COAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2021/22

www.coaghprimaryschool.com

Find us on Facebook

31 Urbal Road
Coagh
Co Tyrone
BT80 0DW
Tel: 028 867 37676
E.Mail: ibayne452@c2kni.net

OPEN NIGHT

THURSDAY 2nd December 2021 at 6.15pm and 7.15pm

Contents

Welcome	Page 3
The School Curriculum	Page 4
Admissions	Page 5
Arrangements for Induction	Page 6
General Information	Page 7
Typical School Day	Page 8
Catering for the Needs of All Pupils	Page 9
Pastoral Care	Page 10
Safeguarding/Child Protection	Page 11
Sport	Page 12
Community Links	Page 13
School Uniform	Page 14
After Schools Clubs	Page 15
Music	Page 16
Other Information	Page 17

Welcome

Welcome to Coagh Primary School and thank you for taking an interest in our school.

We hope this prospectus will help you to gain an understanding of the ethos of our school, how it is organised and to appreciate the exciting opportunities on offer to children in our care.

There are many different aspects to school life. We believe the distinctive character, atmosphere and expectations of Coagh Primary School enable us to promote the all-round development of our pupils.

The children of Coagh Primary School know that they come to a happy school where academic standards are high and where discipline, hard work and learning go hand in hand with respect, courtesy and kindness to each other.

In our most recent full inspection, the quality of education in our school was found to be very good. The inspection report states that, “The quality of the children’s achievements and standards is very good; the provision for learning is very good; in English and Mathematics the children attain very good standards in line with their ability; the quality of the teaching is good or very good, with most of the teaching being very good; the provision for special educational needs is very good; the quality of pastoral care is outstanding; the school gives excellent attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity; the co-ordinators are very effective in their clearly defined roles; the quality of leadership and management is very good with the Principal providing outstanding leadership.” A Sustaining Improvements Inspection carried out by ETI in February 2016 found that Coagh Primary School was continuing to maintain the standards from the previous Inspection.

We hope that you will share with us in making these important years in your child’s life a successful and enjoyable experience.

Ivor Bayne
Principal

Emma McCrea
Chair of Governors

"The quality of pastoral care is outstanding"

The School Curriculum

POLICY STATEMENT

The school curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences that we plan for our pupils. The central aims of our curriculum are in line with the Northern Ireland Curriculum and provide an opportunity for all pupils to learn and to achieve.

GENERAL AIMS

Through a well-planned and organised curriculum, effectively taught by qualified and enthusiastic teachers and supported by all members of staff, pupils are helped to:

- Gain a joy and commitment to learning that will last a lifetime.
- Develop the essential Literacy and Numeracy Skills they need to learn.
- Develop the attitudes, understanding and skills to become successful, independent learners.
- Foster their creativity
- Develop lively, enquiring minds.
- Develop personal values, qualities and attitudes and to be respectful of other people, their views and opinions.
- Develop an appreciation and concern for the environment.
- Work Co-operatively with others.
- Work towards achieving their full potential.

During the morning sessions teaching focuses on the development of Literacy and Numeracy skills. Other subject areas are taught separately, or where coherent cross-curricular links exist, as part of a thematic approach.

In Coagh Primary School we operate a variety of organisational strategies and teaching techniques to help pupils achieve their full potential. On occasions it will be appropriate for whole class teaching, and on others a group work approach may be adopted.

CURRICULUM DELIVERY

A Board of Governors report is also available and a copy of this may be obtained from the school office or can be viewed on our school website.

The school curriculum is in constant revision, and the Principal and teaching staff will, at the end of each school year, review its success and make any necessary changes.

Depending on intake, children are usually taught in four composite classes where every effort is made to ensure that all children receive the best possible education, each child having maximum teacher attention from a dedicated and caring teaching staff.

Admissions

STARTING SCHOOL: FOR THE FIRST TIME

Starting school is a very important time for you, your child and the school. We all need to work together to make the transition smooth and rewarding.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The Board of Governors will apply the following criteria in the order indicated to identify which children should be admitted either at initial admission to education or on transfer from another school.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or attached to it.

1 Children of compulsory school age.
2 Children who have an older brother / sister* enrolled at Coagh Primary School.
3 Children whose brother/sister* or parent/guardian previously attended Coagh Primary School.
4 Children whose parent/guardian is presently a member of the school staff.
5 Children who attend or whose brother / sister* has attended Little Acorns Playgroup, Coagh.
6 The remaining places will be allocated on the basis of the proximity of the child's home to Coagh Primary School, priority being given to those living nearest to the school.

Note: Proximity to Coagh Primary School will be decided by a straight line digital measurement using the address of the child's normal residence to the address of Coagh Primary School as measured by Google Maps UK. If the final places to be allocated have identical measurements as identified by Google Maps UK, selection will be on the basis of the initial letter of the child's surname (as entered on birth certificate) in the order set out below. The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters generated by www.miniwebtool.com

K D Q Z B M E J F R P V A O H L U C X T N G Y S I W

Criterion 6 will also be used to discriminate within any oversubscribed criterion (except criterion 1).

Only children of compulsory school age will be admitted. If the school's admission and enrolment numbers have not been reached the school will admit all children of compulsory school age whose parents wish them to attend. Any child who reaches his/her fourth birthday on or before the 1st July 2022 is of compulsory school age and must receive education from the 1st September 2022.

The indication of a preference for the school is an acknowledgement that parents accept the philosophy, ethos, policies and discipline procedures of the school.

Parents wishing to view the school should contact the Principal for an appointment.

Arrangements for Induction

As children begin a new adventure of discovery and learning at Coagh Primary School it is the aim of Foundation Stage Teachers and assistance staff to make this experience as enjoyable and fulfilling as possible so that all pupils can reach their maximum potential.

LINKS IN THE COMMUNITY

Coagh Primary School has established and nurtured excellent links with local Playgroups and Nursery Schools in our local area. These links are essential and allow Foundation Stage Staff to visit Pre School Educators during the Summer Term in order to gather information and prepare for the future arrival of new Primary One Pupils.

THE FOUNDATION STAGE TEAM

The Foundation Stage Team is a dedicated team of teachers and Learning Support Assistants who are committed to getting to know each and every child and to help them reach their full potential by tailoring the learning to their individual needs. The Foundation Team use their expertise and experience to provide a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum for all pupils in their care.

PROGRAMME OF INDUCTION

At Coagh Primary School we have an excellent transition programme that has been developed over the years to ensure that our new pupils feel welcomed and settle quickly into life at Coagh Primary School.

INDUCTION MORNING

During the summer term children to be admitted to P1 in September will be invited to come to the school for a morning to meet their teacher. This allows pupils to see their new environment and begin to feel happy and secure in it. Alongside this induction morning all parents will be invited to attend an information evening where they will be provided with additional information.

BUDDY SYSTEM

At the information evening in the Summer Term parents will receive a welcome pack which will include details of their child's P7 Buddy. Each P1 pupil is allocated a P6/7 Buddy who will be on hand in September to guide the new P1 pupils as they become familiar with Coagh Primary School.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS AND INTERVIEWS

Starting P1 is a time of change for both pupil and parent. At Coagh Primary School we host a P1 Phonics and Homework information evening at the end of September. At this session we give parents information and knowledge in how to support their child through their learning. Initial interviews are held during Term 1 once your child has settled into school. These are an excellent opportunity to develop important home/school links and to exchange valuable information regarding each child.

General Information

FACILITIES

Coagh Primary School is situated at 31, Urbal Rd, in the village of Coagh. The school serves the village of Coagh and the surrounding district. Present enrolment is 118 with numbers steadily rising. The building has all the facilities one would expect from a modern Primary School. All classrooms, resource area, school library and staffroom have recently been completely refurbished. Interactive whiteboards and PC's are installed in every classroom with a set of iPads and Chromebooks available for use by all classes.

The school has a multi-use hall which we use for dinner, PE and Assemblies. Coagh Primary School is extremely fortunate to have close links with the local churches in the village and we use the Presbyterian Church Hall for some PE lessons as well as Christmas Concerts and end of year Prize Day. We have been able to make use of the 3G pitch in Coagh for various sports and for our annual sports night in June.

An outdoor learning area, which includes a school and community garden, picnic tables, benches and outdoor Foundation/Key Stage 1 play area is located beside the school playground. All children have access to this at various times during the school day. The area is open to the community during out of school hours and their support is welcomed in maintaining this valuable resource.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Coagh Primary School has an extremely active 'Parents Association' which is open to all parents who have pupils at school. The Association is very welcoming and appreciates new members becoming involved. The Parents Association organise a variety of events throughout the year to raise funds for the enhancement of the pupils' experience at Coagh Primary School as well as promoting a sense of community within the village. Some of the events organised recently have included: 'Breakfast with Santa', 'Movie Night', 'Half Term Disco' and 'Summer BBQ and Fair'.

All money raised by the Parents Association is reinvested in the school to help enhance each child's experience at Coagh Primary school. Recently the Association has purchased a class set of iPads as well as sports and games equipment for the playground, purchasing books and licences for the Accelerated Reading Programme. This is only a sample of the valuable resources that the Parents Association provide.

Typical School Day

SCHOOL HOURS

The school hours are as follows:

PRIMARY 1
September (1st Two Weeks): 9am – 12 noon
September (2nd Two Weeks): 9am – 1pm
October – June: 9am – 1.45pm

PRIMARY 2 & 3 9am – 1.45pm

PRIMARY 4 – 7 9am – 3pm

MORNING BREAK 10.30am – 10.45am
Pupils from P1-P3 have a healthy snack provided in school during the morning.
Pupils from P4-P7 are encouraged to bring a healthy snack for break.

LUNCH BREAK 12.15pm – 1.00pm

School meals are served on the premises at 12.15pm. Children bringing packed lunches are supervised in their classrooms. Only children going home for lunch are permitted to leave the school grounds.

'EARLY BIRD' CLUB

The school doors will be open to receive pupils from 8.30am when they can attend a supervised Early Bird club. This facility, at present, costs 50p per day.

'FUN' CLUB

Each day of the week, children from P1 - P3 can attend the Fun Club which is a supervised club run from 1.45-3pm. This facility, at present, costs £1 per day.

'HOMEWORK' CLUB

Each day of the week, children from P1 – P7 can attend the 'Homework' Club which is a supervised club run from 3pm – 5.30pm. This club can be booked in advance on a weekly basis and at present, costs £3 per pupil per hour or £7 from 3pm – 5.30pm.

HOLIDAYS

The school will be closed for the months of July and August and for all statutory holidays. Information about other holidays e.g. Christmas, Easter and mid-term breaks will be sent to parents at the beginning of September, as well as being published on our school website. In the event of emergency closure, all parents will receive a text message informing them of the closure, so enabling them to make alternative arrangements or information will be published on the school website.

Catering For The Needs of All Pupils

REMEDIAL EDUCATION AND CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

At Coagh Primary School we believe that every child is unique and special, and we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all. We are committed to developing cultures, policies and practices that are inclusive.

We have systems in place to identify when children have barriers affecting their learning and tailor specific interventions to enable pupils to overcome their barriers. The practice of personalising learning applies to all pupils across the learning spectrum and for academically more able pupils this means the provision of extension activities.

Our policy is to identify children with special educational needs as early as possible and, with the support of parents begin remediation. Children will have a tailored programme to proceed at a level and speed that is suited to their individual needs.

The school is required by the Statutory Code of Practice for Special Needs to adopt a three staged referral procedure as follows:

- Stage 1- Class Teacher Support working alongside the SEN Coordinator in school.
- Stage 2- School delivered SEN provision plus additional specialist provision by external agencies.
- Stage 3- Statutory Assessment by an Educational Psychologist and consideration of a Statement.

Our programme of continual assessment ensures that parents are kept fully informed of their child's progress. Individual pupils are also aware of their education plans and targets which are reviewed termly.

Pastoral Care

In line with the policy of maximising the potential of each child the school recognises that it has a responsibility to do everything possible to care for each pupil's physical and emotional well-being. The school will endeavour, at all times, to provide a comfortable and safe environment for learning.

It is the responsibility of each class teacher to look after the pastoral needs of the children in their class. The class teacher will attempt to resolve the worries of new pupils and to relieve their anxieties. The teacher will be grateful for information about any difficult home circumstances that may be causing distress or anxiety.

When a child is sick or injured, the school will, in the first case, attempt to bring the parents to school. If this is not possible, the child will be brought to hospital, where suitable transport is available. In less severe cases, a contact for the child will be contacted. In all cases, it will be the school policy to act in the best interest of the child.

Safeguarding/Child Protection

Coagh Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Staff work exceptionally hard to maintain an environment where children feel safe and secure.

The curriculum is designed to ensure opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe. Children know that they can approach any of the adults in school if they are worried and that they will receive a consistent supportive response.

In recognising our responsibilities for Safeguarding and Child Protection, as a school we:

- Have clear staff recruitment and selection procedures, ensuring that all staff (including volunteers) who have access to children, have been appropriately checked for their suitability.
- Aim to raise awareness of child protection issues and equip children with the skills they need to keep them safe.
- Develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse.
- Support children who have been abused in accordance with his/her child protection plan.
- Establish a safe and nurturing environment free from discrimination of bullying where children can learn and develop happily.

If you would like to know more about our policy or procedures for Safeguarding, please speak to any member of staff or our Safeguarding team:

Mrs H. Michael- Designated Teacher for Child Protection
Mr I. Bayne- Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
Mrs J. Watters- Designated Governor for Child Protection

Sport

SPORT AT COAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Coagh Primary School aims to provide its pupils with opportunities to:

- Experience a range of sport and sporting activities as part of the curriculum for physical education and as extra-curricular activities.
- Be aware of the benefits of sport and sports activities in terms of healthy lifestyles and physical well-being.
- Develop sports skills.
- Create an awareness of the benefits of teamwork, cooperation etc.

Each class will receive up to two PE sessions per week. The time involved will vary according to the age of the child (e.g. P1 may receive 60 minutes per week, P7 may receive 2 hours.)

Pupils are encouraged to participate in PE and take an active role in all lessons. Currently the school utilises its multi-purpose hall and the school playgrounds for these activities, as well as making use of the local swimming pool. The sports undertaken at Coagh include athletics, basketball, dance, soccer, cycling, fundamental movement, hockey and swimming.

The School have various teams that compete in local tournaments and competitions.

Community Links

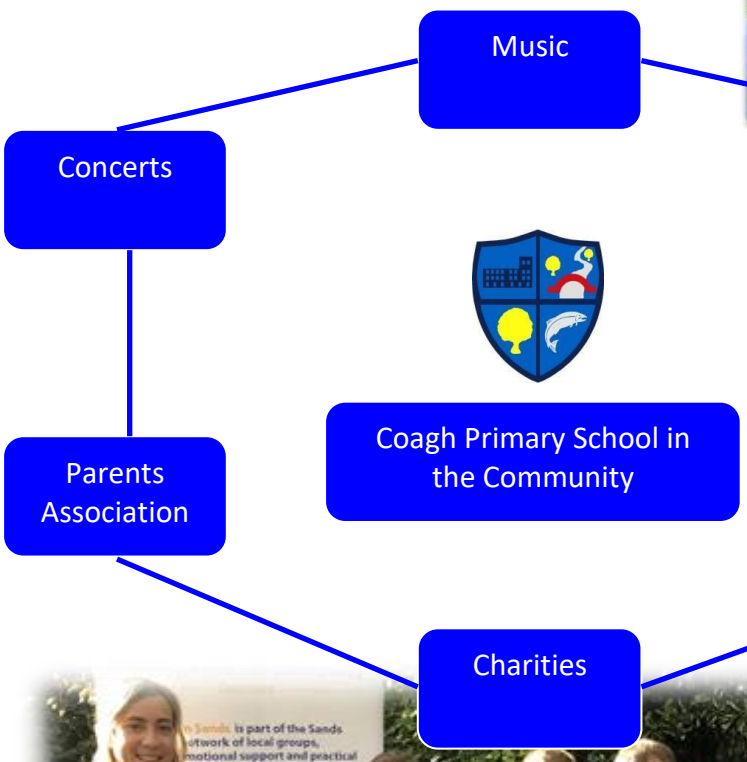
SCHOOL CONNECTIONS

Even before our Primary One pupils arrive at school important links have been made with local pre-school provision and in particular 'Little Acorns' Playgroup. Visits are made by our Foundation Stage Staff and new children have the opportunity to visit our school and meet their new teachers and support staff. We have good relationships with local schools involving curriculum and social visits and projects.

An important part of school life has also been the links forged with local post primary schools. Visits both to and from these schools make a significant contribution to the ease of transfer of our children from primary to secondary education.

COMMUNITY LINKS

Thinking of the needs of others within our community and further afield has always been a high priority for our school. A whole school fund raising event provides support for a number of charities which are specified each year usually in consultation with our school council.



School Uniform

SCHOOL UNIFORM

There is a school uniform which all pupils are required to wear.
Pupils should have the following:

BOYS	GIRLS
• Royal blue sweatshirt with school crest • White polo shirt, with school logo • Grey trousers • Grey socks • Black shoes	• Royal blue sweatshirt with school crest • White polo shirt, with school logo • Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers • Blue gingham dress • White socks/grey tights • Black shoes

During summer weather conditions the children are permitted to wear the school polo shirt and dark shorts or the blue gingham dress (girls).

The school sweatshirt and polo shirt can be obtained from Wallace's (Formerly Kee's Clothing) in Cookstown.

The school coat/fleece/hat can be ordered in school in June.

After Schools Clubs

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

'Homework' Club, led by qualified classroom assistants, is available for children from P1 – P7 each day from 3pm – 5.30pm at a cost of £3 per pupil per hour or £7 from 3pm – 5.30pm.

'Fun' Club, led by a qualified classroom assistant, is available for children from P1 - P3 each day from 1.45 - 3.00pm at a cost of £1 per day.

'Early Bird' Club is also available for all children from 8.30am - 9.00am at a cost of 50p per day.

These clubs are especially beneficial to working parents.

Other clubs are run throughout the year from 3pm - 4pm. Examples of these clubs are Eco-schools, Hockey, Football, Horrible Histories, Scripture Union, Netball, and Cycling Proficiency. The emphasis here is on a structured but more relaxed, enjoyable social atmosphere, and with a well-defined outcome at the end of the period of time the club runs for.

The school regularly takes part in community activities – e.g. carol singing, Church services, tri county soccer league, charity collections etc. as well as inviting members of the community into the school at various times of the year e.g. Christmas concert, Breakfast with Santa, Sports Night, Fun Nights and Barbeques.

We regularly use the facilities in the community and in our locality e.g. the local shop provides all food for P1 – P3 snack.

Music

In keeping with tradition the creative and expressive studies continue to be highly valued at Coagh Primary School. Music is essentially a practical subject and children are encouraged to sing, compose and work creatively with sound. Through active listening, pupils' awareness, understanding and appreciation of a wide variety of music is developed. Many children within school have become members of the school choir as well as various musical groups in the local community.

Education Authority assistance in various instruments is offered to pupils on a weekly basis. As a school we are extremely fortunate to have close connections with the 'Ulster Scots Juvenile Band' and tuition is offered on a weekly basis in drumming and piping. Mrs Shirley Walker offers weekly piano tuition to pupils from P3 upwards.

Other Information

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

Education in Coagh Primary School is provided free of charge for all lessons and activities connected with the child's entitlement under the Education Reform Order.

The school will, as it has done in the past, appeal to parents from time to time for voluntary donations for "optional extras" which are not connected to the school's formal curriculum such as visits to the theatre, pantomime etc. But it is stressed that no child will be disadvantaged in any way if parents choose not to make a contribution. Written parental consent will be required before a child participates in school trips.

DRUGS EDUCATION

Coagh Primary School is a caring, responsible school with the children at the core of our activities. We strive to respond to the personal, social, emotional and educational needs of our pupils through our interaction with them in the classroom and beyond.

The emphasis of our drugs education programme is on the dangers involved in the misuse of tobacco, alcohol and medicine. As our programme responds to need, we will include other substances when appropriate. This programme is delivered mainly through Health Education and the PDMU curriculum. All other subjects contribute to this, when and where appropriate.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education, in the form of Non-Denominational religious education will be available to all children. On Wednesday mornings the day begins with an act of collective worship in the assembly hall, led by a minister of religion, child evangelist or class led.

If a parent of any pupil requests that the pupil should be wholly or partly excused from attendance of RE or assembly, then the pupil shall be excused until that request is withdrawn.

HOMEWORK

Coagh Primary School sees a value in children engaging in homework as a means of revising work done, in involving parents in their children's studies and in the development of good work habits.

Against this must be balanced each child's need for recreation and the development of private interests and hobbies and so the amount of homework should not exceed that which can be done in under 30 minutes in the Foundation and Key Stage 1 classes and up to 60 minutes in Key Stage 2 classes.

To ensure regularity it will be school policy that homework will be set each night from Monday to Thursday though this may be relaxed for special occasions and around vacations.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

The Board of Governors has produced a separate policy on Positive Behaviour and Discipline and this is available to all actual or prospective parents.

It is the school policy that discipline should be based on respect for self, respect for other pupils and respect for adults. In those cases, where a child has transgressed the school rules, there is a set of sanctions in place. In any serious breach of rules, parents will be involved by being invited to come to school to discuss the matter.

ASSESSMENTS

Class tests are carried out in October and January but more formal examinations for all classes are held towards the end of the summer term. All children in P4 and P7 take part in end of Key Stage assessments. Attainment and diagnostic tests are given as necessary and individual records are kept for each child noting progress in all subjects.

REPORTS AND INTERVIEWS

Parents of all pupils receive invitations to two meetings with their child's class teacher every year and will also receive a written report of their child's progress every year in January and June. If you want to talk to a teacher, please arrange an interview by telephoning 028 867 37676.

AWARDS

At Coagh Primary School we regularly celebrate the success of our pupils. Each month there are awards for pupils in each class linked to their achievements in Literacy and Numeracy.

Coagh Primary School has a number of achievement awards, which are presented annually at our annual Prize Day assembly.

'Thank you for taking the time to read our Prospectus. We hope to see you soon'