

# DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT

2017/2018



"Together We Can!"

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am pleased to present to you the *Governors' Annual Report*, which is a summary of the activities of Dromore Road Primary School over the last academic year, September 2017 to June 2018. I hope that you find the report both informative and interesting.

For many years, this report was formally presented at the Annual Parents' Meeting. However, schools questioned the need for this statutory meeting particularly because of the low attendance by parents, and the Government has now recognised this. Accordingly, Article 41 of the Education (NI) Order 2006 repeals the requirement on Boards of Governors in Northern Ireland to hold an Annual Parents' Meeting. However, in Dromore Road, we have always welcomed parents' comments and opinions and continue to do so.

As you will discover in this report, Dromore Road Primary School continues to be a busy and thriving school community. The year proved to be a very successful one, during which the standards of teaching and learning and pastoral care were maintained at a high level. The staff, both teaching and nonteaching, continued to work hard to maintain and improve the level of success to which we have all become accustomed. We recognise the commitment and dedication of the teaching and non-teaching staff and would like to thank them for their efforts on our children's behalf. Thank you also for your ongoing support as we continue to build for the future by working together as staff, parents and pupils.

The Board of Governors also put on record their appreciation of the Parent Teacher Association which does so much to raise the profile of the school in the community, draw parents into the ongoing life of the school and raise money for much needed materials and equipment.

I hope you find this report informative. If you require any further clarification of any aspect of the report please forward your queries in writing to the Principal, Mrs S. McGrath.

As you are aware, the *Governors* reconstitute every four years so on a personal note, I would like to thank our present governors for their dedication in successfully governing the school over the last four years. Two of our governors have served for over 25 years at Dromore Road Primary School and we wish to particularly acknowledge and thank Mrs A. McCullough and Mr R. McCabe faithfulness and long service to the school.

John Cavan (Chairman)

## **DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

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Membership 2014 - 2018

**CHAIRMAN** Mr J H Cavan  
**SECRETARY** Mrs S M McGrath (Principal)

### **Board Representatives**

Mr J H Cavan (Chairman)  
Mr R A McCabe

### **Transferor Representatives**

Mrs E Cavan  
Mr N McGuffin  
Mrs A McCullough  
Rev E McKenzie

### **Parents' Representatives**

Mrs A Berry  
Mrs L Smith

### **Teachers' Representative**

Mrs R McIlroy

The Board of *Governors* is reconstituted every four years. The present Board of *Governors* was set up in 2014 and it is anticipated they will serve until 2018.

## **WHAT ARE THE BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES?**

The Board of *Governors* of Dromore Road Primary School takes a very keen and dedicated interest in the life and wellbeing of the school, staff and pupils and is ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. It is required to meet a minimum of three times during the year, but during the 2017 - 2018 school year met 4 times. Some of its duties include:

- 1) The oversight of the curriculum.
- 2) The School Policy Statement.
- 3) Pastoral care including child protection, discipline and attendance.
- 4) The control of the budget.
- 5) The provision of information to parents.
- 6) Staff appointments

- 7) The maintenance of the premises (shared responsibility with the EA).
- 8) Admissions and enrolments.
- 9) Fostering links with the local community and pursuing objectives of mutual understanding.
- 10) Implementing DE and EA circulars.

The Governors are highly supportive of the work of the school and work closely with the Principal and staff to ensure that each child fulfils their potential in all areas of the curriculum.

### **Dates of Board of Governor's Meetings 2017 - 2018**

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017

13<sup>th</sup> December 2017

31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

18<sup>th</sup> April 2018

### **ETHOS AND AIMS**

Our school motto, *'Together We Can'* is integral to Dromore Road's success and in line with 'Every School a Good School', we in Dromore Road Primary School aim to provide a warm, welcoming, attractive and stimulating environment which supports pupils' learning and celebrates their academic and non-academic achievements.

Our teachers are competent and committed to meeting the needs of all pupils. We strive to provide a stimulating and positive environment that is child centred at all times. We aim to treat children as individuals. Everyone is valued and high expectations are held for all. Children are encouraged to believe in their own ability and everyone is encouraged to achieve their highest personal, academic and social goals.

It is our desire to develop an ethos where each member of the school community is sensitive to and caring towards the needs of others. We welcome, celebrate and respect each and every pupil and provide equal opportunities for all. We aim to foster the development of tolerance, responsibility, respect, self-discipline, commitment and sensitivity.

The school seeks, through the Education Reform (NI) Act 1989 to afford every child the opportunity to be educated to his/her full potential aim by providing a broad and

balanced curriculum, which develops the skills, concepts and knowledge necessary to prepare our young people for the world in which they live.

We aim to help our pupils:

- To develop as confident, disciplined and enquiring learner, able to make informed choices and decisions.
- To enjoy reading and to develop a confidence with language that enables them to communicate effectively with others.
- To develop the skills and knowledge of mathematics to enable them to cope confidently with everyday situations.
- To develop the ability to handle and communicate information, solve problems, pose questions and be creative through the use of technology.
- To know and understand their world through scientific, historical, geographical and religious inquiry and to come to an understanding of their responsibilities to care for their environment.
- To develop practical, creative, artistic and physical skills.

In achieving these aims, effective leadership is encouraged at all levels throughout the school and the school continually strives to further develop links with home and the wider community.

### **STAFFING COMPLEMENT 2017 - 2018**

#### **TEACHING STAFF**

Mrs S McGrath	-Principal and P1/2
Mrs L English	- P3/P4
Mrs S Newell/Mrs O Graham	-P5/6
Mrs O Graham/Mrs K Graham	- P7
Mrs R McIlroy	- Learning Support (2 days)
Mrs G McKee	- Principal Release (2 days)

#### **Non-Teaching Staff**

Mrs M. Vallely	- Classroom Assistant P1
Mrs E. Bedzeti	- Classroom Assistant P2/ SEN Classroom Assistant/ Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs R. Boyd	- SEN Classroom Assistant/ Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs R. Annett	- Classroom Assistant/ Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs A. Fraser	- SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs J. Hunter	- Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs G. McParland	- School Secretary
Mrs G. McAnulty	- Building Supervisor
Mrs N. Caldwell	- Cleaner

The Board of Governors would like to thank all members of staff who contribute so effectively to the smooth running of the school.

**BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
FINANCIAL YEAR APRIL 2017 - MARCH 2018**

With the introduction of Local Management of Schools (LMS) each school receives an annual budget, which is largely based on the number of pupils attending the school. Since April 1992 the LMS budget for Dromore Road Primary School has been fully delegated to the Board of Governors.

Please note that the LMS budget report covers the financial year from April to March as distinct from the academic year from September to June.

**1. RESOURCES AVAILABLE for 2017/18**

£437,310

**2. EXPENDITURE for 2017/18**

£354,315

**3. 2017/18 CUMULATIVE CASH FORWARD**

£82,995

**DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL FUNDS 2017/18**

March 2017 opening balance £25,492.07

END OF April 2018 Closing Balance £26,680.21

## **REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

### **STAFFING**

During the 2017 - 2018 school year, we welcomed Miss E. Skillen to the staff to cover Mrs L. English's maternity leave. Mrs Fraser was employed in a temporary capacity as classroom assistant. We thank both ladies for their valuable contribution to school life and we wish them well in the future.

### **PUPIL ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE RATE**

In September 2017, 12 pupils were admitted to Y1 and this brought our enrolment number to 85 pupils. The annual pupil attendance rate for 2017/18 was 92.4%. The Governors acknowledges the valuable role of the parent in ensuring that their child attends regularly and is punctual for lessons.

### **SCHOOL LEAVERS**

During the 2017 - 2018 we continued to develop close links with our local post primary schools to ensure information was shared and transitions was a positive experience for our pupils. This year, twenty-one pupils transferred to post primary education at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. 8 to St Mark's High School; 5 to Newry High School, 4 to St Louis Grammar School; 1 to Our Lady's Grammar, 1 to Newbridge Integrated, 1 to St Mary's High School and 1 to Killeel High School.

## **2017 - 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Autumn Term**

Y6/7 Swimming at Killeel Leisure Centre

IFA Coach

EA Violin tuition/Piano Capers lessons

Tesco Farm to Fork trip

Y6/7 Poetry in Motion

After School Code Club, Quick Cricket, Accelerated Reading, Gardening, Hockey &

Jumping Clay workshops

Hockey matches at Windsor Hill PS

Tennis Coach

Opus Photographs

CASSE Programme

Shared Education Lessons

Cluster Clay Workshop at St Mark's HS

Y7 Silent Valley Trip

Parent Interviews

Zoolab

Balanceability

Y3/4 Dogs Trust session at Warrenpoint Library

Cluster Cookery workshop at St Mark's HS  
Cluster Bullying DVD Workshop  
STEM Maths Scavenger Hunt  
Autumn Fayre  
Road Safety Calendar  
Anti-Bullying Week  
Y5/6 Viking Trip at Navan Centre  
Jump Rope Fund Raising  
Y7 Shared Education Crumlin Gail & QUB Trip  
PSNI Road Safety  
St Mark's Open Day  
Y1/2 Librarian Job Visit  
Y5/6 Tesco Trail  
Newry High School Taster Day  
New Intake Open Afternoon/Book Fair  
Warrenpoint Fire Station Visit  
Sleeping Beauty Armagh Theatre  
School Production - Straw & Order

### **Spring Term**

St Dallan's Credit Union Quiz  
Burns Soccer  
Newry High Football Tournament  
Athletics Newry Leisure Centre  
Mourne Football tournament  
Newry Hospice Presentation  
Parent Interviews  
Shared Education lessons  
Windsor Stadium Tour  
Library Visits to Warrenpoint Library  
World Book Day  
Poetry performance in Ulster Hall  
In the Net, play at St Dallan's PS  
Warrenpoint Feis  
Cultural Food Fayre  
Y5/6 Armagh Museum  
Cancer Research UK Dapper Day  
Action Cancer Workshops

### **Summer Term**

NI Hockey Tournament Newry Olympic  
ECO visit to St Bronagh's PS  
Y5/6 Orienteering

Farm Safety Talk  
Cabbage Patcher Intergenerational Workshop  
Best Kept School Visit  
Bible Exhibition  
Y7 EWO Moving Up Talk  
Sponsored Walk  
Sports Day  
Bible Club  
Burns Soccer Club  
Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs at St Dallan's PS  
Tree Planting at The Harbour  
Y1/2 Newcastle Trip  
Judo Taster  
Tennis Fun Day  
Y3/4 Slieve Gullion Trip  
East Coast Optional Trip  
Prize Day and Environment Education Officer Eco Workshops

### THE CURRICULUM

The governors are confident that Dromore Road Primary School continues to ensure a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment. Staff expertise and resources are well utilised to assist each child as they strive to reach their maximum potential and the school offers a great variety of learning opportunities suitable to the needs of each pupil. Despite reduced government and EA finance, the staff continued to avail of opportunities for continuing professional development and this has ensured they are kept up to date with the on-going changes and developments within education.

During 2017/18 considerable work was carried out in the area of problem solving in numeracy and raising standards in spelling. Accelerated Reader was also developed further to support the development of pupils' comprehensions skills.

The school recognises the need to prepare pupils for an ever-evolving world and in doing all pupils' ICT skills were developed through a focus on the desirable features of music and sound, interactive design and film and animation. 16 new iPads were purchased and all staff availed of AMMA training. As part of the Shared Education programme, the expertise of the AMMA centre was also used to support lessons and develop staffs' ICT knowledge and skills.

Aspects of these areas featured in teachers' professional development through the "Performance Review and Staff Development" (PRSD) scheme. These initiatives were achieved in directed time, after school and on non-contact 'School Development Days'.

### Record of Baker and SDD Training

Date of Training	School Development Priorities/ Focus
Baker Days	
1.	Curriculum Leadership
2.	Effective use of Assessment Data
3.	Development of a Growth Mindset. CP Refresher/ Staff Conduct Document
4.	E-Safety Policy
5.	School Development Plan Priorities
School Development Days	
1.	ICT/ Literacy
2.	Self-Evaluation (Quality of Provision)
3.	Literacy and Afl
4.	Child Centred Provision
5.	Assessment/ Marking Policy

During the year, the staff also availed of a wide range of additional training to support the development of curriculum priorities and to meet the additional needs of pupils. These are listed below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course attended</u>	<u>Date</u>
Rhonda Boyd	Catheter Training	01/09/17
Olivia Graham	Poetry in Motion	06/09/17
All staff	Mathletics	20/09/17
Rhonda Boyd, S. Newell, G. Mc Kee, G. Mc Parland and S.Mc Grath	Health Awareness- Anaphylaxis Shock	25/09/17
S. Mc Grath	Education and Inspectorate Conference	26/09/17
S.Mc Grath & L.English	TPL Launch	28/09/17

S.Mc Grath	ABC Primary Principal Training	29.09.16
O Graham	Literacy Co-ordinator Cluster Group	3.10.17
O Graham	Collaborative Learning Online for Shared Ed and Reconciliation	4.10.17 5.10.17
S.Mc Grath	Complaints Procedure	10.10.17
S. Mc Grath	School Website Training	18.10.17
O. Graham	Amma - Scratch	19/10/17
S.M Grath	First Aid Refresher	26.10.17 27.10.17
All staff	Lexia Reading Skills Implementation Progress Report	27.10.17
O. Graham	ICT - Shared Ed Collaboration online	15/11/17
S.Newell	Amma - Storytelling	23/11/17
O.Graham	Global Learning Programme	29//11/17
O. Graham	AMMA- Using Art and Design to promote innovative Practice	11.01.18 1.02.18
R Mc Ilroy	CCEA Art/ Maths	15.01.18
G Mc Kee S Mc Grath	Amma- Creative Skills for Digital Makers - Foundation Stage	25.01.18
R Mc Ilroy	CCEA Art/ ICT	29.01.18
E Skillen	Induction Training- Behaviour Management	7.02.18
S Newell	AMMA- Coding with Swift Playgrounds	7.02.18
S Mc Grath	CCEA- Foundation Stage Co-ordinator Capacity Building Event	9.02.18
O Graham	Shared Ed -Personal Development and Mutual Understanding - PDMU	22-23.02.18
O Graham	Global Learning Programme Twilight	27//02/17
O Graham K Graham S Newell	Shared Ed -Developing a Thinking Classroom to Promote Collaborative Learning in Shared Practice	5.03.18 6.03.18 May
SMc Grath R Mc Ilroy	SENDO Principal Update and Co-ordinator event	8.03.18
K Graham	Feedback in Literacy	13.02.18

S Newell	Feedback in Numeracy	14.02.18
S Mc Grath	ABCPPG SPRING CONFERENCE DAY	15.02.18
G Mc Parland	SIMS Reporting Training	21.03.18
E Skillen	Induction Training	22.03.18
K.Graham	AMMA - iPad Classroom	12.04.18
S.McGrath	Extended Schools -Sharing of good Practice	27.04.18
L.English	Autism Training	30.04.18-1.5.18
E.Bedzeti	Autism Training	30.04.18-1.5.18
L English	Shared Ed Launch Event	3.05.18
S McGrath	Shared Ed Launch Event	3.05.18
S McGrath	GDPR Familiarisation Event	9.05.18
S McGrath	GDPR Training Event	11.05.18
O.Graham	Global Learning Programme	17.05.18
S McGrath	GDPR Information Asset Register Event	22.05.18
S.Newell	Shared Ed -Thinking Skills	22.05.18
S McGrath	C2K - SIMS Behaviour Management Software	28.05.18

### **SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

In line with their statutory requirements the Board of Governors consulted with all stakeholders in Term 3. Questionnaires were available for all parents to record their opinions and ways in which they felt the school could be improved. Using this data, a range of other self-evaluative data, the school has set targets to ensure school improvement in line with the DENI initiative.

### **POLICIES**

The staff, in consultation with pupils, parents and governors, have produced a wide range of pastoral care and curriculum policies that are suited to the needs of current legislation, good practice and the NI curriculum. Last year the Admission Policy, Accessibility Plan, Code of Conduct for Employees, Teaching and Learning Policy, Complaints Procedure, Curriculum Policy, E-Safety, Health and Safety and Pastoral Care were all reviewed and amended as necessary. All other policies may be obtained from the school.

## ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES OF PUPILS DURING SCHOOL YEAR 2017/18

One of the most significant aspects of the Education Reform Order has been the introduction of statutory assessment for all children in primary schools at the end of Key Stage 1 (P4) and the end of Key Stage 2 (P7). In June 2018, all P4 and P7 pupils in Dromore Road Primary School, were given a 'level' in Using Communication, Using Mathematics and ICT. Unfortunately, due to an on-going dispute over Assessment in Primary Schools, Teacher Unions have recommended that schools do not report levels to the Department of Education and as over 80% of schools did not submit key stage levels in 2017/18 it makes any comparison of data difficult and unreliable. In Dromore Road, pupils' individual levels were reported to parents with their June school reports. The overall school results for Dromore Road were as follows:

### KEY STAGE 1 - Level 2 is average

#### **[COMMUNCIATION]**

Number of Children attaining	Outcomes - %
Level 2 and above	100%
Level 3	0%



#### **[USING MATHEMATICS]**

Number of Children attaining	Outcomes - %
Level 2 and above	89%
Level 3	11%

#### **[USING ICT]**

Number of Children attaining	Outcomes - %
Level 2 and above	100%
Level 3	

### KEY STAGE 2 - Level 4 is average

#### **[COMMUNCIATION]**

Number of Children attaining	Outcomes - %
Level 4 and above	81%
Level 5	19%

#### **[USING MATHEMATICS]**

Number of Children attaining	Outcomes - %
Level 4 and above	71%
Level 5	19%

**[USING ICT]**

<b>Number of Children attaining</b>	<b>Outcomes - %</b>
Level 4 and above	81%
Level 5	

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

It is an aim of Dromore Road Primary School to ensure that every child, regardless of ability, has access to a broad and balanced curriculum - this, of course, includes children with special educational needs.

In order to make appropriate provision for these children Dromore Road School will follow the stages laid down in the Code of Practice as outlined in the Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, together with statutes laid down in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Order (2005).

Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO), class teachers and classroom assistants work closely together to ensure early identification of special needs, targeted programmes of work and deployment of external agencies if appropriate.

**SCHOOL LIAISON**

Links between the school and parents and the school and the community continue to be fostered and encouraged in various ways.

All new P1 pupils together with their parents visited the school prior to admission, in order to meet their teacher and view the classroom.

Information regarding the school's policies, practices and procedures was also shared with new parents in the form of an information booklet.

The school website was maintained and developed to help keep parents up to date with happenings in school. Letters were sent out by the Principal and teachers.

Formal parent/teacher interviews were held in October with a second interview offered in February. A written school report was issued in June. Transfer meetings were also offered to support pupils transferring to Post-Primary schools.

Liaison continued between Dromore Road and the various post-primary schools in the district. Pupils attended Open Days at the various post-primary schools and representatives from St Mark's High School, Kilkeel High School, St Louis Grammar School and Newry High School visited or communicated with the school to liaise about

transferring P7s. In addition, links continued with post primary schools and further education colleges when students from these establishments spent time on work experience in Dromore Road.

Local ministers continued to participate in school assemblies and provided denominational RE for relevant pupils. This added significantly to the spiritual dimension of the school.

The school is extremely fortunate to continue to have such a hard-working and dedicated Parent Teacher Association who continue to work together to raise funds for our school through a variety of fundraising events including the Autumn Fayre, Christmas Hamper, International Food Event, Smartie tubes and Sponsored Walk and BBQ.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Dromore Road Primary School has a well-deserved reputation for extensive extracurricular provision. The teachers run clubs throughout the year and these are normally full to capacity. Last year the pupils were also able to avail of a range of clubs organised by external coaching providers. During the 2017/18 year, we continued to develop our after school provision for pupils in P4-7 and pupils were able to avail of the following clubs.

#### Term 1 a

Code	Quick Cricket	AR	Hockey	Tennis	Gardening
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#### Term 1 b

STEM Robotics	Homework	Christmas as Craft	AR	Dodgeball	Choir	Jumping Clay
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#### Term 2a

iPad	Netball	AR	P1-3 Burns Football	P4-7 Burns Football	Cookery
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#### Term 2b

Badminton	iPad	AR	P1-3 Burns Football	P4-7 Burns Football	Cookery
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#### Term 3

Project Club	iPad	Cycling Proficiency	P1-3 Burns Football	P4-7 Burns Football	Cookery
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Thank you also to Mr Smith for volunteering his time in helping out with our after-school provision.

### **EXTENDED SCHOOLS**

Dromore Road is very fortunate to be able to offer a number of activities through 'The Extended Schools' programme. All the programmes funded through this programme aim to promote:

- Being Healthy
- Enjoying Learning and Achieving
- Living in Safety and with Stability
- Enjoying Economic and Environmental Well-Being
- Contributing Positively to Community and Society

The school was able to offer a daily 321 Club to facilitate younger pupils in P1-3 to be engaged in a range of exciting activities between 1:30-2:50pm. We also used extended school funding to provide additional after school activities and to fund our Accelerated Reader Programme.

As part of our involvement in the Extended Schools cluster, with the other schools in the area, a group of P6/7 work collaboratively to produce an anti-bullying DVD. St Mark's also hosted a number of workshops to promote pupils' health and wellbeing including clay and cookery.

### **SHARED EDUCATION**

Our school reflects the mix of denominations in society and we try to forward this policy at any opportunity. The school proactively develops links with other schools in the area and Dromore Road has a long history of working alongside St Bronagh's Primary School in Rostrevor. We value the relationship between the two schools and pupils regularly have shared lessons together. During 2017/18 our shared lessons with St Bronagh's focused on using Numicon to enhance the teaching of Shape and Space. Classes also availed of the support from the AMMA centre in developing the use of iPad apps to support learning in Numeracy.

### **PUPIL COUNCIL**

Pupil Council members for 2017-2018 school year were: Josh Cowan, Kirsty Knox, Ashley Bedzeti, Rainers Mikson, Keita Teterere and Amber Hughes.

Regular meetings were held with Mrs K. Graham to discuss school matters which the children in school have put forward. The pupils collaborated with the PTA to purchase new outside play equipment for each class and with Mrs Graham to suggest appropriate Accelerated Reader prizes. School Council also organised a number of fund raising events including Jump Heart and a school Talent Show. They kindly reported about school life to the Board of Governors in April 2018.

### **ECO COUNCIL**

The Eco Council is made up of elected pupils from throughout the whole school with an interest in the environment and last year 8 pupils acted as Eco Warriors. The children in our Eco Council have made many positive changes to our school environment and this year have continued to focus on Biodiversity, Recycling and Global Prospective. During 2017/18 they have been particularly proactive in improving the effectiveness of recycling by completing a number of recycling workshops, organising competitions and availing of craft workshops run by Newry and Mourne's Environment Education Officer. They organised a Dapper day to raise money for Cancer Research and hosted an international food event in collaboration with our PTA. We presented to St. Bronagh's and shared good practice and also participated in a number of eco related community projects, e.g. planting at the harbour.

The Eco Council was also proactive in maintain and enhancing our school grounds and all their hard work paid off when we received a special recommendation in the Best Kept School Competition.

### **SCHOOL SPORT**

1996 regulations require formal information to be presented regarding school sport. The aims for school sport as outlined in the school prospectus are fulfilled through physical education curriculum time, together with an extensive range of extra-curricular sport.

Children are timetabled for PE below and activities include athletics, dance, gymnastics and games:-

- P1/3 - 2 x 30-40min sessions per week
- P4/7 - 2 x 40-50 min sessions per week

This year we were able to again avail of the IFA's School Sports Programme and pupils benefitted from Miss Rea's expertise in developing pupils' fundamental skills. Children from P4 to P7 also participated in an annual 10 week swimming programme at Kilkeel Leisure Centre.

The school offers sporting as part of the PE curriculum and after school activities. Sports available at Dromore Road Primary School are athletics, gymnastics, hip-hop

dancing, cycling proficiency, dodgeball, football, hockey, netball, tennis and other games.

Throughout the year, we also implemented the "daily mile" scheme to improve the health and concentration of pupils.

### **SCHOOL SECURITY**

1998 regulations require formal information to be presented regarding school security. Please note the following:

- 1) Visitor access control - during school hours all visitors to school must enter by the front door and report to reception. The front door is protected by an electronic access control. A closed circuit television system operates on school premises.
- 2) Secure doors and windows - external doors are secured from the inside when pupils are in class and locked when school is not in use. Double glazed windows are fitted with safety / security handles.
- 3) Out of hour's access - there are three keyholders - Building Supervisor, Secretary and Principal.
- 4) Fire Detection Systems - the school is fitted with a fully functional fire alarm.
- 5) Cash handling - a safe is installed in school for this purpose.
- 6) Computer security - information held on computer can only be accessed by using confidential passwords. A "Safe Use of the Internet" policy operates in school.
- 7) Intruder Alarm - the school is protected by an intruder alarm.

An assessment is carried out annually by the Board of Governors and forwarded to the EA.

### **SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING**

The school safeguarding team are:

Mrs Louise English - Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Mrs Karen Graham - Deputy Designated Teacher

Mrs Sharon McGrath - Principal

Regular updates are given to the BoG at every meeting and all staff received training in October 2017. The BoG endorse that Dromore Road Primary reflects the safeguarding guidance set out by the Department of Education and impacts positively on learning, teaching and outcomes.

A safeguarding ethos permeates the school environment and there is a Child Protection noticeboard in the main corridor and posters displayed in classrooms, resource areas, entrance hall and outside noticeboards which provides advice and displays child helpline numbers. All classes have Worry and Suggestion boxes and there is a You Share, We Care box placed centrally in the school.

Throughout the school year, the staff have implemented a range of preventative activities to ensure the welfare and care of pupils is central to life at Dromore Road. There included:

- Regular circle time and activities from CCEA's PD&MU Living Together boxes were implemented to raise discussion with the pupils about health, wellbeing, relationships and personal safety.
- Members of the Safeguarding team lead assemblies on topics such as Who to talk to if they're worried, Stranger Danger, Be Safe Be Seen, Fire Evacuation Procedures, Road Safety etc. Local ministers also contribute to the children's moral and spiritual development and pupils are provided with opportunities to take part in class assemblies.
- School visitors, trips and events, e.g. NSPCC, fire fighters, PSNI, CASSE, Love for Life, In the Net play, Farm Safety talk, Cancer Research, EWO Moving Up, PTA Cultural Food event were all used to develop pupils knowledge of how to keep themselves safe.
- E-safety was developed through the use of PSNI officers and as part of the CASSE programme. P5/6 pupils also attended the 'In the Net' play.
- Anti-bullying week and Internet Safety Day featured on the school calendar and each class planned age appropriate activities to raise awareness.
- Some classes participated in Relax Kids sessions. These sessions promoted wellbeing and resilience.
- All pupils were involved in Shared Education lessons. Opportunities were planned to promote tolerance and respect among pupils.
- P7 pupils are trained in basic lifesaving skills through the HeartStart programme.
- KS2 pupils completed their cycling proficiency training.

### **SCHOOL PREMISES**

The Governors, with the assistance of the EA Architects and Maintenance Departments continued to maintain the school building and grounds.

### **THANK-YOU**

The Governors wish to record a very special thank you to the Principal and staff (teaching and non-teaching) here in Dromore Road PS. We are blessed with a committed, hard-working and dedicated team. In everything they do, the children are their priority and we thank each and every one of them for their commitment to our school and for the support they continue to give to the Principal.

Thank also to our team of lunchtime supervisors for their care and supervision during that busy part of the day and the way in which they have embraced our new playground games arrangements.

Our school premises continue to be very well maintained. The Board of Governors would like to thank Mrs McNulty and Mrs Caldwell who have ensured a high standard of maintenance of the school and its grounds.

Finally, we'd like to say a special thank you to all parents. You continue to support our efforts so enthusiastically and you have continued to listen and trust us with your children's education. Our pupils, parents, teachers and governors continue to work as a team and this partnership will continue to develop as we aim to provide every child with a safe, happy and stimulating learning environment, where every child is working to their full potential.

