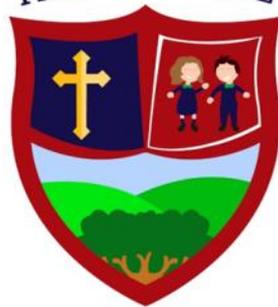


# Moneynick Primary School Prospectus



*"Share, Learn, Achieve"*

**MONEYNICK**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Words of Welcome

Welcome to Moneynick Primary School - a caring, inclusive community school focussed on and committed to every individual child. We wish to give you an insight into the life of our vibrant school community, and share with you the children's life in school; their curriculum, their friendships, their academic achievements, their sporting, cultural, artistic, spiritual and Shared Education experiences.

In Moneynick Primary School we have a dedicated staff who give each child the opportunity and support to grow and develop their talents and abilities, whilst catering for their needs. We encourage sharing with each other within and across our community as we prepare responsible young people for life, where all are acknowledged, valued and appreciated. Our overriding aim is to help children develop into mature, confident young adults who have a feeling of self-worth and importance. To do this it is essential that we work in partnership with parents and the wider community. Indeed the success of our school reflects respectful relationships between staff, pupils, parents and our community.

Our school community is an extension of the effective partnership we have with our parents. We offer a warm welcome to you and your child. Should you have any other questions please do not hesitate to visit the school and we would be delighted to show you and your child around.

**Fiona McConway**

Principal



## Mission Statement

We believe that each child is unique, with individual talents, abilities and needs. At Moneynick Primary, we strive to ensure that each child develops to the very best of their ability in a caring Catholic environment, producing responsible young people, prepared for life in society.

### Aims

We aim to develop for our children:

- a Catholic education with a broad and balanced curriculum, in an environment where Christian values are actively lived
- an awareness of their own talents, skills and abilities
- a love of learning, a knowledge of how to learn and the motivation to produce their best work
- self-esteem, independence and sensitivity to and respect for others
- an awareness of the world in which we live and a responsibility for the environment, both locally and globally
- tolerance, understanding and acceptance of other religions and cultures
- the ability to communicate effectively with all members of the school community



## The Curriculum

When planning our curriculum, we take into account the uniqueness of each child and their individual needs. Our pupils are encouraged to assist in the planning of new themes, promoting their Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities. We assist children in achieving their potential and in making informed and responsible decisions throughout their time in Moneynick.

## The Learning Areas for the NI Curriculum

- Language & Literacy
- Maths & Numeracy
- The World Around Us
- Personal Development & Mutual Understanding
- Religious Education
- Physical Education
- The Arts



## Foundation Stage

Foundation Stage is comprised of Year 1 & 2. There is great emphasis on play and activity-based learning. Children consolidate personal, social and emotional development during these early years. They are encouraged to form relationships with adults and other children and to develop their self-esteem and confidence. Teachers help pupils to become aware of the world beyond their immediate environment and to learn about others from a basis of tolerance, respect and open-mindedness.

With this in mind, we encourage sharing within our immediate classroom environment we sharing lessons with Duneane Primary. During weekly lessons we encourage children to understand similarities and respect differences in our neighbour as well as our own classmates.



## Key Stage 1&2

Key Stage 1 is comprised of Year 3 & 4 and Key Stage 2 is comprised of Year 5, 6 & 7. The learning areas of the curriculum taught in school are connected in as many ways as possible. Pupils need to be motivated to learn and they need to see the relevance of and connections, in what they are learning. We encourage pupils to become involved in the planning of themes, through a series of carousel activities at the beginning of each topic. This involves our pupils in 'what' they will learn and helps plan a tailored approach to 'how' they will learn it. It also provides specific learning opportunities for class teaching.



## Blended Learning

Blended Learning takes place when the learning activity is structured to blend face-to-face teaching and learning with remote/online learning, using digital tools. At Moneynick Primary School we have a number of online platforms to consolidate, reinforce and enhance learning in school. Children have unique, individual passwords for each platform. Teachers set weekly tasks which are completed online. When necessary, communication between teachers and pupils can be facilitated on the online remote platforms. Pupil's online work is celebrated each month through remote learning certificates.



## Skills for Life

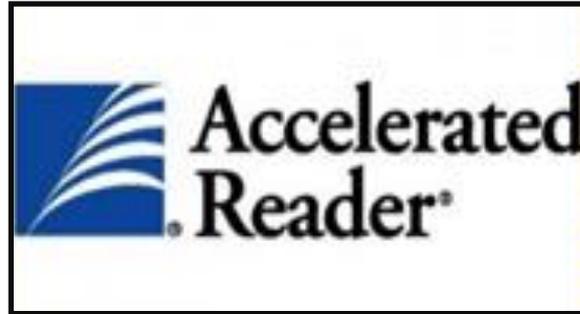
Opportunities for life skills are built into many areas of our school planning. One example of this is Heart Start. During our annual Heart Start week in Term 3, our children learn Heart Start skills, from basic skills in Year 1 to CPR in Years 6 & 7.

The Cycling Proficiency Scheme is taught to our Year 6&7 pupils. The scheme teaches children who can already ride a bicycle, how to do so more safely. It covers what to wear, bicycle maintenance and rules of the road - an invaluable experience!



## Accelerated Reader

In Years 4 to 7 we use the Accelerated Reader programme. Children take regular Star Reading Tests which level their reading. They choose from a range of levelled reading books to improve their independent reading. When they finish each book they take a quiz on an iPad, which provides them with points, feedback and an incentive to choose their next book. This programme keeps our pupils engaged with reading and is a valuable resource. Reading is also promoted through other school initiatives for example the School Book Fair and our Reindeer Read-a-thon.



## Support for Educational Needs

We have a carefully devised system of screening to detect children who need support at the earliest opportunity. The Special Needs Co-ordinator SENCo works closely with teacher, pupil and classroom assistant to put in place a programme of reasonable adjustments. Under the SEN Code of Practice, communication between school and home is vital. We work in partnership with various outside agencies; RISE, the School Educational Psychology Service, the ASD and Literacy Support Service.

## Home School Links

Partnership with parents is invaluable. We value your contribution to your child's learning through homework support. You can add value to your child's education by ensuring that reading, spellings, tables and mental math homeworks are completed to a high standard.

We hold annual parent-teacher meetings in October. During these meetings your child's progress is discussed and teachers will give good advice as to how you can help your child make further improvements. We report to parents in writing in the summer term by means of the Annual Report to Parents.

Parents are free to contact the school at any time, to make an appointment to speak to their child's class teacher. We are happy to help.



## Newcomer Children

We welcome children from other countries with different languages, cultures and religions. They enrich the diversity of our school and our cultural perspectives. It is important that all children feel at home in Moneynick and are supported as they get used to their new surroundings and to learning a language. We support the dignity of any individual who enters the doors of our school and ensure that our school is a safe haven for them. Every September we celebrate European Day of Languages to put a Global perspective on our world and celebrate our different cultures.

## Safeguarding & Child Protection

We at Moneynick Primary have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of our pupils. It is our duty to act on any area of concern. We aim:

- to ensure that the growth of our children will be fostered in a secure environment, where Christian values are actively lived
- to promote the self-esteem of pupils and staff
- to help pupils recognise unwelcome behaviour in others and to acquire the skills they need to keep themselves safe

A leaflet on Child Protection is distributed to parents annually. The Designated Teacher for Child Protection is Mrs Mallon and the Deputy Designated Teacher is Mrs McConway.



## Pastoral Care

In Moneynick we are committed to providing an environment in which the teachings of Christ are actively lived. Each child is valued as unique, with distinct talents and is encouraged to be an individual. We teach our children all about tolerance, diversity and respect for others and this is embedded in our school ethos.

## Take 5

Our pupils, staff and parents, worked together to achieve the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing Level 3 Accreditation, received by Mrs McConway and Mrs Lavery at the 2023 EA award ceremony. These simple 5 steps contribute to improving both our physically and emotionally wellbeing, where everyone can feel good and function well. As a school, we use the Take 5 steps to help identify opportunities to promote wellbeing, not only with our pupils, but also with staff, parents, and the wider school community. Take 5 complements our Health and Well Being Strategy and its key themes of Connecting, Learning, Being Active, Taking Notice and Giving are central to our school ethos. We are delighted to have achieved the highest award in just one academic year. If you wish to explore how we managed our success, hit the Take 5 tab on our home page and spend time reading about and viewing the pictures and videos, documenting our amazing journey.



## Approach to Learning

Our teachers use different pedagogical approaches to give pupils a range of learning experiences. These include active learning methods, which are informed by Assessment for Learning strategies. Children learn best when a kinaesthetic teaching approach is taken and learning intentions are shared with them. They are given the opportunity to work independently, in pairs, in groups and as a class.

Through our strong partnership with parents, we encourage consolidation of class work in the form of suitable homework, which includes written Numeracy and Literacy, reading, spelling and mental maths.

## ICT

Each class has use of iPads, laptops and computers, beebots, bluebots and Spheros, Micro-bits to develop their ICT skills. Pupils are encouraged to:

- handle and communicate information
- explore, express and exchange
- exchange and exhibit their work
- be creative through the use of film, animation and coding.





## Rights Respecting School

In our small and secure school community, children are very much involved in looking after each other with 'Prefect' and 'Buddy' systems working in tandem. We are a Rights Respecting School and have received our Silver Award. We are now aiming for our Gold Award. Our School Council members have been elected by their classmates. They help to promote Children's Rights throughout the school and bring the concerns, issues and ideas of their peers to the principal, at regular meetings. Every classroom has a Charter, which the pupils have devised and all children are aware of the UNICEF Rights of the Child.



**AutismNI**  
Northern Ireland's Autism Charity





## Sustrans Rural School Award

Our Sustrans School Officer presented Moneynick Primary with the Sustrans Rural Bronze Award during his visit in September 2021. Through the programme we have increased our awareness of the benefits of active travel, we have developed a deeper understanding of road safety and actively prepared and planned journeys. As part of the initiative we participate in many activities for example, Ditch the Stabilisers, the Daily Mile, supporting local Foodbanks and Bike to School Week. We are delighted to announce that we are well on our way to achieving our Silver Award.



# Eco School

At Moneynick Primary School we care deeply about environmental issues and wish to make a positive change in the environment around us. The Eco-Schools programme provides an ideal way for fostering environmental awareness throughout the entire school in a way that links to many curriculum subjects. The primary aim of the Eco-Schools programme is to educate and empower young people to make positive decisions and become change makers for an environmentally sustainable world. We achieved our second Green Flag, an internationally acknowledged symbol for environmental excellence, in May 2022. This was a proud moment for all our pupils as they worked together to achieve this prestigious award. The flag symbolises and celebrates our amazing work.





## GAA 5 Star Centre of Excellence

We have achieved our GAA 5 Star Centre Flag. Children continue to work on a daily basis improving skills in the following areas: Have a Ball, Fun & Run, Catch & Kick, Skill Challenge and Go Games.

### Sports

We offer swimming to Year 6-7 pupils every week, all year round in Antrim Forum. We endeavour to ensure that our children leave Moneynick as competent swimmers and we celebrate their successes.

Children in Years 1 to 7 receive Gaelic football, handball, camogie and hurling training during the year from a Gaelic coach. We are committed to 10 mins a day skills training through the GAA 5 Star Centre Initiative.

Pupils in Years 1 to 3 attend Fun Days organised by Gaelic coaches which they enjoy. Moneynick footballers, handballers, camogie players and hurlers participate in the Cumann na mBunscol Leagues.





## The Daily Mile

The Daily Mile was founded by Elaine Wyllie and is about improving the health and well-being of children. The benefits they gain are physical, emotional, social and mental, all from running, or jogging at their own pace, for 15 minutes daily.

Duneane and Moneynick: Partners in Learning were invited to attend Stranmillis University Belfast on Friday 14 February 2020 to present as the 'Priority Schools' for the launch of the Daily Mile in conjunction with the British Heart Foundation - Love your Heart Campaign. To prepare for the launch of The Daily Mile in Stranmillis, the Learning Partnership launched their own 'Daily Mile' to build up pupils' confidence, resilience and endurance, ensuring they could achieve their personal best on Friday 14 February at Stranmillis University. At Moneynick Primary School pupils continue to run, jog or walk the Daily Mile, either in the morning (before class begins) or at break time, weather permitting. The Daily Mile also works in Partnership with Eco-Schools NI and Sustrans. Connecting learning is a key strength of our school.



## Music, Dance & Drama

Children from Year 3 to 7 are provided with violin and guitar lessons and have the opportunity to complete music exams. Every year the school produces a Christmas Show, in which all of our pupils take part. Pupils in Year 4 to 7 can join the school choir and can also choose to take part in our Joint Choir with Duneane.

Every year we engage with outside groups, such as the Centre Stage Production Company to provide a Drama Afterschool Club. During this club, children explore their creativity in Performing Arts through singing, dancing, acting and games. We have also began an afterschool Dance Class led by CMC Dance Academy.



## Parish Links

We share close links with Duneane Parish and celebrate our Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion in Sacred Heart Church, Cargin. Our Parish Priest, Father James O'Reilly visits our school regularly. Confirmation for Year 7 pupils occurs in Term 2 and our school choir joins with the other primary school choirs for this occasion.



## Charity Involvement

Every year we reach out to a number of charities. We feel this is an important element of Global Learning for our pupils and encourages empathy and respect for those who are less fortunate than us. The charities we are currently involved with are: Trocairé, St Vincent de Paul, Autism NI and Ballymena Foodbank. Through our Grow in Love Religious programme and our themes in PDMU, there is further emphasis on loving our neighbours and our world.



## Spirit of Catholic Education Award

Moneynick Primary School are delighted to learn that we have been awarded with Distinction the Spirit of Catholic Education Award 2022-23. The award was given in recognition of our school's outstanding commitment to Social Justice and Respect for the Environment. A big thank you to all our hard working pupils, staff and parents who participated in so many activities. Representatives from the school will attend the award ceremony at St Mary's University College in the New Year.

To celebrate Catholic Schools' Week 2023, Moneynick Primary School was awarded with distinction 'The Spirit Of Catholic Education Award' at Saint Mary's University College, Belfast. This was to recognise the school's commitment to taking care of the environment and social justice. Many thanks to our staff, governors, parents and especially our pupils; your commitment to our school community is an inspiration.





## The Outdoors

We have attractive grounds around our school. There is a front garden area for which the children are responsible. They take great pride in their garden. In the past, the school has won Shell Best Kept School as a result of efforts made by children, staff and parents. Children can get involved in the Gardening Club, where they can develop their ecological skills by learning how to grow and nurture plants and flowers. They can join our Forest Schools Club where they explore the outdoors using their senses, which is fundamental for encouraging creative, diverse and imaginative play. We have won two awards at Garden Show Ireland for creative gardening design projects. We are also received our second Northern Ireland Eco-School Flag in May 2022.



## Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning improves children's health, engages them with learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. Play teaches critical life skills such as resilience, teamwork and creativity, but is central to children's enjoyment of their childhood. We partner with many organisations who facilitate opportunities to explore the outdoor classroom. Last year we achieved our Second RSPB Wild Challenge for Schools Gold Award. An amazing achievement for our school.





## Taking Outdoor Play Seriously Award

Play is natural and when you observe children at play, you will note it can be active, quiet, done in groups or whilst on your own. Play is an intrinsically motivated action, it is often an unplanned process in which thinking, feeling and doing can flourish. When children are playing, they can be inventive and creative; it is the most natural and open way children learn. Aside from the wide reaching benefits identified above, play is also therapeutic, it allows children to develop their inner resources and build resilience to cope with and make sense of the difficulties and uncertainties they experience through crisis situations.

We at Moneynick Primary School endeavour to ensure we provide our children with extensive outdoor play in our well resourced and spacious school yard. We were one of only 10 schools across Northern Ireland who achieved the Taking Outdoor Play Seriously Accreditation presented by PlayboardNI during our school award ceremony on the 16 June 2022. Another amazing achievement and strength of our school.





## Summer Scheme

The annual Summer Scheme for P1-7 pupils runs during the first weeks of July. Activities allow for social and emotional development of our pupils and enhances their team work, thinking skills, friendships and active learning in a safe and secure environment.





## Roots of Empathy

Roots of Empathy is a specially designed programme, where through guided observation pupils discuss and label the baby's feelings and intentions, learning the affective aspect of empathy (emotion) and the cognitive aspect of empathy (perspective-taking). In Roots of Empathy, emotional literacy develops as pupils begin to identify and label the baby's feelings, reflect on and understand their own feelings, then bridge to understand the feelings of others. It helps pupils to understand how their behaviour or words can hurt others. This enables children to build connections and healthy relationships which leads to an understanding of their feelings and the ability to listen to the feelings of others.



## Duneane & Moneynick: Partners in Learning

Moneynick has long established and very successful links with Duneane Primary School. We are leading the way in Shared Education. During Shared lessons on a Thursday, pupils enjoy a range of educational experiences which foster acceptance and understanding of one another's cultural identity. We also bring our parents together and the two schools' Parents' Associations have joint events to raise funds. Our Governors have annual joint training and are fully supportive of the partnership.



# General Information

The teaching staff of the school are employed by the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS).

|                             |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Principal                   | Mrs F McConway   |  |
| Y1/2/3 Teacher              | Mrs O Mallon   |  |
| Y4/5 Teacher                | Mrs N McKeever / Mrs F McConway                              |  |
| Y6/7 Teacher                | Mrs E Lavery   |  |
| School Secretary            | Mrs A Devenay  |  |
| Cleaning Assistant          | Miss C O'Boyle   |  |
| Classroom Assistants        | Mrs V Craig<br>Miss K Barnes<br>Miss B Chung<br>Mrs K Devlin | Mrs M O'Neill<br>Miss L Hamill<br>Miss J Logan |
| Supervisory Assistants      | Mrs V Craig<br>Miss K Barnes<br>Miss B Chung<br>Mrs K Devlin | Mrs M O'Neill<br>Miss L Hamill<br>Miss J Logan |
| Dinner Supervisors          | Mrs M O'Neill<br>Miss L Hamill                               |  |
| Afterschool Club Supervisor | Mrs V Craig  |  |
| Breakfast Club Supervisor   | Miss L Hamill  |  |



# The School Day

## School Begins: 9:00 am

Children may arrive from 8:45 am  
(or 7:45 am to the Breakfast Club)

## Break Time: 10:45 - 11:00am

See Healthy Breaks

Children play outdoors if the weather is fine.

## Lunch Time: 12:15 - 1:00 pm

See Dinners & Lunches

Children play outdoors if the weather is fine.

## School Finishes:

Y1 & Y2 — 2:00pm

Y3 to Y7 — 3:00pm

Y1 to Y7 — 2:00pm on Friday

## Healthy Breaks

We operate a Healthy Break Scheme in which children are encouraged to participate. We provide a selection of hot toast, pancakes and muffins and a variety of fruit. We encourage water throughout the school day.

## Dinners & Lunches

Dinner may be purchased at a cost of £2.60 per meal. This price is set by the Education Authority. The meals are bussed into school from Antrim Primary

Meals Kitchen and are of good quality. Children take packed lunches or dinners in our school hall. They are encouraged to eat a healthy lunch, which should include a sandwich and fruit.



## Allergies

Please be aware that there are children at our school with nut allergies. We recommend that your child's packed lunch should be nut free.

## **Wrap Around Care**

For many years we have offered Wrap Around Care to the families of Moneynick. The Clubs are both stimulating and fun for our children.

## **Breakfast Club**

**Opening Hours: 7.45 to 8.45 am Monday to Friday**

Children attending the Breakfast Club are encouraged to make their own breakfast and help with the washing-up. They can take part in activities such as puzzles, arts & crafts, monkey bars and outdoor play, weather depending. From time to time there are Breakfast



## **After School Club**

**Opening Hours: 2.00 to 4.00pm Monday to Friday**

The Afterschool Club provides our pupils with a healthy snack and plentiful activities. They can take part in Clubs such as Forest Schools, Gardening, Drama, Dance, Games, Art and Film Club. Children have access to the monkey bars in the school hall and when the weather is fine they play outdoors in the play park and school grounds. Annually, the Afterschool Club runs a Popcorn Party at Christmas time. This event is always well attended and lots of fun!





## School Uniforms

All children attending Moneynick Primary School are encouraged to wear full school uniform, which we feel reflects the uniqueness of our school.

| Girls                               | Boys                      |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Navy sweat-shirt/cardigan with logo | Navy sweatshirt with logo |
| Green polo shirt                    | Green polo shirt          |
| Navy pinafore, skirt or trousers    | Navy trousers/shorts      |
| Navy/black shoes                    | Navy/black shoes          |
| Navy/white tights or socks          |                           |

### Dress Code

Children are encouraged to come to school dressed in an appropriate manner. We suggest the following regarding hair and jewellery:

#### Girls

- Long hair should be tied back
- Watch and one pair of stud earrings
- No bracelets, necklaces or rings

#### Boys

- Hair should be short and neat
- Watch
- No bracelets, necklaces or rings

A school waterproof jacket, fleece and hat are also available. Sports gear should be worn on designated PE days only.

**Uniform Suppliers:** Select Kidz, Unit 12,  
The Diamond Centre,  
Magherafelt, BT45 6ED  
Tel: 028 79301401





## Friends of Moneynick



Moneynick Primary School receives tremendous support from its parents, friends and staff members. The Friends of Moneynick have been a vital support network as we returned to school. They seek external grants, providing funding for additional iPads, class resources and funding support for our online apps and school trips. Moneynick Primary School appreciates the support of our school community.

Friends of Moneynick are always looking for new members with fresh ideas - so come along to our meetings! Everyone Welcome!



# Wellbeing and Positive Mental Health

In school we promote a positive approach to our mental health and wellbeing. We have a number of initiatives which helps our pupils and staff to regulate and relax.

We have a weekly visit from Relax kids to help build our resilience and self worth. During the academic year 2022-23 we began the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing EA Initiative which encourages our children to Take 5 Steps to wellbeing in their every day lives. Through these 5 steps; Connect, Keep Learning, Be Active, Take Notice and Give, we are increasing our pupils capacity to stay mentally fit and well.





**School Council 2023/24**



**Digital Leaders 2023/24**



**Eco Council 2023/24**



**Anti-bullying Ambassadors  
2023/24**



**Play Leaders 2023/24**



**Take 5 Ambassadors  
2023/24**



**Bus Prefects 2023/24**



**Pastoral Council 2023/24**



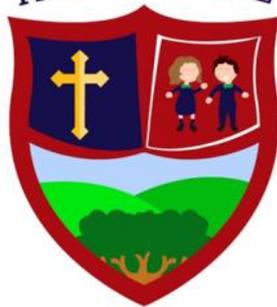


## **Charging & Remissions Policy**

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
- 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

**MONEYNICK**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Moneynick Primary School**

**104 Moneynick Road, Randalstown, BT41 3HS**

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 **Telephone: 028 79650331**

 **Email: [info@moneynickps.randalstown.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@moneynickps.randalstown.ni.sch.uk)**

 **Facebook: [@moneynickprimary](https://www.facebook.com/moneynickprimary)**

