



Board of Governors Annual Report 2021-2022

Chairman's Comments

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

Rev Dr Jonathan Curry

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

Statement of Governors' Responsibilities

Governors' Responsibilities include:-

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

SCHOOL ETHOS

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

Aims

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

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

Teaching Staff

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

Peripatetic Staff

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

Classroom Assistants

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

Administrative Staff

Mrs V Sloss	Secretary
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Ancillary Staff

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

Management Structure

Senior Leadership Team

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

Curriculum Coordinators

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

Curriculum

Strategic Targets

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

Areas of focus included:

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

Professional Development / In-Service Training

This included

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

School & Community

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

P1- P7 Took part in Anti Bullying week, commencing with Odd Sock day.

Swimming

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

Assemblies

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

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

Sports Programmes

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

Activity NI came in throughout the year to run a programme called Happy Healthy Minds

Open Evening

Owing to the second Covid-19 lockdown, our Open Evening was unable to take place in person this year. Instead we created a virtual open day which was shared on our website and social media accounts.

School Meals Service

Our kitchen continued to provide a marvellous service in support of school.

School Book Fair

The theme for this year was “My Favourite Book Character”
Unfortunately, World Book Day took place during lockdown, so the children sent photos into SeeSaw of them reading in random places.

When the children had returned to school for term 3, we held a shorter parade within our own school grounds. The Book Fair was also able to come into school during this week.

Thanks to those parents who staffed the fair and for those who supported us by buying books and earning commission for the purchase of classroom library books.

School Council And Eco-committee

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

Extra-Curricular Activities

Unfortunately, no primary schools were able to run any afterschool extra-curricular activities this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

Worship

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

Unfortunately, in person assemblies were unable to take place this year due to covid-19 restrictions. Each class took part in virtual assemblies provided by SUNI each week when they returned to school in term 3.

Charities

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

- ☐ Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
- ☐ RNIB – Clarity

Transfer to Post-Primary Schools

• Records Of Achievement

Unfortunately, we were unable to invite our parents to our annual Record of Achievement ceremony to say farewell to our Primary Sevens. Instead, we held a socially distant presentation during which the children were presented with the Record of Achievement folders.

• Transfer

41 children transferred to post-primary education in September 2020. They took up places in Magherafelt High School, Rainey Endowed, Sperrin Integrated College.

• Pupil Enrolment

The total enrolment at the end of June 2021 was 221.
The Primary 1 enrolment for September 2020 was 26.
The annual attendance rate for 2020/2021 was 94.3%.

Lockdown

Unfortunately, due to the global pandemic caused by COVID-19 we were forced to close for face-to-face teaching for another lockdown this year. Schools across NI were closed from January right through until the end of March, when they were brought back to school on a phased return. This was period of lockdown was again a very challenging time for our whole community.

Our staff delivered lessons and activities remotely via SeeSaw. We kept in touch with our children through our website and also through our social media platform. It was great to receive all the photographs and videos of our children during this difficult time.

The school building remained open as a hub for our Key Workers' children. This hub operated in a similar manner to our previous hub, but this time was exclusively for our own school pupils. This was due to all schools being required to provide this service for their own pupils.

Mrs Lowery's Retirement

Mrs Lowery retired in April this year. She had been a teacher in Magherafelt Primary School for 37 years. Unfortunately, due to the lockdown restrictions we were unable to carry out a full school farewell assembly with the pupils. However, we did host a socially distanced afternoon tea celebration with the school staff and with virtual contributions from all our pupils

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

Martha McCrory also retired from her role as a lunchtime supervisor after 17 years. We wish her all the best for her retirement.

Site Security

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

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

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

Expenditure

<i>Teaching Staff</i>	<i>528,757</i>
<i>Non- Teaching Staff</i>	<i>128,650</i>
<i>Total Staff Costs</i>	<i>657,407</i>
<i>Running Costs</i>	<i>85,298</i>
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<i>741,432</i>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	<i>731,882</i>
<i>Less Expenditure</i>	<i>741,432</i>
<i>Initial Budget</i>	<i>741,432</i>
<i>Carry over Deficit</i>	<i>-18,526</i>
<i>Total Budget</i>	<i>722,906</i>

Summary of Audited Accounts

All school accounts were externally audited in July 2021

2020/2021	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
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School Fund Account	9931.35	5643.01
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Security

- ☐ External doors are secured each day. Entry to school is controlled and monitored using a double door reception area.
- ☐ CCTV is in use and monitors all external entrances / exits.
- ☐ Visitors to school are required to sign in and out of premises.
- ☐ All class bases / teaching areas have telephone contact with the school office.

Appreciation

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