

Edenderry

Primary School



Prospectus

"This school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the learner; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement."

D.E. Inspection 2011.

Today's children are tomorrow's adults.



Edenderry

Primary School

Principal: **Mr S Blevins**

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Princess Way, Portadown BT63 5EP

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www.edenderry.org

Edenderry - a community of enquiry.

Introduction



Edenderry Primary School is situated on the outskirts of Portadown serving a large area of housing bordering on to the Gilford and Killicomaine Roads. The school boasts excellent facilities with all classrooms being bright and spacious. The school grounds are well maintained throughout the year being used for a variety of sporting, academic and community activities.

The school has recently been furnished with an upgraded networked computer system which allows pupils and staff to participate in a variety of computer based activities. Over the past three years all classrooms have been filled with the latest Touchscreen interactive boards. The school has been equipped with a state of the art ICT Resource Area boasting PC's, Interactive Whiteboard, Video Conferencing Hardware and Digital Imaging Technology.

In each year there are two mainstream classes. In addition, the school has three Learning Support Classes and a Central Library.

The school governors and staff place a great emphasis on developing the abilities and skills of all pupils through a range of music, sporting, drama and cultural activities in and out of the class.

The school is a proud holder of two Green Flags.



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The Edenderry Ethos



“Today’s children are tomorrow’s adults.”

Edenderry Primary School provides a caring, sharing and stimulating environment within which children are valued and nurtured so that they reach their full potential.

AIMS

Edenderry Primary School promotes high achievement and learning for life to help pupils develop...

- The knowledge, skills and practical abilities they will need throughout their lives, at work and play, in a fast changing world.
- Lively, enquiring minds and a love for learning, and the ability to question and to think for themselves.
- The ability to work hard both independently and with others.
- A sense of self respect, self confidence and self reliance, and an awareness of, and a sensitivity to, the needs of others.
- Qualities of feeling and imagination and an appreciation of the world around them.
- A reasoned set of personal attitudes, values and beliefs based on the Christian religion, to be aware of society and their place in it

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School Staff



Principal

Mr S Blevins

Vice Principal

Mrs S Robb

Senior Management Team

Foundation Stage/Key Stage

One Coordinator

Miss P Collen

Teacher in charge of

Pastoral Care

Miss J McClelland

Special Education Needs

Co-ordinator

Class Teachers Key Stage One

Miss P Collen

Miss H Wilson

Mrs G Irwin

Mrs D Chamberlain

Mrs H McKillen

Mrs E Ross

Mrs L Liggett

Mr J Mitchell

Mrs S Hylands

Mrs L Connolly

Class Teachers Key Stage Two

Mrs K Kinkead

Miss C Neville

Mrs R Kennedy

Mr P Mullan

Mrs S Robb

Mr A McClean

Miss J McClelland

Mrs J Black

Secretary

Mrs C Bleakney

Classroom Assistants

Learning Support Centres

Mrs J Donaldson

Mrs E Cullen

Mrs R Wilson

Mrs S Anderson

Mrs S Harrison

Mrs D Johnston

Classroom Assistants

Mrs A Topley

Mrs N Williams

Miss L Taylor

Mrs J Forde

Ms J Maginn

Mrs A Jeffers

Miss G Montgomery

Mrs P McCusker

Building Supervisor

Mr B Gribben

Cleaning Staff

Mrs J Corder

Mrs G Tate

Mrs G McCauley

Ms L Boyle

Mrs L Cochrane

Supervisors

Mrs J Corder

Ms G Montgomery

Mrs N Williams

Ms J Maginn

ICT Technican

Mr D Sloan

Board of Governors

E.A. Representatives

Mrs J McCann

Rev Prof Dr J S Carson

Transferors Representatives

Mrs D Mawhinney

Mrs S Berry

Rev R Brown

Rev A Wardlow

Parent Representative

Mrs K Belshaw

Teacher Representatives

Mr P Mullan

Chairman

Rev Prof Dr J S Carson

Hon Secretary:

Mr S Blevins



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School Information



School Hours:

The school hours for pupils are:
(Doors open at 8.45am)

Primary 1 – 3	9.00am - 2.00pm
Primary 4 – 7	9.00am - 3.00pm
Break	10.30am - 10.45am
Lunch	12.10pm - 1.00pm

Details of school holidays will be available from the school office.

School Uniform:

The Edenderry Primary School uniform:

BOYS	GIRLS
Black trousers	Black skirt
Black school jumper	
grey shirt	white shirt
school tie	
Black plimsolls	
Summer term	
Yellow school polo shirt (P1 and P2 all year)	Yellow/white checked dress

School coats and school bags are also available from local outfitters.

Wearing a uniform gives a child a sense of identity and pride in the school. We appreciate the support of parents in sending all children to school in uniform.

Jewellery

We strongly discourage the wearing of jewellery in school because of the safety risks posed to the wearer; and to those around them and to minimise the risk of loss or damage to personal property.

If it is a parent's wish that earrings are worn then a "stud" must be worn. Parents should note that if they are planning to have their child's ears pierced this will mean that the child will be unable to do P.E. until after the earrings are able to be removed.

Attendance

The attendance rate for the school year 2021/22 was 91.4%.



Admissions



Parents of prospective pupils are encouraged to make an appointment with the principal to visit school. At this meeting the principal will give the parents a tour of the school and answer any relevant questions.

Parents of pupils entering Primary One are invited to a “Starting School” meeting in May or June of the academic year prior to their son or daughter starting school.

Edenderry Primary School is situated in an area that has benefited from and welcomed the rich influx of people from other parts of the United Kingdom and from all over the world.

Within the school’s Christian ethos the staff of Edenderry Primary School welcome children from all backgrounds, faiths and of all abilities.

The school is proud of its robust and caring pastoral provisions and especially of the way in which it is implemented and seeks to promote an ethos of inclusivity.

Prospective parents are most welcome to attend school functions such as assemblies, sports day, open evenings or P.T.A. events.



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Curriculum

“This school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the learner; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.” D.E. Inspection 2011

Edenderry Primary School in keeping with the schools mission statement “Today’s Children are Tomorrows Adults” teaches the Northern Ireland Curriculum with the intention of providing all our pupils with the necessary skills and attitudes for success in later life. Thus all pupils will receive a curriculum that is balanced and broad and which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of the individual.

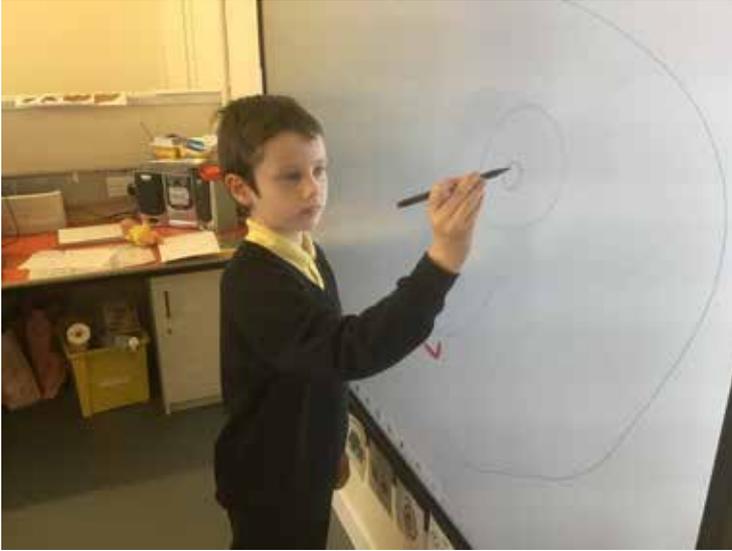
As a school we would expect that most children will have achieved the following objectives as independent, confident learners by the time they transfer to secondary school and should be able to:

- read fluently and accurately, with understanding, discrimination and enjoyment
- write accurately and confidently for a range of purposes and audiences
- talk and listen in a range of contexts including individual and group situations, be able to take account of the points of view of others
- have a firm grasp of number facts and operations, be able to use mathematical skills and ideas in everyday situations
- know where to look for information and how to record findings be acquainted with scientific principles including Design and Technology
- be familiar with and confident in the use of Information Technology work independently or in a team to find things out, interpret and solve problems
- use a range of creative arts and crafts as a means of expression possess skills, strength, endurance and mobility in order to take part confidently in a range of physical activities
- have an awareness of local geographical and historical features
- show an interest in other places and cultures



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I.C.T.



The development of I.C.T. within the school is a key feature of school planning. Over the past five years pupils and staff have been introduced to a fully fitted I.C.T. resource area which was opened following an S.E.L.B. building programme.

Currently the school has seventeen classrooms fitted with interactive and touchscreen panels providing opportunities for all our pupils to access a range of ICT activities both as individuals and as a class.

These panels compliment the Ipad resources held in the school.



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The Curriculum

In our last inspection by the Department of Education Inspector the quality of education provided at Edenderry Primary School was evaluated as being “very good” with the quality of teaching observed being from good to outstanding with an average of very good and the quality of planning for mathematics and teacher evaluation of pupil learning being commended.

The inspectors summarised their report with a statement that “This school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the learner; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.”

This report was then followed by letter of commendation sent by Mrs Godfrey, Director, Curriculum Qualifications and Standards, who said

“I particularly note the Inspectorate’s comments regarding the very good monitoring and evaluation of the provision at Foundation Stage and Key Stage One and of the provision for pastoral care and mathematics throughout the school. Your school’s capacity for sustained self-improvement is a successful example of the policy vision set out in “Every School a Good School”. “ I wish the whole school community every success as you build on this positive result for the future.”

It is the intention of governors and staff to build on the outstanding teaching practices already present in school in our core subjects of Maths, English and I.C.T. to provide all our pupils with the skills necessary for success in the 21st century..



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Extra Curricular Activities



Edenderry Primary School offers a range of after school activities for those pupils who stay to 3.00pm. During the course of the school year the following are offered as after school options:

Boys and Girls Football, Rugby, Boys and Girls Hockey, Cycling Proficiency, Athletics, Netball, Scripture Union, Choir, Art Club, ICT Club, Junior Technology.

These after school activities are taken by members of the school staff and for some sports by qualified representative sportsmen and women. For our team sports children are given the opportunity to compete in fixtures and tournaments against their peers from other schools.

Over the years the school has developed a reputation for sporting excellence and success. In addition to school teams regularly winning local competitions in the various sports undertaken, a

number of our past pupils have represented their country in Ladies Hockey, Athletics, Football, Rugby and Volleyball.

In June 2013 the school team were crowned Northern Ireland 5 a Side Football Champions for the first time, whilst in April 2014 the girls hockey team were crowned Northern Ireland Champions during the school's 125th anniversary year. In 2015 the boys football team were crowned Northern Ireland Champions.

In 2016 the Boys Hockey team were runners up in the N.I. Mini Hockey Final and the Boys Football team were runners up in the Northern Ireland Cup and Northern Ireland 5-A-side Shield.

During the last school year there were residential visits to Castlewellan Castle for P6 and Dublin in the Republic of Ireland for P7.

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Music and Drama

The school choirs regularly participate in local community events, school productions, assemblies and local festivals. The Senior Choir in recent years have performed for our local churches, at the ABC Lord Mayor's Dinner and at the opening of a number of local events or organisations, such as the Mens Shed and Country Comes To Town. These public performances compliment the school's regular participation in the Portadown Music Festival in which the Junior Choir has won the U.T.U. Cup 2011, for the highest marks achieved in the junior classes. The Senior Choir has won the Brian Toms Cup 2007-2009, for the highest marks achieved in senior classes and the school has been awarded the McKay Kenny Cup 2009, for the most outstanding performance in the festival. In May/June 2012 the school staged *The Wizard of Oz* over three days. The performances were attended by over 1000 parents, pupils and friends of the school. In June 2014 a special production, 'Music Down the Years', was staged to make the school's 125th anniversary. During recent years the school has played a number of musical productions, such as *The Wizard Of Oz* and *Annie*, annual Nativity plays or Christmas concerts for our P1 to P3 classes as well as a yearly public assembly for Primary 7 Leavers' and Remembrance.

Music Tuition

Music tutors from the S.E.L.B. provide lessons for of our P4 – P7 pupils. Tuition is available in Brass and Strings.



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Special Education Needs



At Edenderry Primary School we recognise that not all pupils learn the key skills of Literacy and Numeracy at the same rate. Within our primary school a programme of support has been put in place to assist pupils who are experiencing difficulties within either English or Maths. Specific learning targets are established within the context of Learning Plan on which a support teacher works with each pupil during periods of withdrawal from class.

Children receiving additional help are carefully monitored and progress is regularly assessed. Parents are kept informed of the nature and duration of this additional support through initial and review meetings with the support teacher.



Occasionally the school cannot fully meet the needs of some children and in this instance, after discussion with the parents, a formal referral will be made to the EA's Special Education Branch. This process could result in a formal Statement of Educational Need being issued by the Education Authority..



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Pastoral Care

In line with the policy of maximising the potential of each pupil the school recognises that it has a responsibility to do everything possible to care for each child's physical and emotional well-being. The school has a member of staff appointed to co-ordinate every aspect of the all embracing pastoral care programme.

We aim to provide a happy, secure environment in which children can realise their full potential as individuals through effective progressive teaching. Every opportunity will be given to your child to experience individual success.

Pupils at Edenderry are encouraged to communicate confidently and clearly within the happy open school environment. Within the context of primary education it is most likely that children will be best known by their class teacher. Therefore it is your child's class teacher who will first notice any changes in attitude or behaviour and will react accordingly.



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Pastoral Care



Safeguarding Summary

The school holds a portfolio of Safeguarding policies which provide a framework for staff to deliver a comprehensive package of care for all pupils on a day to day basis. These include policies for Child Protection, Positive Behaviour, Anti Bullying, E-Safety and a number of other areas. The policies and protocols have been endorsed by the Board of Governors and verified by the Education and Training Inspectorate most recently 2017. These policies are all freely available from school through making a request via Mrs Winton and a number can be accessed on the school website.

Information on raising a Child Protection concern can be found on the school website edenderry.org. The flow chart for raising a concern is contained within this booklet.



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School's Council

At Edenderry Primary School we have a working School's Council which comprises of representatives from Primary Four to Primary Seven classes. The elected councillors work in conjunction with the school's link teachers in discussing issues received by peers and processing the items discussed to the relevant member of the school community. It is the hope of the school that all pupils who serve as councillors, stand for election or cast a vote will have an understanding of the democratic system that serves this country.



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Community Involvement



Schools are situated at the heart of communities, playing a crucial part in the lives of our children. Edenderry Primary School has developed strong meaningful links with many organisations within the local community. The school has long established links with local churches whose clergy lead weekly assemblies and are invited to our special public assemblies for friends and parents. Our pupils regularly visit local churches to perform in services including the school's Senior Carol Service. The school has developed strong links with the local business community through its work with Young Enterprise.



Guest speakers from the council, P.S.N.I., Fire Service and health promotion agencies participate in some whole school assemblies. In June 2016 the School was awarded the Eco-School's Green Flag for the second time.

Pupils and staff regularly participate in community events such as the Music and Speech Festivals, council organised sports events and curriculum based competitions organised by local community organisations.

Over the past decade the staff and pupils of Edenderry have forged strong links with St. John the Baptist Primary School, Portadown through the Cross Community and Shared Education Programme. All pupils have opportunities to participate in school educational visits and activities with their counterparts from St Johns.



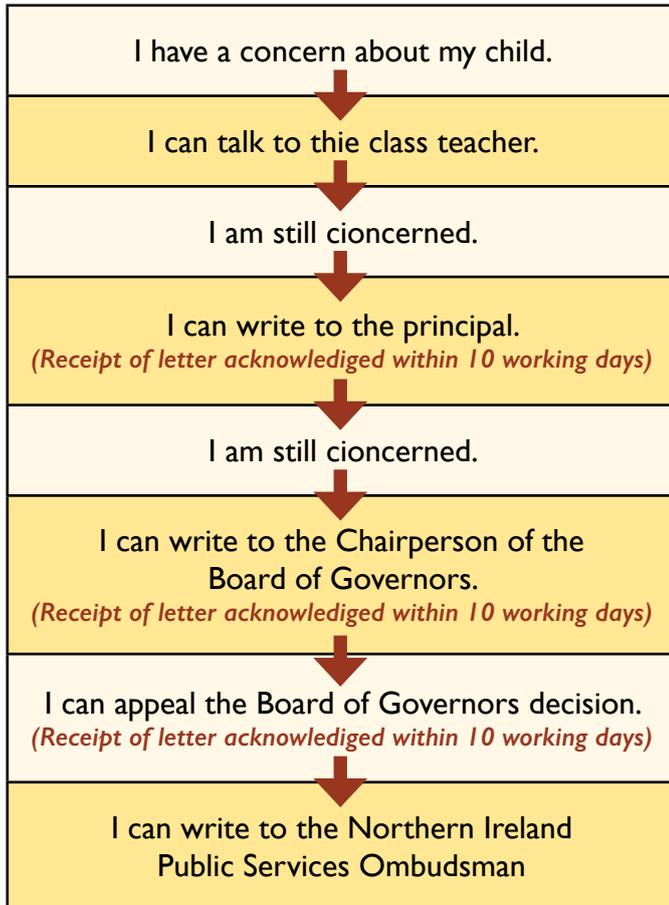
The staff and pupils of the school regularly contribute to a range of local and national charity appeals.

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Parent Concerns

Occasionally a parent may have a worry regarding some aspect of their child's schooling. This worry or concern should be made known to the principal either in person, in writing or by telephone. This will then be dealt with. The following complaints procedure should be followed::

Raising a Concern



If a parent wishes to make a formal complaint regarding the curriculum or some other school matter then this complaint should be made in writing and sent by recorded delivery to the Acting Chairman of the Board of Governors:

Rev. Prof. J.S. Carson
c/o Edenderry Primary School.

The matter will then be dealt with by the Board of Governors. A fuller version of the school's Complaints Procedure can be accessed from the school office.



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10 REASONS TO CHOOSE EDENDERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL:

1. Edenderry has a warm welcome for all visitors and members of the school community.
2. The school provides a happy and stimulating secure environment for pupils.
3. Pastoral care programmes for all pupils that are both proactive and reactive in meeting the needs of the children both in and out of class.
4. Teaching expertise throughout the school which produces consistently high standards in all areas of the curriculum.
5. Availability and progressive use of I.C.T. resources such as interactive whiteboards, computers, bee bots, digital and video cameras by staff and pupils to prepare children for life in the 21st century.
6. All pupils' communication skills and confidence levels are enhanced through their participation in class assemblies, public assemblies, local speech and music festivals, school productions, competitions and ongoing daily class activities.
7. A comprehensive range of sporting activities is offered to senior pupils by both members of the school staff and specialist coaches.
8. Structured learning support in Literacy and Numeracy is provided for pupils with particular individual needs.
9. A vibrant school community in which parents, churches, associated professionals and skilled friends of the school actively contribute to the life of the school.
10. A school ethos that promotes attitudes of caring for others, respect and the development of friendships on a daily basis.



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