

Christ the King Primary School & Nursery Unit



PROSPECTUS 2024





Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

I welcome you to Christ the King Primary School and Nursery Unit. At Christ the King we provide high quality education founded on Catholic principles, recognising the needs of each individual and valuing the contribution of the home, parish and the wider community. We respect each other's culture, language and beliefs. We aim to develop the whole child in a safe, caring yet challenging learning environment.

Roisin Darcy
PRINCIPAL

Mission Statement

We aim to create a calm and caring community, where each child will be encouraged to reach their true potential. Central to the creation of this environment is a commitment to Christian values, by recognising the value and worth of each child through the development of self-respect and understanding. We aim to establish a community wherein pupils, teachers, parents, support staff and Board of Governors enjoy a sense of belonging and have an important part to play.

In Christ the King every child will be "The best that they can be."



General Information about the school



Christ the King is a Catholic Maintained School, situated in the parish of Cappagh in close proximity to Christ the King Church on the Gortin Road.

The school consists of the primary sector and a fully contained Nursery Unit.

The Nursery Unit is a fabulous unit which boasts a huge classroom/play area, a quiet room, toilets and a staff room/kitchen. Outside the nursery is a secure, well equipped area for learning outdoors.

All classrooms are well resourced and fully equipped with ICT resources to support high quality teaching and learning experiences for all our pupils.

The Year 1 and 2 classrooms are fully resourced to support the delivery of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and we also have an additional stand-alone Play Room, where our pupils have access to the most up to date play resources, including ICT.

The younger pupils have a large secure outdoor play area which is enclosed by the school itself. There is also a large tarmac area for older pupils, as well as extensive grassy areas for outdoor play and games. There are a wide variety of resources available for all pupils to play with at break and dinner times.



The school also boasts a brand new outdoor classroom which facilitates learning around the area of The World Around Us, an essential component of the N.I. Curriculum.

The Nurture Room has been completely refurbished with calm spaces and sensory resources to meet the needs of pupils.



Teaching Staff (September 2023)

Principal
Vice-Principal / Year 2
Nursery teacher
Year 1 teacher
Year 3 teacher
Year 4 teacher
Year 5 teacher
Year 6 teacher
Year 7 teacher
Learning Support teacher
Nurture Teacher

Mrs Roisin Darcy
Mrs Roisin Quinn
Mrs Helen Cunningham
Miss Aine Nugent
Mrs Angela Grainger
Mrs Noelle Toner
Mrs Maeve McAnespy
Mr Barry Tierney
Mrs Marie Quinn
Mrs Nuala McKinney
Mrs Sinead Sharkey

We endeavour to keep our class sizes small so that children gain the full advantage of individual support from their teacher. We also employ classroom assistants in all classes to support the learning of all children.

Support Staff

School Chaplains
Secretary
Classroom Assistants

Fr Kevin Mc Elhennon & Fr Declan Mc Geehan
Mrs Kellie O'Donnell
Mrs Clare Sutherland
Mrs Majella Graham
Mrs Jacqueline Clarke
Miss Claire O'Neill
Miss Nicole Sharkey
Miss Marian Coyle
Mrs Aimee Harte
Miss Emma Jane Bowes
Mrs Deborah Cunningham
Miss Demi-Leigh McConnell
Mrs Shauna Duffy
Mrs Caroline McDermott
Miss Neamh McCanny

Nursery Assistants

Mrs Nadine Casey
Mrs Donna Smyth

Building Supervisor

Mr Paul Corrigan

Lunchtime Supervisors

Miss Marian Coyle
Mrs Jacqueline Clarke
Mrs Aimee Harte

Unit Supervisor

Mrs Andrena Adams

Board of Governors

Mr Michael Kelly.....	Chairman & Trustee
TBC.....	DE Representative
Fr Declan McGeehan	Trustee
Mr Noel McGinn	Trustee
Mrs Rosemarie Morris	Trustee
Mr Martin McColgan.....	EA Western Region Representative
Dr Josephine Deehan.....	EA Western Region Representative
Mrs Nuala Burns.....	Parent Representative
Mr Barry Tierney	Teacher Representative
Mrs Roisin Darcy.....	Secretary

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the managing and functioning of the school. The Governors meet regularly and take an active interest in and support the work of the school.



Christ the King Nursery Unit

Christ the King Nursery Unit caters for 26 children on a full time basis from 9.00am - 1.30pm. The Nursery is a purpose built self-contained unit adjoining Christ the King Primary School. In addition to a large bright playroom, quiet room and a spacious foyer which displays the children's work, the Nursery has excellent outdoor facilities including a covered play area, sandpit and an area where children can engage in imaginary play, develop their talking and listening skills, develop creative and physical skills in addition to exploring, problem solving and learning all about their world around them.

The staff recognise that the first years at school are the most important years of your child's school life and are committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment where the well being of your child is paramount.



An ETI report stated that all staff 'provide an interesting and progressively challenging pre-school programme that meets effectively the needs of all of the children... The quality of their interaction with the children is consistently of a high standard.'



The children experience a well planned and organised Nursery Curriculum based on the 6 areas of learning:

- The Arts
- Early Mathematical Experiences
- Language Development
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
- World Around Us
- Physical Development & Movement



Parents are seen as equal partners in the learning process and are encouraged to take an active role in all aspects of the Nursery.

The Nursery has strong links with the local SureStart as well as outside agencies e.g. Speech and Language Therapists, RISE, Health Visitor, etc.

The Nursery is an integral part of the school and the Nursery children benefit from the many wider experiences and facilities that are available in the school e.g. school library, spacious assembly hall and the Early Drop Off and After School Club.



Early Drop Off:
8.15am – 9.00am

After School Club:
1.30pm – 3.00pm

Christ The King Primary School Nursery Unit
34 Gortin Road
Omagh
BT79 7HX
Telephone: 028 8224 7051
Fax: 028 8225 1981
Principal: Mrs Roisin Darcy

Voluntary Maintained Nursery Unit
Admissions No: 26 (Full-time)
Nursery Opening Hours: 9:00am - 1:30pm
E-mail: rdarcy480@c2kni.net
Chair of Board of Governors: Mr Michael Kelly

Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and the Principal in relation to admissions.

The Board of Governors have delegated to an Admissions Sub-Committee the task of selecting pupils for admission. The Sub-Committee consists of the Principal and two other Governors.

Children who are not normally resident in Northern Ireland will not be considered for places until all children who reside in Northern Ireland have been considered.

The Board of Governors has determined that, in the event of more applicants than the places available, the following Admissions Criteria will be applied, in the order set down, to select children for the available places.

Preference will be given to those applications that place Christ the King Primary School Nursery Unit as their 1st choice of pre-school provision.

Admissions Criteria

A timetable of pre-school admissions procedures setting out the dates by which an application is to be submitted is available at www.eani.org.uk/admissions under 'Pre-School Admissions'. During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered.

The application procedure opens on 9 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 26 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 26 January 2024 will be treated as a late application.

As the pre-school admissions procedure is in two stages the timetable also specifies the relevant dates at Stage 2 which will determine if an application is to be considered as punctual or late.

Statutory Criteria

- 1 Children from socially disadvantaged circumstances in their final pre-school year who were born:
 - on or between 2 July 2020 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) and whose parents have not exercised their right to defer their child's entry to primary school; or,
 - on or between 1 April 2020 and 1 July 2020 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - have not attended or are not currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged child; and,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2025.

Within Criterion 1 preference will be given firstly to children whose parent(s)/ guardian(s) reside in Cappagh Parish.

Note: Children from 'socially disadvantaged circumstances' means a child whose parent has an entitlement to (i) Income Support, or (ii) Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or (iii) Income related Employment and Support Allowance, or (iv) Universal Credit. When parents apply for places for their child on this basis they must provide Benefit Verification to confirm that they have an entitlement. The application procedure for Pre-School will outline how Benefit Verification can be submitted.

2. Children not from socially disadvantaged circumstances (as defined above) who are in their final pre-school year (as defined by Criterion 1).

Within Criterion 2 preference will be given firstly to children whose parent(s)/ guardian(s) reside in Cappagh Parish.

Sub-Criteria

In the event of more pupils satisfying the last criterion which can be applied in the order of priority set down above then selection for the remaining places will be on the basis of the following sub-criteria.

- 1 Children with brother(s)/sister(s)/half-brother(s)/half-sister(s) presently enrolled in Christ the King Primary School /previously enrolled in Christ the King Primary School.
- 2 Children whose parent(s)/guardian(s) is/are currently a permanent employee in the school.
- 3 First child in the family.
- 4 Children currently on the "At Risk" register maintained by the Western Health and Social Care Trust.

- 5 Children who in the opinion of the Board of Governors have special home circumstances:
- (a) a child who has one or both parents/guardians deceased;
 - (b) a child whose parent/guardian has a serious long term illness (medical evidence required);
 - (c) children who are multiple births;
 - (d) a child from a family of three or more pre-school children.
- 6 Other children.

In the event of over-subscription in the last sub-criterion which can be applied then selection for all remaining places will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as per birth certificate in the order set out below:-

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

The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters. In the event of the surnames beginning with the same letter the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames as per the birth certificate will be used.

Non-Statutory Criteria

Note: Applications falling under Criterion 3 are processed only during Stage 2 of the admissions process, after final pre-school year (Statutory 1 and 2) applications.

3. Children who were born:
- on or between 1 April 2020 - 1 July 2020 (inclusive), or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and have attended or are currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged (not penultimate aged) child; and that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1, or
 - on or between 2 July 2021 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive); or,
 - on or between 1 April 2021 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2026.

Tie Breaker - Non Statutory Criterion 3

Children within Criterion 3 will be selected in Chronological Order of Age - eldest child first. In the event of two or more children having the same date of birth the above random selection of letters will be used.

Applicants should be aware that:

The offer of a place at Christ the King Primary School Nursery Unit will be conditional upon the successful applicants providing the school with documents verifying important information contained in the application. If your child is offered a place you will be asked to provide verifying information as per the front of the booklet.

It is important that parent(s)/guardian(s) when submitting the application form give all the relevant supporting information and written evidence that may be needed including the child's birth certificate. If a place is offered on the basis of incorrect or misleading information then the Board of Governors may withdraw the offer.

If parents have any difficulty in completing the form then they should consult the Principal of the school.

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 applicant's 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

Should a vacancy arise after 11 June 2024 all applications for admissions to Christ the King Nursery Unit 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 June 2025. Your child's name will be automatically added to the list. Please contact the school if you wish for your child's name to be removed from the list.

Christ the King Primary School
34 Gortin Road
Omagh
BT79 7HX

Maintained Primary School

Tel No: 028 8224 7051
Fax No: 028 8225 1981
E-mail: rdarcy480@c2kni.net
Website: www.christthekingps.com

Enrolment: 337
Admissions No: 48

PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Roisin Darcy
CHAIR OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Mr. Michael Kelly

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

The Board of Governors of Christ the King Primary School has determined that the following criteria shall be applied, in the event of the number of pupils applying for places in Year 1 in September being greater than the admissions number in the order set down below. Within each criterion priority will be given to those pupils regarded by the Board of Governors, on the basis of supporting evidence provided by parents and/or statutory agencies, as having special circumstances, e.g. medical, social or security factors.

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 9 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 26 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 26 January 2024 will be treated as a late application.

- Priority will be given to children who will have attained compulsory school age at the time of their proposed admission, including those children whose parents deferred their admission to primary school in September 2023 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.
1. Children of compulsory school age who normally reside in the Parish of Cappagh.
 2. Children of compulsory school age who have brothers/sisters, half-brother/sisters presently enrolled in the school.
 3. Children for whom Christ the King Primary School is the nearest suitable school.
 4. Children who are a Looked After Child.
 5. Other children of compulsory school age.

In the event of over-subscription in any one of the criteria, taken in order, pupils will be selected on the basis of proximity of parents/guardians home to the school as measured by the shortest walking route by public thoroughfare using Google Maps.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that they will be required to produce documents verifying their address. All applications should provide any two of the following four documents.

- A bank or building society statement which shows the address at which the child is resident.
- A utility bill (for instance electricity, gas, Television License, telephone) which shows the address at which the child is resident.
- A letter awarding Child Benefit to the child or another letter relating to this benefit.
- The child's Medical Card.

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 schools policy on the consideration of applications after the Open Enrolment Admissions

procedures concludes on 25 April 2024. Should a vacancy arise, the above criteria will be applied to select pupils from our waiting list.

YEAR 1 ADMISSIONS - AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

If a place becomes available after 1 September 2024 and there are more applicants than places, then selection of pupils will be made on the application of Year 1 Admissions Criteria to those pupils seeking admission at the time the places become available.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA - YEARS 2-7

The following criteria shall be applied in the order set down below to all pupils seeking admission to Years 2-7. However, the school shall not cause or permit the number of registered pupils to exceed the school's admission number as determined by the Department of Education.

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

In the event of there being more satisfying the last criteria which can be applied then the following sub-criteria shall be used:

- (a) the order of application
- (b) proximity of parents/guardian's home to the school as measured by the shortest walking route by public thoroughfare.

Applications and Admissions to Primary 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2021/22	29	28
2022/23	25	25
2023/24	12	13



The Curriculum

"Christ the King Primary School and Nursery Unit promotes high achievement and learning for life by working with children to achieve a broad and balanced curriculum delivered with support and encouragement to succeed."

In line with the N.I. Primary Curriculum it is the aim of this school to:-

- Create a stimulating and challenging learning environment;
- Continually strive for improvement, working together towards common goals.

There are now three distinct stages covered from 4-11 years.

- **The Foundation Stage** - Year 1 and Year 2.
- **Key Stage One** - Year 3 and 4.
- **Key Stage Two** - Years 5, 6 and 7.

The N.I. Curriculum is made up of a range of learning areas which foster attitudes and dispositions. These incorporate assessment for learning which aims to promote and encourage learning experiences. These include the following:



Whole Curriculum Skills and Capabilities

In Christ the King we will provide children with opportunities to engage in active learning across all curriculum areas and progressively develop in them.

The seven learning areas in the Curriculum are:-

- **Language and Literacy** (including Talking and Listening , Reading and Writing);
- **Mathematics and Numeracy** (focusing on the development of mathematical concepts and numeracy across the curriculum);
- **The Arts** (including Art and Design, Drama and Music);
- **The World Around Us** (focusing on the development of knowledge , skills and understanding in Geography, History and Science and Technology);
- **Personal Development and Mutual Understanding** (focusing on emotional development, social skills, learning to learn , health, relationships and sexuality education and mutual understanding in the local and global community);
- **Physical Education** (focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding through play and a range of physical activities)
- **Religious Education** (focusing on faith development, including biblical stories)

Cross-Curricular Skills

- Communication
- Using Mathematics
- Using Information and Communications Technology



Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

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

We plan to develop the following attitudes and dispositions:

- Personal Responsibility
- Commitment
- Determination
- Self-Confidence
- Tolerance
- Respect
- Concern for others
- Openness to new ideas
- Curiosity
- Flexibility
- Resourcefulness



The Curriculum in Christ the King

Language and Literacy

In Christ the King, the "Read Write Inc." model is used across the school to develop and enhance the pupil's Literacy skills.

- Years 1 - 3 - Read Write Inc. Phonics scheme
- Years 4 - 7 - Read Write Inc. Literacy & Language.



Pupils in Year 1 have opportunities to develop talking and listening skills through the "Chatter Packs" which are sent home on a weekly basis to promote Parental Engagement in their child's learning.

Parents are encouraged to participate each year in our Paired Reading Programme which is held for our Year 3 pupils in the Spring Term.

Parents are also invited to attend Literacy workshops with their children to promote and enhance Literacy skills and they are also invited to Assemblies, to celebrate our pupils' achievements in Literacy.

The school promotes children's writing through the use of school trips, Storytellers, Authors and Poets to stimulate writing and ideas.



Mathematics and Numeracy

Mathematics is important in everyday life. Through teaching and learning in this area we aim to develop children's confidence and enthusiasm in using and applying mathematical skills and knowledge to the world around them.

The children are provided with valuable practical experiences which enable them to develop:

- Processes in Mathematics
- Number
- Measures
- Shape & Space
- Data Handling

We use the "Power Maths" Scheme, IZAK 9 and Numicon throughout the school to promote active and practical learning which provides opportunities to develop problem solving and critical thinking skills. These are necessary skills to enable children to apply learning to real life experiences.



We recognise the importance of a cross curricular approach to pupil's learning. Mathematics and ICT work hand in hand in providing practical, engaging, fun and interactive learning opportunities for all pupils through the use of resources such as: Sphero, Lego WeDo, E.a.R.L and Minecraft Education.

The Parental Involvement in Numeracy (PIN) Programme aims to raise and develop the confidence, interest and ability of parents to complement the teaching and learning process at home.



The World Around Us

The World Around Us is the study of Geography, History, Science and Technology throughout all key stages and is planned to connect learning across the three areas. Children are provided with opportunities to develop their Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Interpersonal Skills through a range of topics. The learning is supported by trips which enhance children's experiences and opportunities for learning.



As an Eco-School with Green Flag status our school is dedicated and committed to eco-values which are developed through our Eco-Council. Our outdoor garden and Poly Tunnel provide lots of opportunities for our children to develop lots of different skills.

The Arts



Children are able to express their ideas, feelings and interpretations of the world in diverse ways by developing their creativity through Music, Drama, Art and Design. Children are offered opportunities to participate in role-play, assemblies,



Christmas plays and Musical Productions, and parents are invited to attend.

Tuition is available in the violin and cello for pupils in Key Stage 2.

Pupils in Years 4 and 5 have the opportunity to learn the ukulele. Tin whistle is also taught in Years 4-7. The school choir plays an important role in the life of the school and the local community.



Physical Education

Through the Physical Education Curriculum the pupils develop physical and sporting abilities through

- Athletics
- Games
- Dance
- Gymnastics.

The pupils also complete the Daily Mile and participate in extra-curricular sporting activities which include:

- Gaelic
- Netball
- Fundamental Movements
- Hurling
- Handball
- Core NI
- Swimming
- Competitive Blitzes
- Pro Soccer

The school hosts an annual gaelic football tournament where local schools play for the Ann Kelly Cup and Henry McKinney Shield.



Religious Education

The Catholic ethos permeates all aspects of school life in Christ the King. Religious Education is taught through the Grow In Love Programme.

Parents are encouraged to become involved in the preparation of their children for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion through the Parish Sacramental Programmes 'Do this in Memory of me'.



The priests of the parish, Fr. Kevin McElhennon and Fr. Declan McGeehan visit the school regularly and celebrate masses throughout the year. These liturgies encourage the active involvement of the pupils, parents and staff. Our religious faith is also celebrated through numerous assemblies, concerts and outside events which occur throughout the school year.

Our pupils fund raise for numerous charities showing generosity and concern for others less fortunate.

A parent can withdraw their child from RE by writing to the Principal.

ICT

At Christ the King, we pride ourselves in the excellent ICT we provide for pupils using an impressive range of resources to deliver cross curricular skills, which also enhance the teaching and learning experiences for all our pupils. We ensure all our children have access to the 5E's (Explore 1 & 2, Express, Exchange, Evaluate and Exhibit) across all classes and with the delivery of the desirable features, pupils are well equipped to become competent in Using ICT across all areas of the curriculum.

Staff are highly skilled in utilising our high-quality ICT resources to their full potential to enhance learning, promote pupil engagement, remove barriers to learning and most importantly to allow pupils to have fun. We recognise how prioritising digital skills in education is essential as it is one of the most transferrable skills for young people to have in a digital age. We are working towards creating Digital Citizens, Digital Workers and Digital Makers for the future.

All classes are equipped with an Interactive Whiteboard, laptops, I-pads, Spheros, E.a.R.L, and Beebots.



Teaching and learning are enhanced through the use of educational apps, on-line learning platforms and Office 365 Applications. Class Dojo is used in Nursery, Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 to communicate with parents. Online digital e-portfolios are used to track and monitor pupil progress.

With the increasing use of technology, we feel it is important that as a school community we educate our children in E-safety including social media. We aim to teach pupils appropriate



behaviours and critical thinking that will enable them to remain safe and responsible when online. The school was recognised by C2K Capita for its 'Innovative approach in the use of social media for parental engagement and application of coding technology for SEN pupils.'



PDMU

PDMU at Christ the King Primary School ensures the emotional and social development of our pupils. We promote the development of confidence, independence, awareness of health and safety, and enhancing the children's moral thinking, values and actions through initiatives and resources such as Living and Learning together, PATHS programme, Neuronimo, Fresh Little Minds and Take 10. Every Wednesday a focus is placed on Well-being and we run Well-being clubs for the pupils in Years 4 - 7 to engage the pupils and allow them to express themselves in their own unique way. Clubs include baking, dancing, gardening, reading, ICT and Relax Kids. Year 5 also take part in the Roots of Empathy programme.

We value pupil's thoughts and ideas and by giving them a voice in the School Council, this promotes leadership and teamwork skills which are necessary for life and work. This School Council is democratically elected and ensures everyone has their say on matters going on throughout the school. The School Council democratically elects two pupils from each class from Years 4 - 7.



Pastoral Care

At Christ the King Pastoral Care permeates all aspects of school life. It reflects the values attitudes and beliefs of our Catholic faith and involves all members of our school community - staff, pupils, parents and the school chaplain.

We strive to create an atmosphere in which children feel secure, know they are valued as individuals and reach their full and true potential, spiritually, morally, physically and intellectually.

All staff are committed to creating an environment of care and trust where children are happy, confident and considerate of the needs of others.

PATHS PALS and Well Being Warriors ensure that everyone is happy and content at break and lunchtimes.

The ETI report found "The quality of the provision for pastoral care is outstanding in the nursery and school. The school motto that 'Every child will be the best they can be,' permeates every aspect of the life and work of the school."

Learning Through Play

In the Foundation Stage, learning through play is a key component in the development of the young learner. We make learning fun, interactive, enjoyable and challenging. Our Outdoor Area has been recently developed, we have a large woodland area in addition to a purpose made Outdoor classroom suitable for learning in all weathers. In the Foundation Stage children access learning in all areas of play.

Children in Key Stage 1 participate in Activity Based Learning and we have state of the art equipment / resources to support learning in a range of contexts.



Extra Curricular Activities



The school boasts an extensive programme of after school activities including Homework Club, ICT Club, Netball, Gaelic, Soccer, Art, Dance and Drama.

After-school activities for Year 1 and 2 begin at 2.00 p.m. and end at 3.00 p.m.

After-school activities for Years 3 - 7 begin at 3.00 p.m. and end at 4.00 p.m.

We offer a range of activities to children of all ages throughout the year.

As well as an extensive programme of activities after school the school provides a wide range of extra-curricular activities, such as school outings to The Ulster American Folk Park, W5, Armagh Planetarium and An Creagán.

We also bring many visitors in to the school to enhance children's understanding of a particular area e.g. Storytellers, Authors, The Fire Service, Ambulance, Birds of Prey.

Children experience a wide and varied curriculum and given lots of opportunities to develop all aspects of their being.



Health Education



The school operates a Healthy Eating Policy and takes part in the Lunch Box Challenge. This ensures that there is always a focus on children's health and well-being. In the Foundation Stage children receive a healthy snack at break-times and older children can bring their own with them. Our school canteen provides healthy, balanced lunches every day at a cost of £2.60 or pupils may bring a packed lunch. Pupils are encouraged to drink water and are allowed to bring a bottle of water to school each day to drink.

The School Day

Nursery

Class begins at 9.00 am and ends at 1.30 pm

Year 1-2

Class begins at 9.00 am and ends at 2.00 pm

Year 3-7

Class begins at 9.00 am and ends at 3.00 pm

Children in Nursery, Years 1, 2 & 3 must be collected by an adult.

BREAK

All pupils have a break from 10.45 am - 11.00 am, when a snack and milk is available from school at a nominal cost.

Dinner

Nursery

11.45 am - 12.15 pm

Year 1-4

12.00 noon - 12.45 pm

Year 5-7

12.45 pm - 1.30 pm

The school canteen offers high quality meals through our cafeteria system at a cost of £2.60 per day or pupils may bring a packed lunch.

Attendance

It is essential that all children arrive in good time for school, properly attired in their full school uniform. All pupils must attend school for the full 185 days as is required by law. If a child should miss school through illness, bereavement or for any other reason the school must be informed either by telephone or in written form i.e. a note explaining the circumstances. The Educational Welfare Officer visits the school every month and monitors attendance.

Home/School Links

The school welcomes parents and strives to ensure that good relationships exist between parents. Parents are kept fully informed of everything that is going on in school via the Schools NI App. Messages, School and Class newsletters created using Sway and Permission forms are all sent out via this App. Event Reminders and Dates for the diary are also made available on individual Class Dojo Platforms and TEAMS.

The School website is continually updated with all the latest School News and information about the school is also shared on Twitter.



The School Uniform

The school uniform is compulsory and must be worn. It consists of

Boys

A yellow polo shirt
A royal blue sweatshirt
Grey Trousers



Girls

A yellow polo shirt
A royal blue sweatshirt
Grey pinafore/Grey Skirt
Yellow and White Summer Dress



P.E. Uniform

Yellow t-shirt with school crest
Royal blue shorts
Trainers

Uniform items have the school crest embroidered on them and are available to purchase from Select Kidz here in Omagh .



Footwear

Children may wear flat shoes or trainers to school.
Please ensure that all uniforms are clearly labelled with your child's name.



Homework

This school believes in the value of homework as it gives the child an opportunity to consolidate, reinforce and practice learning experiences from school. It also gives parents an opportunity to involve themselves in the educational development of their own children and encourages better home/school links.

Children's homework will cover the full range of subjects as laid down in the N.I. Curriculum but will vary according to the needs and abilities of the children. The homework will include Literacy and Numeracy tasks, reading, learn tables and spellings as well as ICT tasks and complete online activities.

The period of time a child should spend at homework will vary from child to child but guidelines are set out in the school's homework policy which is available from the school.

Meetings will be held throughout the year to guide and support parents in how best to help their children at home. If at any time your child is having difficulty with their homework please inform the class teacher as soon as possible so that the matter may be addressed.



Positive Behaviour Management

Good order and discipline is established and maintained in Christ the King through the implementation of our Positive Behaviour Management Policy. In Christ the King Positive Behaviour is rewarded and praised at all times. We pride ourselves on the beautiful behaviour of the children who attend this school.

An ETI report commented ' *Children's behaviour is exemplary and they display positive attitudes and dispositions to collaborative learning.*'

The foundation of this policy is built upon the establishment of good relationships between pupils and teachers which can only be achieved by positive, stimulating teaching and learning being experienced by all children across the school.

Through our Positive Behaviour Policy we concentrate on recognising rewarding and praising all instances of success evident throughout all areas of school life. Class rewards through Tickets, and rewards are given at weekly and termly Class Assemblies. A Principal Award is given monthly to pupils who display exemplary attitudes and dispositions to school life.



Child Protection

Child Protection is everyone's concern at Christ the King. We have a very active Child Protection Policy in place which ensures that all our children are protected and are safe at all times.

Mrs Darcy is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection. Nuala Burns is the Designated Governor for Child Protection.

All parents who enrol their children at Christ the King receive a Parent Information Booklet which outlines Positive Behaviour Management, Child Protection and Anti-bullying Policies in more detail.

Procedure for Parents who wish to raise a Child Protection Concern

I have a concern about my/a child's safety

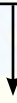


I can talk to the class teacher



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the
Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Mrs Roisin Darcy



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to

Mr Michael Kelly
Chair of Board of Governors



If I am still concerned I can contact the
NI Public Services Ombudsman

Tel: 0800 383 424



**At any time a parent can talk to a social worker at the
Gateway Team (Western Trust) Tel: 028 7131 4090**

or the

**PSNI at the Central Referral Unit
Tel: 999 (Emergency) or 101 (Non-Urgent)**

Procedure where the school has concerns, or has been given information about possible abuse by someone other than a member of staff

Member of staff completes the Note of Concern on what has been observed or shared and must ACT PROMPTLY. Source of concern is notified that the school will follow up appropriately on the issues raised.



Staff member discusses concerns with the Designated Teacher or Deputy Designated Teacher in his/her absence and provides Note of Concern.



Designated Teacher should consult with the Principal or other relevant staff before deciding upon action to be taken, always taking care to avoid undue delay. If required advice may be sought from a CPSS officer.



Child Protection referral is required

Designated Teacher seeks consent of the parent/ carer and/or the child (if they are competent to give this) unless this would place the child at risk of significant harm then telephones the Children's Services Gateway Team and/or the PSNI if a child is at immediate risk. He/she submits a completed UNOCINI referral form within 24 hours.

Designated Teacher clarifies/discusses concern with child/parent/carers and decides if a child protection referral is or is not required.

Child Protection referral is not required

School may consider other options including monitoring the situation within an agreed timescale; signposting or referring the child/parent/carers to appropriate support services such as the Children's Services Gateway Team or local Family Support Hub with parental consent, and child/young person's consent (where appropriate).

Where appropriate the source of the concern will be informed as to the action taken. The Designated Teacher will maintain a written record of all decisions and actions taken and ensure that this record is appropriately and securely stored.

Parental Involvement

The school prides itself on having good relationships with all parents and invites all parents to become fully involved in the life of the school.

Annual Parent Teacher Meetings are organised to give parents the opportunity to learn about and take part in school events:

- Sacramental Preparation Programmes
- Year 1 Information Evening
- Nursery Information Evening
- Paired Reading Programme
- Parental Involvement in Numeracy
- Art and Craft Workshops
- Phonics Workshop
- Class Assemblies
- School Plays
- Fundraising and Celebratory Events
- Action for Mental Health Workshop
- Roots of Empathy



Assessment

Children are continuously assessed using a variety of formal and informal testing. Assessment For Learning is an integral part of the Revised Curriculum. We see assessment as an integral part of the learning process, as children are actively involved in their own learning. We do this by

- Sharing learning intentions with children
- Developing their awareness of the skills and knowledge that are being developed
- Developing their awareness of the strategies they employ in their learning.



We ensure that children are given effective feedback which challenges and improves the quality of children's work as well as giving children an immediate and positive boost to their self-esteem. We also encourage children in the use of peer and self-assessment so that they can improve their own and others work.

At the end of Year 7 pupils will transfer to post primary schools following the procedures as laid down by Department of Education. Parents will be very much involved in the whole transfer process and will be afforded every opportunity to meet the class teacher and Principal for advice and support.



Special Educational Needs

Care is taken at all times to match the curricular provision for all pupils to their particular stage of development and to take account of any difficulties or special talents which may emerge, the new Code of Practice for pupils with Special Educational Needs is being fully implemented throughout the school.

A Learning Support Teacher provides small group withdrawal support in literacy & numeracy. Parents are kept fully informed about their child's progress and given support and advice on how best to support their child at home.

Nurture Room - The Heart



We have a full time Nurture teacher who works in partnership with the class teacher to identify groups / individual pupils who would benefit from Nurture provision.

Staff are trained in the 7 main Principles of Nurture and have attained Level 3 Accreditation in Nurture, thus ensuring a high provision of Nurture throughout the school.



Induction Programme for Year 1

Parents are informed of the outcome of their application for admission to Year 1 in April.

The Induction Programme for Christ the King is primarily an aid to help both parents and children in the transition from home to school, from Nursery to Year 1.

In May/June parents and children will be invited to the school to participate in the 3 week Induction Programme. This will give an opportunity for:

- Children to familiarise themselves with their new classroom and to meet with their teachers and classroom assistant
- Parents to discuss any concerns or worries about their child starting school
- Teachers to speak to parents about school routines and through a series of workshops explain the workings of the Foundation Stage
- Teachers to inform parents of the valuable role they play as educators of their children at home and how they can best prepare their children for school.



Charging and Remissions Policy

In line with the requirements of the Northern Ireland Education Reform Order 1989, it is the policy of the Board of Governors to:

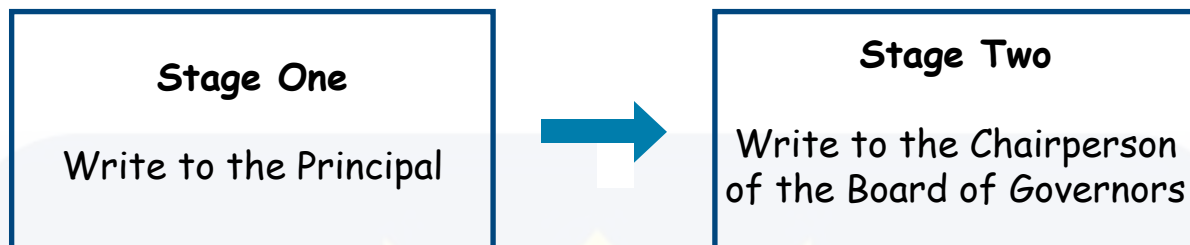
- maintain the right to free school education for all pupils:
- establish that activities organised wholly or mainly during school time should be available to all pupils:
- require parents to pay charges for board and lodging for their children, on residential trips, taking account of any relevant remission arrangement:
- confirm its right to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of activities organised by the school:
- make charges in respect of optional extras, as determined by the Board of Governors.

All school policies, both pastoral and curricular, including the full Charging and Remissions Policy, are available on request from the school office.



Complaints Procedure

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE - AT A GLANCE



Time Limit

Please contact the school as soon as possible, unless there are exceptional circumstances, complaints will normally only be considered within 6 months of origin of the complaint to the school.

Stage One

When making a complaint, contact the school Principal who will arrange for the complaint to be investigated. *If the complaint is about the Principal, proceed to Stage Two.* The school requires complaints to be made in writing, where this may present difficulties, please contact the school which will make reasonable arrangements to support you with this process. (See guidance notes for further information.)

Please provide as much information as possible including:

- name and contact details
- what the complaint is about
- what has already been done to try to resolve it, and
- what you would like the school to do to resolve the complaint.

The complaint will normally be acknowledged within five school working days and a response normally made within 20 school working days of receipt of the complaint. This response will be issued in writing by the Principal and will indicate with reasons whether the complaint has been upheld, partially upheld or not upheld.

These timeframes may need to be reviewed if complaints are ongoing during school holiday periods.

If you remain unhappy with the outcome at Stage 1, the complaint may be progressed to Stage 2 which is overseen by the Board of Governors.

Stage Two

If the complaint is unresolved after Stage 1, write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors (*care of the school and marked 'Private and Confidential'*). Where this may present difficulties, please contact the school which will make reasonable arrangements to support the complainant with this process. The Chairperson will convene a committee to review the complaint. Please provide as much details as possible as indicated above.

The complaint will normally be acknowledged within five school working days and a final response normally made within 20 school working days from date of receipt of the complaint. The response will be issued in writing by the Chairperson of the committee.

These timeframes may need to be reviewed if complaints are ongoing during school holiday periods.

Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO)

If following Stage 2 you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you can refer the matter to the Office of the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO).

The Ombudsman provides a free, independent and impartial service for handling complaints about schools in Northern Ireland. You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman if you feel that you have been treated unfairly or have received a poor service from a school and your complaint has not been resolved to your satisfaction.

A complaint should normally be referred to NIPSO within six months of the final response from the School. The school must advise in its concluding letter that the complaint may be referred to the NIPSO if you remain dissatisfied.

Contact details for NIPSO are:

Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman

Office of the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman

Progressive House

33 Wellington Place

Belfast

BT1 6HN

Freepost: FREEPOST NIPSO

Telephone: 028 9023 3821

Freephone: 0800 34 34 24

Email: nipso@nipso.org.uk

Web: www.nipso.org.uk

