



SCHOOL INFORMATION 2022



WELCOME

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I extend a warm welcome to you and your child and thank you for placing your child in our care.

Derrylatinee St. Francis is a vibrant school at the heart of our community. Our intimate family atmosphere is built on strong relationships at all levels and children working in a happy and secure environment.

Indeed, the success of our school, and the high quality education that it provides, can be attributed to good co-operation among staff, pupils, parents, governors and the local community.

In addition to this, Derrylatinee St. Francis' has a proud tradition of placing each child at the heart of everything we do, with all decisions aimed at instilling our pupils with the necessary skills and values to become caring and responsible citizens of the future.

This booklet has been designed to give you the basic information we think that you need to know to ensure that your child's start to school is as smooth as possible.

Should you find that you require more information about a particular aspect, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to your child starting Derrylatinee St. Francis' and I am excited for the journey they are about to begin.

Yours Sincerely,

Brian McKenna

Principal

MISSION STATEMENT



“ We work, play and pray
together as Jesus taught us. ”

We wish to promote a way of life inspired by the life and teachings of Christ.

We work as a team to provide a stimulating environment where we can feel safe, secure, happy and cared for. A 'child centred' approach is adopted in all issues.

Good relationships and effective communication with all partners involved in the education of our pupils is viewed as central to achieving our vision and aims.

The Board of Governors, Principal and all members of staff share these ideas, values and beliefs.

SCHOOL CURRICULUM

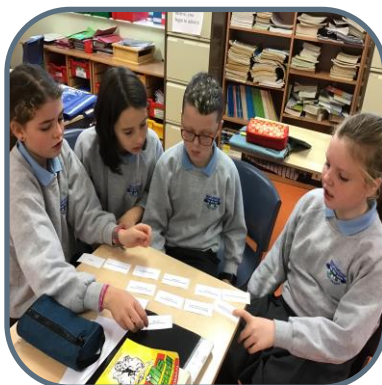
It is the policy of the Board of Governors, that Derrylatinee St. Francis will implement and deliver the Northern Ireland Curriculum, having regard to the needs, experience, interests, aptitudes and stage of development of the pupils together with the resources both human and physical, available to the school.

Derrylatinee St. Francis will strive to offer a curriculum that is balanced and broadly skills based which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of the pupils. This curriculum will seek to prepare the pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult 21st century life.

Curricular areas of learning include:



ART



LITERACY



NUMERACY



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



**THE WORLD AROUND
US**



RELIGION

SCHOOL TIMES

LESSONS START:		9:15am
BREAK:		10:45am – 11:00am
LUNCH:		12:25pm – 1:20pm
SCHOOL ENDS:	P1 & P2	2:00pm
	P3 to P7	3:00pm
(Primary 3 finish at 2:00pm on a Friday)		



ATTENDANCE

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children attend school and arrive on time for class.

We have an excellent attendance record here in Derrylatinee, which is a result of parental contribution.

We advise parents not to send children who are ill to school. Should a child be absent for any reason, parents should telephone the school office as soon as possible.

We ask parents to arrange appointments outside of school hours, where possible. If you find it necessary to collect your child during school, please contact the school office.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



Information about school holidays is distributed to all parents and is available on our school website.

You will be informed of any changes or any exceptional closures as soon as they are known by the school.

AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION

We have a highly successful After School Supervision Club which runs from 2pm until 4:30pm Monday to Thursday and 3pm on a Friday.

3 options are available for children and parents:

Option 1	2pm – 3pm	£3
Option 2	3pm – 4:30pm	£3
Option 3	2pm – 4:30pm	£5



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are proud of our school uniform, which we feel reflects the individuality of our school and offers all children a common form of dress.

Our uniform consists of:

- Grey Trousers/Skirt
- Light Blue Polo Shirt with crest (available from Kelly's)
- Light Grey Jumper with crest (available from Kelly's)
- Black Shoes



PE KIT

Our PE kit includes:

- O'Neills School jersey
- Navy Shorts
- Suitable footwear

All items should be correctly labelled.



SCHOOL MEALS

School dinners are made in Dungannon Primary School and delivered to our school at a cost of £2.60 per day. A monthly menu is distributed to parents and posted on our website. All money is to be paid via School Money.

If you believe you that you are eligible for Free School Meals, please visit:

www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants

HEALTHY EATING

Through our Healthy Eating Policy, we encourage all children to eat healthier food and drinks at break and lunch time. We recommend that treats only come in on a Friday or a special occasion.

The school should be made aware of any dietary requirements.

Due to a number of children with allergies, we ask that children do not bring nuts or kiwis into school.



PASTORAL CARE / CHILD PROTECTION

In Derrylatinee St. Francis', we recognise that happy children are the best learners and so we always aim to provide a learning environment where children feel safe and secure.

Due to the nature of primary education it will be the responsibility of each class teacher to look after the pastoral needs of the children in his/her class. Class teachers will attempt to resolve the worries of pupils and to relieve their anxieties.

The Principal / class teacher will be grateful for any information about difficult circumstances at home which may be causing distress or anxiety.



Our priority is that ALL pupils feel safe and happy in Derrylatinee

If you do not feel safe, or you are worried about someone else, you should speak to an adult you trust.



Mr McKenna

Designated teacher for child protection



Mrs Goodwin

Deputy Designated teacher for child protection

Mr McKenna and Mrs Goodwin are responsible for safeguarding in school. Please speak to them if you have any concerns.



CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Some of the children attending the school will have special educational needs. These may arise from his/her learning abilities. As it is the intention of the school to attempt to maximise the potential of each of the pupils, the school will endeavor, within its resources, to cater for these needs.

One teacher will cater for and have special responsibility for providing special educational help. The SENDO (Special Education Needs & Disability Order) code of practice operates in this school. Any parents wishing to discuss this code can make an appointment to have it explained. Arrangements, which have been established to meet individual pupil's needs, can also be explained. We at Derrylatinee, work towards making the educational experience more accessible to all pupils in terms of premises, the curriculum and information.

SCHOOL MONEY



schoolmoney

Our school is a 'Cashless' School with all money transactions being completed online. We use 'School Money' which is an online platform that allows parents/families to pay for dinners, trips and electronically.

Families will all be set up with an account and we ask families to keep up to date with payments to avoid large bills accumulating.



COMMUNICATION

In Derrylatinee, we use a range of methods to communicate with families and keep our wider school community up to date with school events. These include:

1) **WhatsApp Service** - Every weekend, we will send out a 'WhatsApp Broadcast' with an overview of the week's activities. Important notices/messages will also be sent out via WhatsApp.

Please ensure that you save the school mobile number 07585188558 (only once) into your contacts so that you receive the messages.

2) **SeeSaw** - Class teachers use 'SeeSaw' to communicate with pupils and parents regarding class and home work

3) **Monthly Newsletters** – Newsletters will be circulated at the start of every month.

4) **School Website** - The school website is regularly updated with news to celebrate the success of our children.

5) **Social Media** - Derrylatinee St. Francis' uses Facebook to keep those near and far up to date with school events. So please like, follow and share our page.

REPORTING

Parents' meetings are held during the first term. If parents wish to meet with their child's teacher at any other time, we ask you to make an appointment for a suitable time.

At the end of each school year, all parents will receive an annual report for their child.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our parents play a central role in the success of our school. Our long established Parent Support Group in Derrylatinee have worked alongside the school for many years to enhance the facilities, opportunities and experiences for our children as well as organising events to strengthen the community spirit.



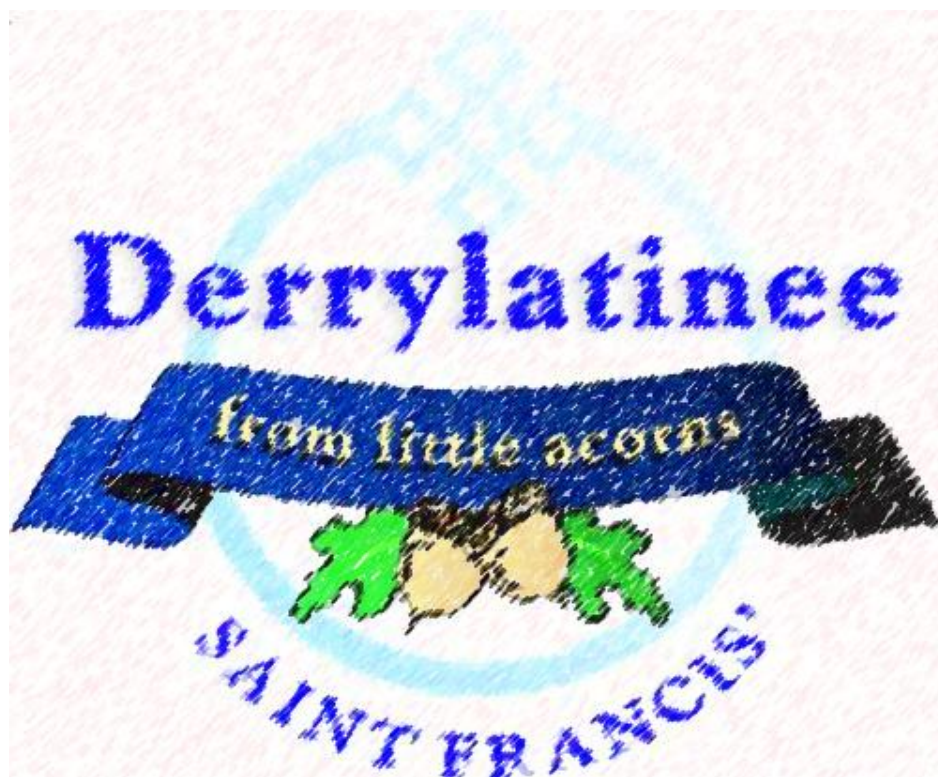
We would encourage all parents to get involved and help out in any way possible.



The Board of Governors of Derrylatinee St. Francis realises that the information given in this document is limited and would like to make it known that parents are very welcome to make arrangements with the Principal, Mr Brian McKenna, to visit the school to discuss their child's educational needs. Parents are also welcome, at any time, to arrange a meeting with staff to discuss any issues or concerns which may arise.

We wish you and your child a successful, enjoyable and rewarding time here in Derrylatinee St.

Francis' Primary School.



50 Derrylatinee Road, Dungannon BT70 1PS

Tel: (028) 8772 4403

Email: bmckenna838@c2kni.net