachers: 18 full time and 5 part time, this includes VP and part time SENCO. There is a very high level of expertise within the staff and the curriculum leaders and leadership team have a shared responsibility for the development of a broad and balanced curriculum. The teachers are hardworking and committed to the children in their care and invest heavily in the development of robust pastoral care policies to ensure that the school environment reflects our Catholic ethos which puts the children at the centre of all we undertake.

The non-teaching staff includes 16 classroom assistants, 3 clerical staff, 7 supervisory assistants, 3 cleaners and a building supervisor. The overall workplace reflects a well organised, relaxed environment for both staff and pupils to enjoy.

There is excellent parental involvement and support in St Dallan's and parents are always welcome and kept fully informed of their children's progress and of any curricular developments within the school.

St Dallan's offers the unique facility of enabling parents to drop off their children at 8.30 am each morning where they are supervised until the start of the school day. Furthermore, the school offers an after school facility (The Garden Room) where younger pupils are supervised until their older siblings are dismissed at 3.00 pm and an after school club (The Sunflower Club) which offers supervision/activities until 5.45pm.

The school has an active "Friends of St Dallan's" Parents' Support Group which fundraises towards enhancing the pupils' experiences and opportunities. The school has a proactive Board of Governors, very well informed, committed to and involved in school life. Governors work conscientiously with the Principal and staff to ensure that the highest possible standard of educational provision is delivered within the school. Successful links also exist within the community through the Parish, local primary and post-primary schools, the GAA Club and through participation in Feisanna and other competitions. The school website serves to celebrate learning and achievement in St Dallan's and keeps all well informed about school life: www.stdallans.com.

It is our vision that St Dallan's Primary School will be a vibrant and dynamic school which aims to provide a child-centred, safe, caring environment where every child is valued and nurtured to enable each to realise their own greatness and to strive to fulfil their full potential.

St Dallan's Primary School Board of Governors

We are a Catholic Maintained School, under the Trusteeship of Warrenpoint Parish. The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the effective management of the school. Its membership consists of nominees of the Trustees, nominees of the Education Authority Southern Region, a nominee of the Department of Education, a teacher representative and a parent representative. The Principal is also a member. The Board, therefore, represents all the main interests concerned with the school.

Representatives of the Trustees

Mr W Reilly	2014	Chairperson
Very Rev. Canon J Kearney	2006	
Mrs P McCourt	2006	Designated Child Protection Governor
Mrs H Carvill	2018	

Appointed by the Education Authority Southern Region

Mr H Carr	2018
Mrs R Sneddon	2018

Appointed by The Department of Education for Northern Ireland

Mr D Wolinski	2014
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Teacher Representative

Mrs P Gilsenan	2018
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Parent Representative

Mr J Rooney	2018
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Secretary

Mrs K McDonald VP	2016
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Principal

Mrs U Farrell	2014
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Staff Information 2018/2019

Principal: Mrs U Farrell

Vice-Principal: Mrs K McDonald Designated Child Protection/Pastoral Care/Special Needs

Senior Management Team:

Mrs M Morgan Literacy Co-ordinator
Primary 5

Mrs E Lunny Numeracy Co-ordinator
Primary 6

Mrs N Kelly Assessment, Recording and Reporting Co-ordinator
Primary 6

Mrs A Russell SENCO
Reading Recovery Teacher

Mrs McGreevy ICT Co-ordinator
Primary 2

Teachers and their Responsibilities:

Mrs C Hope Primary 1 and Librarian

Mrs T Rice Primary 1 and Art Co-ordinator

Mrs R Connell Primary 1 and Medical Co-ordinator

Miss E Patterson Primary 1 and Music Co-ordinator

Mrs S Doolan Primary 2 and Promoter of Positive Behaviour

Mrs C Duffy Primary 3 and EPD Tutor

Mrs K Main Primary 3 and School Council Co-ordinator

Mrs P Gilsenan Primary 3 and Feis Co-ordinator

Mrs B Daly Primary 4 and PE Co-ordinator

Mrs O'Neill Primary 4 and Fairtrade Co-ordinator

Mr B Rice Primary 4 and GAA Games and Playground Space Co-ordinator

Mrs S Fitzpatrick Primary 5 and Co-ordinator of CRED and Pupil Participation

Miss H Johnston Primary 5 and Religion/PDMU and EAL Co-ordinator

Miss R Fegan Primary 6 and Website Administrator
and Digital Schools Co-ordinator

Mrs E Treanor Primary 7 and World Around Us Co-ordinator

Mrs A McNeill Primary 7 and Eco-Schools Co-ordinator

Secretarial:

Mrs H Annett
Miss N Quinn
Mrs P Torley

Classroom Assistants:

Primary 1:

Mrs S Love, Mrs A Beggs, Mrs J Gilbey
Mrs A Rooney, Mrs J Clifford

Primary 2:

Mrs J Hunter,
Mrs M Weir, Miss L Cleland

SEN Assistants:

Mrs B Burke, Mrs J Gilbey,
Mrs C Higgins, Mrs M McEvoy
Mrs A Murphy, Mrs B O'Connor,
Mrs G O'Hare, Mrs M Weir, Mrs A Beggs,
Mrs S Love, Mrs B O'Connor,
Miss S Hughes, Miss V O'Hanlon

Supervisory Assistants:

Mrs A Moore, Miss V O'Hanlon,
Mrs A Murphy, Miss S Hughes,
Mrs J Clifford, Mrs A Rooney,
Mrs G O'Hare

Building Supervisor:

Mr G Dixon

Cleaners:

Ms B Achtelik, Mr K Majewski,
Ms A Zawistowska

Catering Supervisor:

Mrs F Johnston

Admissions

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The Principal will use the following criteria in the indicated order in deciding which pupils should be admitted at the initial enrolment stage:

1. Children of compulsory school age who normally reside in the parish of St Peter's Clonallon.
2. Children of compulsory school age from other areas.

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. If over-subscribed in any one of the sub-criteria, taken in order, final selection will be on the basis of proximity of the child's home to the school; priority being given to those living nearest to the school as measured by Google Maps. If the final places to be allocated have identical measurements as identified by Google Maps, selection will be on the basis of alphabetical order of surname, then forename, then middle name as shown on the child's birth certificate.

- (a) Children who have brothers/sisters (half brothers/sisters) presently enrolled in the school.
- (b) Children whose brother/sister (half brother/sister) are prior pupils of the school.
- (c) Children who are the eldest in the family and who reside (parental home) in the parish of St Peter's Clonallon.
- (d) Children who are the eldest in the family and who are from other areas.

DUTY TO VERIFY

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form. 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

The school does not operate a Waiting List Policy.

ADMISSION TO P2-P7

The following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to all pupils seeking admission to years 2 to 7. However, the school cannot cause or permit the number of registered pupils to exceed the school's enrolment number as determined by the Department of Education.

- 1 Pupils for whom their admission would not, in the Board of Governors' opinion prejudice the efficient use of the school's resources.
- 2 Pupils will be accepted in order of application.

The Board of Governors expects a parent to present the following documents on the admission of their child to P2 to P7:

- (i) A transfer certificate from the school previously attended.
- (ii) A birth certificate.
- (iii) A copy of the most recent school report.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2016/2017	61	61
2017/2018	55	55
2018/2019	71	71

The Curriculum

When we speak of the curriculum in our school, we are talking about the learning experiences that are present for each child, those planned by the staff and those gained from our school ethos and environment.

When planning our curriculum we take into account each child's uniqueness as well as his/her individual needs.

It is our aim to offer each child a broad base of learning experiences with particular emphasis on Numeracy, Literacy, I.C.T (Information and Communication Technology) and the development of the skills for learning within the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

The Northern Ireland Curriculum is divided into the following areas of study:

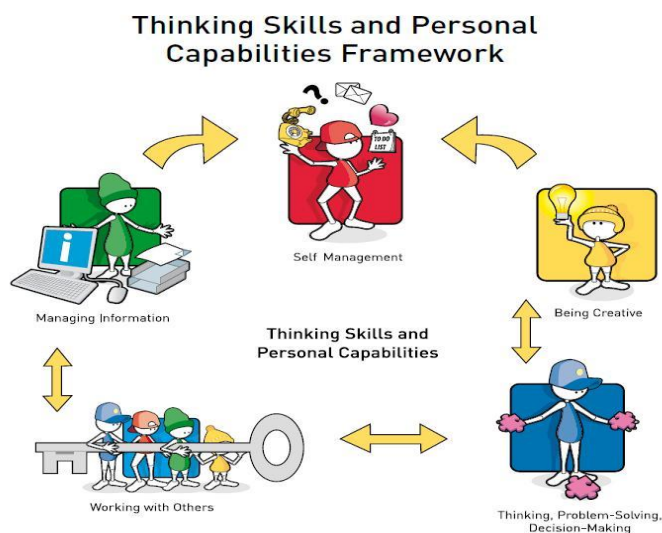
- Language and Literacy
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- The Arts
- Personal Development and Mutual Understanding
- Physical Education
- The World Around Us

These subjects have been taught with regard to the cross-curricular themes of:

- Communication
- Understanding Mathematics
- Using Information and Communication Technology

along with Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities which include:

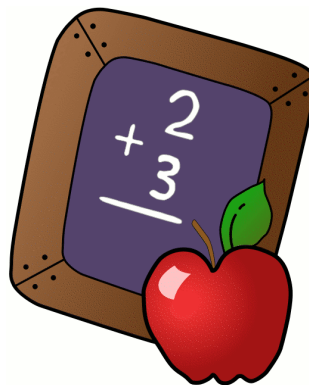
- Thinking, Problem Solving and Decision Making
- Self Management
- Working with Others
- Managing Information
- Being Creative



School Hours

8.30 am	School is open for all children to facilitate parents/guardians who have early work commitments
8.50 am	Outside playgrounds are supervised
9.00 am	Morning Prayers, registration and school day begins
10.40 am - 10.55 am	Morning Break for all classes
12.00 noon - 12.40 pm	P1, P2 and P3 Lunch/Playtime
12.40 pm	P1, P2 and P3 Afternoon lessons begin
12.40 pm - 1.20 pm	P4, P5, P6 and P7 Lunch/Playtime
1.20 pm	P4, P5, P6 and P7 Afternoon lessons begin
2.00 pm	School ends for P1, P2 and P3 children
3.00 pm	School ends for P4, P5, P6 and P7 children

2.00 - 3.00 pm – After school facility (The Garden Room) is available where younger children are supervised until their older siblings are dismissed at 3pm.



School Uniform

The uniform for St Dallan's can be bought from Daisy or McEvoy's Drapery in Newry.

It consists of:

Pale blue shirt/blouse

Navy trousers (Boys) or pinafore or skirt (Girls)

Navy v-neck or navy cardigan or jumper, with crest

School tie

Navy tights or white/navy knee length socks (Girls)

Navy socks (Boys)

Black shoes

For Physical Education:

Pale blue polo shirt

PE tracksuit

Runners

Summer Uniform: Pale blue polo shirt & navy tailored shorts (Boys)
Pale blue summer dress (Girls)

Please note, no football shorts allowed, tailored shorts are for boys only, as above, girls may wear a summer dress.

Children are requested to wear their full uniform each day except on PE days when they may wear their PE tracksuit and blue polo shirt/school jersey. Blue summer dresses (for the girls) or tailored navy shorts (for the boys) may be worn in hot weather.

School Meals

Our school meals are cooked on site and a menu is sent out monthly to allow you to choose the meal best suited to your child. Children who choose to eat a packed lunch can do so in our lunch hall.

The current cost of school meals is £2.60 per day and we ask that this is paid in advance. If you feel you may be entitled to free school meals, please contact the school office where you can collect an application form.



Attendance and Absences

Daily attendance at school is very important as a child can easily fall behind in his/her work, and catching up is not always easy.

If you wish to take your child out of school during the day, or if you know in advance that the child will be off school, please inform the teacher in writing. If your child is absent due to illness etc, please send in a note of explanation on his/her return to school.

In St Dallan's we discourage holidays during term time due to the impact this may have on a pupil's learning. Family holidays taken during term time will be categorised as an unauthorised absence.

We believe that regular school attendance is crucial in raising standards in education and ensuring that every child can have full access to the school curriculum and reach their full potential.

If your child appears reluctant to attend school, please discuss the matter promptly with the class teacher or Principal to ensure that both you and your child receive maximum support.

Annual Attendance

The average attendance for the 2017 – 2018 school year was 93.7%

The Religious Programme

Our Religious programme is called "Grow-in-Love". It has been carefully designed to prepare each child for participation in Liturgy and Sacraments of the Catholic Church, in a very broad background of Christianity. While Religion is taught as a timetabled subject, it permeates every aspect of the school experience.

Special Educational Needs

The term "Special Educational Needs" refers to instances where there is difficulty in providing the appropriate resources necessary for an individual to access the curriculum in the normal way. This may be due to a long term injury, disability or medical condition, or perhaps where the child is identified as having some specific difficulty with some aspect of his/her learning process. We aim to identify pupils with special needs as early as possible, through careful monitoring, testing and of course contact with parents/guardians. This allows the teacher to adapt a strategy for teaching within the classroom, which will

meet those needs as far as possible. The staff are committed to working as a team, and as such will collaborate in whatever way they see fit, in order to cater for the pupil. We may, with agreement from the parent/guardian, seek further support from the Education Authority to secure extra provision for individual pupils.

Mrs Russell is the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)

Pastoral Care and Child Protection

Pastoral Care refers to our treatment of one another, our behaviour, our relationships and our willingness to accept each other's differences so that we have a happy, harmonious school environment where everyone feels valued and loved in a truly Christian way. Every member of staff has a role to play in pastoral care in order to fulfil the aims of the school.

If a pupil is identified as having problems, the staff will become actively involved in trying to find a solution. Pupils are encouraged to confide in their teachers in times of difficulty, and again it is important to emphasise the significance of close contact between parents and teachers.



The school operates a Child Protection Policy which is in keeping with the current legal requirements. Children of all ages are encouraged not to keep secrets which make them feel uncomfortable, but instead to tell a trusted adult. They are also taught that they must tell on anyone who is making them feel uncomfortable or who is making them do anything that they are not happy

about. You can help to protect your child by ensuring that he/she is comfortable talking to you about personal or sensitive issues.

If you have serious concerns about the safety or well being of any child, you should speak to a member of our safeguarding team: Mrs Farrell (the Principal), Mrs McDonald (Designated Child Protection Teacher) or Mrs McGreevy (Deputy Designated Teacher).

School Policies

All schools have to establish various policies which define good practice for a wide range of management issues. These are the focus of ongoing review and development so that we can work on the continuous improvement of our schools. Apart from curricular areas, typical examples are: Child Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Attendance Policy, Assessment and Recording Policy, Admissions Policy, Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy, Discipline Policy, e-Safety Policy, Intimate Care Policy, Privacy Policy, etc. All policies are approved by the Board of Governors, and are available for viewing on written request to the principal. Some of our policies are available to down load from our school website, www.stdallans.com.



Photographs from noticeboards throughout the school



Charges and Remissions

From time to time, appeals will be made to parents for voluntary contributions toward school funds. However, no child will be disadvantaged in any way if parents choose not to make a contribution. School trips which are organised may require parental contributions to help with the cost.



Partnership between Parents/Guardians and Teachers

This area is of vital importance to the success of your child and indeed the school as a whole. If ever any bad feeling exists between a parent and a staff member, it is most likely a misunderstanding due to poor communication between the two. When everyone remembers that we all want what is best for the child, then we can gain support from one another with this common goal. As much of the contact between us happens through the children, it is important that they see that you are interested in their school experiences. Please spend time talking to your child about their work, play, friends, and the high and low points of their day. Getting children into the habit of talking openly to you now will set a pattern for life which may be beneficial in years to come.



Preparing your Child for School - Some Tips

- As the first teachers of their children, parents introduce them to a healthy lifestyle of diet, exercise/activity and rest, with a steady disciplined routine.
- If your child sees that you think it is important to listen to, and respect the teacher, then it more likely that he/she will learn well.
- If you show interest and enthusiasm in your child's achievement, no matter how small, then they will want to do their best.
- If you check and sign your child's homework, then he/she will see that you and the teacher are both working together in his/her interest.
- If you sit with your child for a few minutes each night sharing a book and talking about the words, the story and pictures, then your child will develop a love for books and an interest in reading which will affect the rest of the learning process.
- Encourage your child to draw, paint and colour using pencils, crayons and paints. Play spelling, counting and guessing games in the car, and sing nursery rhymes. Also insist that they wait for their turn when speaking, and do not interrupt others.
- Do not assume that unsuitable TV programmes or adult conversation will "go over their heads" and certainly do not think that unsuitable broadcasts are only on late in the evening. Bedroom TV is a bad idea.
- Make sure your child gets proper sleep and is not rushed out in the morning – a stressful start has a negative impact for most of the day.
- Always make sure your child gets proper a breakfast every morning, as the body and brain both need fuel to function properly.

- Always ask about the highs and lows of the day. We all have good and bad days, and children in particular need to be both praised and comforted.



Homework

Homework provides a good opportunity for communication between parents and teachers. Encourage your child's efforts with praise, and emphasise the importance of doing their best. Do not accept sloppy or careless work as they will think that the quality of the work is not important at home or at school, if necessary make them re-do it.

Sit with your child but do not do their work for them.

If you check over their work and sign it, then you are seen by the child to be in partnership with the teacher (and the teacher is reassured of your support also). The teacher may also write comments on the homework, which you should discuss with your child. These may be written to praise their efforts or on the other hand they may be written so that you can back up the teacher by insisting on higher standards. Either way, the comments are there to help your child, so please be supportive of this. Please encourage independent efforts, away from distractions, with an agreed time limit. If homework becomes a major problem the teacher will be happy to advise.

Reading

Time spent reading with your child can become a special time between you both as they have you all to themselves, your undivided attention. This can make reading an enjoyable experience for children so that they will not see it as a 'task' in the future. A good attitude to reading in the early years will benefit the child later in every aspect of their education.

Assessment

The progress and development of your child is assessed continuously by the teacher on a daily basis, both formally and informally. Through the breadth and balance of the Northern Ireland Curriculum, our pupils participate in a progression of learning experiences that are carefully structured to suit their needs. Assessment is an integral part of this process. It provides information with which to evaluate pupil's strengths and weakness and the effectiveness of teaching and learning. It is then used to inform curriculum planning, the setting of children's targets and the provision of resources.

Aims of Assessment

Through assessment, St Dallan's Primary School aims to:

- Provide each child, the teacher and parents with an indication of achievement and help to identify individual strengths and weaknesses
- Evaluate levels of children's learning against previous performance, personal ability and achievement by their peers
- Generate data with which to track children's progress over time
- Confirm and/or influence teachers' professional judgements
- Inform curricular planning for individual children (AfL)
- Identify children who are gifted and /or talented
- Identify children with special educational needs
- Provide information on which to base future curriculum planning and resource decisions for year groups, key stages and whole-school
- Fulfil statutory requirements relating to assessment.

Visiting the School

You are always welcome to visit the school and discuss any aspect of your child's progress and development. If at any time you have a concern and wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please make an appointment in advance at the office and they will arrange this for you. It is very helpful if you give some indication beforehand regarding your concerns so that the teacher can gather any relevant information in preparation for your visit. Likewise, if the teacher has any concerns regarding your child, you will be asked to come to the school so that the teacher can discuss the matter with you in an informal and friendly manner.

During the first term you will be invited to the school to discuss your child's progress with the class teacher, and to be advised how you can best help your child with his/her learning at home. Please take this opportunity to discuss any aspect of your child's experiences which may influence his/her performance or concentration on their work, or which may have a bearing on their behaviour at school. If your child is having any difficulties, whether educational, medical or emotional, it is in his/her best interests if the teacher is kept informed. Near the end of the final term you will receive an end of year report, which gives a general overview of the progress made and the development of the child, with perhaps advice on areas that need greater concentration. A copy of this report will be retained for the school records.



Drugs and Health Education

As part of Health and Social Education, we emphasise the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and the misuse of medicines. This is done at an age appropriate level, mostly through The World Around Us, Religion and Personal Development and Mutual Understanding lessons.

Medical

If your child is feeling unwell, it is advisable to keep him/her away from school as we cannot offer the care and comfort which they would receive at home. Head lice are unfortunately a problem in all schools. Please check your child's hair regularly and inform the school if you have found an infestation.

Medication

Health care plans must be provided for pupils with specific long term medical conditions eg Diabetes, Epilepsy, Asthma and allergies. These are provided by your GP with expert medical advice.

Miscellaneous

Lost Property

It is essential that all your child's belongings are clearly marked with his/her name. Each child should have a suitable bag in which to keep his/her PE kit and school books. Parents are welcome to come and check for missing items. At the end of each term the school exercises the right to dispose of unclaimed articles as it sees fit.

Jewellery

The wearing of any type of jewellery is discouraged as it can be dangerous for your child during playtime or PE lessons. Children who have their ears pierced may only wear stud earrings in school.

Mobile Phones

In the interest of safety children **will not** be permitted to have mobile phones in school.

Fundraising / Parental Support

We have a very active parents group, "Friends of St Dallan's" who actively fundraise towards enhancing the pupils' opportunities and experiences. They embark on numerous events throughout the year and we ask all parents and staff to support them whenever they can. All support for our school is welcome no matter how little you can offer and we appreciate any help that you, the parents/guardians, can give.



After-School Clubs

St Dallan's offers a range of after-school activities using the talents of teaching staff and outside specialists. We provide a wide balance of activities to cater for the requests and interests expressed by our pupils in all areas of creative expression and sport.

We currently provide the following:

Basketball	
Camogie	Choir
Gaelic football for boys and girls	Gaelic Club
Gardening Club	Golf
Hip Hop	Hurling
ICT Club	Literacy and Numeracy Clubs
Tennis	Tin Whistle

For those busy parents in the 21st century we at St Dallan's offer an extended school day. It begins with the early morning drop-off facility at 8.30 am which is free of charge and then continues with our Garden Room facility from 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm at a cost of £1.50 per day.

We also have our Sunflower Club which runs from 3.00 pm and offers supervision/activities until 5.45pm

Provision is flexible and casual as you are only charged for what you use and are not tied in to any form of contract.

3.00pm to 4.30pm £5.00

3.00pm to 5.45pm £8.50

4.00pm to 5.45pm £5.00

A snack of milk/juice and toast/biscuits will be provided.



All our services are staffed by our own school support staff of classroom assistants, supervisors and approved coaches where applicable.

Music and Drama in St Dallan's

In St Dallan's we value the importance of children being given opportunities to be involved in creative and expressive arts. All children will have access to musical provision as part of the Northern Ireland Curriculum but we have the added dimension of taking these opportunities further.

Specialist tuition is available from a team of skilled musical specialists from the Education Authority's Music Service. They offer tuition in:

Brass – trumpet and trombone

Wind – flute, clarinet and saxophone

Strings – viola, violin, cello, double bass and harp

We are very proud of our school choir and our musical ensemble that meet on a weekly basis and perform throughout the year at many school events, sacraments and celebrations. These events provide a lovely opportunity for the pupils to showcase their musical talents for families and friends. In addition, pupils receiving musical tuition are entered for exams set by the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music.

In St Dallan's we have the annual tradition of our P3 pupils staging a Christmas play and our P7 pupils staging an end of year play. These productions are performed to an audience of our own pupils as well as audiences of family and friends who are invited to evening performances on both occasions. Over the years we have covered a wide range of plays and musicals, the most recent being 'Gabriel's Big Break' (P3) Christmas 2017 and 'Snow White' (P7) June 2018.



Positive Behaviour and Discipline

Our Behaviour Code

In St Dallan's we have a behaviour code which pupils are asked to adhere to at all times.

Our code is simple and displayed in prominent places throughout the school.



In school we work to ensure that it is a place where children can learn and be happy; a place where positive behaviour is promoted. In all classes teachers reward good manners, good behaviour, hard work and respect with their own star boards etc.

At whole school level we have our 'Star of the Week', where two children from each class are nominated every fortnight and receive a certificate at assembly, have their photograph displayed in school and on our website in acknowledgment of this.



Although we endeavour that all children use their best behaviour at all times, this is not always the case and there will be times when we need to have sanctions in place because of inappropriate behaviour.

Your support is essential to your child's behaviour in school. In the case where normal reprimands or warnings in school are not effective, the teacher may need to call on your support by sending a note home. This is an open request for your back up, in a form that is obvious to your child, and as such should be taken seriously by him/her. We hope that through open communication, most cases of inappropriate behaviour can be 'nipped in the bud' before they become an issue and together we can improve the behaviour of the child.



Complaints Procedure

We would hope that you never feel the need to refer to this section, but we want you to feel comfortable to approach us about any concerns you have regarding your child, and also to feel confident and reassured that your concerns will be dealt with in a caring and friendly manner with a positive outcome for all involved. The official procedure is as follows:

STAGE 1

- Make an appointment with you child's teacher, indicating what your concerns are. This way you can sit down together and talk through the situation. Remember, the teacher wants what is best for your child too.
- It may be helpful to write your concerns down on a page and bring it with you to the meeting. Allow the teacher time to consider your concerns and perhaps take a note of them. Remember, you have had time to think, but the teacher has not.
- Arrange a second meeting with the teacher to allow time for her/him to give a considered and genuine response to your concerns so that things are resolved to everyone's satisfaction, and everyone can move forward.

STAGE 2

- If you are unable to resolve the issue with the teacher, make an appointment to see myself, the Principal
- Talk through your concerns as above, indicating clearly why you think there is a difficulty in resolving the situation
- Agree a further meeting to allow time to discuss the situation with the teacher.
- Be prepared to sit down with the teacher and myself to talk the matter through.

If you are unable to resolve the matter with myself, I will put you in contact with Mr W Reilly, Chairperson of the Board of Governors.

STAGE 3

The Chairperson of the Board of Governors

If the matter remains unresolved, the Chairperson will put you in contact with CCMS (Council for Catholic Maintained Schools)

STAGE 4

Council for Catholic Maintained Schools.