

Learning & Working
Together



Abercorn
Primary
School

Prospectus 2023/24

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



Dear Parents/Guardians

Thank you for considering our school for your child's future education. Abercorn is well known for its warm, welcoming inclusive ethos and commitment to providing innovative practice in teaching and learning. I hope when looking through our prospectus you get a sense of the exceptional educational opportunities provided for children at Abercorn Primary.

Abercorn has been at the heart of the Banbridge community since 1931, over 90 years, and we pride ourselves on the strong links and relationships established with families over the generations and new links formed as the community has developed and changed in recent years as we welcome families from many different countries and cultures to our town.

We have high expectations for ourselves and our pupils and the dedicated and talented staff work effectively to help children become independent, confident and life- long learners, consistently planning for and providing an exciting range of activities and opportunities.

Our 2014 ETI inspection highlighted:

"In the areas inspected the quality of education provided by this school is outstanding".

"Warm and friendly, supportive and encouraging learning environment"

No prospectus can fully share the atmosphere of a school but I hope you get a feel for the family approach to education that embodies Abercorn.

If you require any further information on any aspect of school life or would like to visit our school in person, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I trust you and your child will have many happy years with us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sandra Saulters
Principal

Abercorn Primary School
Newry Road
Banbridge
BT32 3HR
Tel (028) 4066 2880
Email: info@abercorn.banbridge.ni.sch.uk
Website: www.abercornprimaryschool.co.uk



OUR SCHOOL



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Vision Statement

Abercorn is a naturally integrated and inclusive school with a Christian ethos which prides itself on welcoming and valuing children from all backgrounds – religious, cultural and social.

Abercorn PS is a happy friendly school which seeks excellence in all that it strives to do in keeping with the Christian ethos and with the full and highly valued support of parents, pupils, governors and staff.

Core Values

In Abercorn PS we value:

- **Honesty**

We will develop an atmosphere of trust, openness and fair play

- **Inclusion**

We will build on and develop our links with parents and the local community

- **Co-Operation**

We will work together to encourage a team spirit

- **Respect**

We will value the potential and contributions of every individual

- **Kindness**

We will show empathy and care to one another



Mission Statement

As a school, we provide a high standard of education and outcomes for all children within our care through creating a safe, stimulating and happy learning environment.

Our Main Aims Are to:

- **Foster a love of learning** where every child will be motivated and challenged to become independent thinkers and learners.
- **Provide an environment** where every child feels valued and respected in all that they do and in all they achieve and where views and opinions are sought and heard.
- **Develop an awareness** in each child of their unique skills, talents and opportunities and to give children the confidence to try new things.
- **Provide a school community** which respects the rights and beliefs of others and encourages positive behaviour, courtesy and good manners.
- **Provide high quality teaching and learning** opportunities appropriate to the needs of each child, where high expectations are set and children have the desire and mindset to work to the best of their ability.
- **Establish effective home school links** and to utilise the skills and talents in our local community to enrich the provision for all of our pupils.





Board of Governors

Chairperson	Archdeacon R West	
Vice Chairperson		
Honorary Secretary	Mrs S Saulters/Mrs Harrison	
Transferors	Archdeacon R West	Rev C Harris
	Mr M McCarter	Mrs E Stevenson
EA Representatives	Dr G Byrne	Mrs F Jones
Parent Representatives	Mr K Carter	Mr J Ewart
Teachers' Representative	Mrs J Hawthorne	
Co-principal	Mrs S Saulters	
Co-principal	Mrs G Harrison	

Teaching Staff

Mrs R Doughty	P1
Mrs J Setterfield	P2
Mrs J Speers	P2
Mrs J Hawthorne/Mrs L Greer	P3
Mrs A Stewart	P3
Mrs P Wakeling	P4
Mrs C Nixon/Mrs L Davidson	P4
Mrs D Watson/Miss T Malcolmson	P5
Mrs G Harrison/Mrs L Davidson	P5
Mrs H Brown	P6
Miss R Moorhead	P6
Mrs Z Hanna/Mrs C Law	P7
Mr P McClelland	P7
Mrs C Law	SENCO

Non-Teaching Staff

Secretary	Mrs A Hillis.
Building Supervisory/Cleaners:	Mr L Cassells, Mrs G Dickson, Mrs C Rushe, Miss D Murray.
Classroom Assistants/	Mrs A Young, Mrs L Gibson, Mrs A Williamson, Mrs V King, Mrs S Lewis, Mrs T McBurney, Mrs B Dawson, Mrs J Gilliland, Mrs S-L Lavery, Miss L Kirilova, Mrs S McCrum, Mrs A Peters, Mrs K McKee.
Kitchen Staff:	Mrs J Gilmore, Mrs J Sergeant, Mrs D Lyttle, Mrs P Curran, Miss D Murray.
School Crossing Patrol:	Mrs C Dawson.

OUR SCHOOL



The School Building



Abercorn Primary School is centrally located just off the Newry Road in the town of Banbridge on a spacious, attractively landscaped mature site which includes tarmac, grass play and woodland play areas. The original school building is in excellent condition, a reflection of the tradesmen and craftsmanship of the time. It is comprised of 14 classrooms, a library, computer suite, 2 learning support rooms, multipurpose hall, dining hall and kitchen, staffroom and two offices. The extensive grounds contain a sensory garden, vegetable beds, two industrial marquees, and a mature wooded area.





Class Organisation

Primary 1 & 2	Foundation Stage
Primary 3 & 4	Key Stage 1
Primary 5, 6 & 7	Key Stage 2

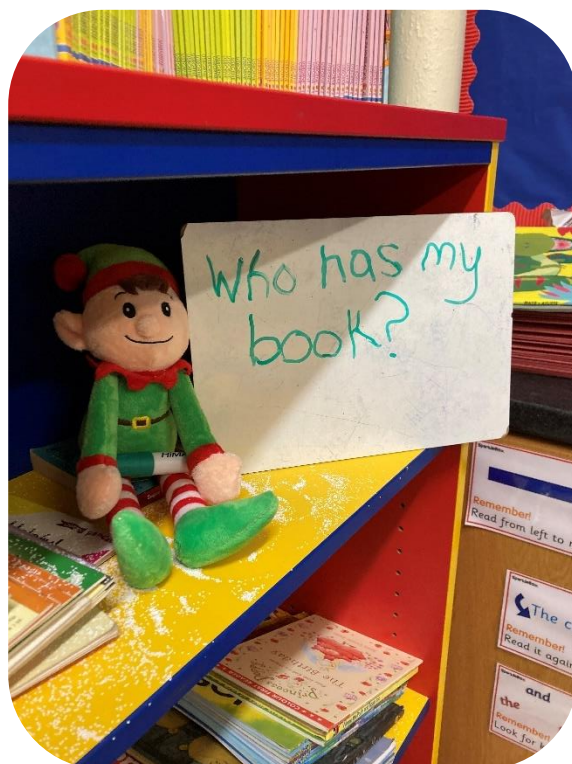
The School Day

8.15am – 8.45am	Breakfast Club
8.45am – 8.55am	Arrival
9.00am – 10.30am	Teaching time
10.30am – 10.45am	Break
10.45am – 12.00pm	Teaching time
12.00pm – 12.45pm	Lunch
12.45pm – 3.00pm	Teaching time (2pm finish for P1-P3)
2.00pm – 4.00pm	Little Acorns P1-P3 (Mon-Thurs)
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Little Acorns P4-7 (Mon-Thurs)
2.00pm	P1-7 finish on Friday

Year group break and lunch times are currently staggered.

Holiday Arrangements

A list of holiday arrangements and school closures is issued to parents in June and is available to view on the school app and website.



Break & Lunch

Morning break is held between 10.30 and 10.45am. The school operates a healthy eating policy and pupils are encouraged to eat fruit, vegetables, breadsticks or bread and to drink water throughout the day. We want to encourage good food choices at an early age for long term life benefits. If your child has a dietary problem or allergy please inform us.

Pupils play outside during break and lunch where possible.

P6 & 7 pupils are trained as Buddies as part of our PATHS programme and where possible assist on the playground with younger pupils playing games and making sure everyone is happy outside.



School Meals

School meals are cooked on site in our superbly equipped kitchen. The meals are served in our purpose-built dining hall with menus being provided in advance. All meals are prepared in line with the Government's most recent nutritional guidelines. Families in receipt of Income Support/Job Seekers' Allowance and/or Child Tax Credit may be entitled to free school meals. Details of eligibility and how to apply can be found on the Education Authority's website www.eani.org.uk.

Those who bring a packed lunch will be supervised in their classroom.





School Uniform

We recently conducted an online survey for our parents, seeking feedback on the school uniform. We currently have 2 uniforms. We are very proud of our distinctive navy school uniform in Abercorn. Shirt and ties can still be purchased. Members of the school choir are required to have this for formal occasions and performances.

The whole school uniform is:

- Navy jumper with school logo worn over a blue polo shirt (with logo).
- Navy skirt for girls
- Navy tights or white socks for girls.
- Dark grey trousers for boys.
- Black shoes.



OUR SCHOOL

PE Uniform

Pupils across the school wear PE uniform on designated days which will be communicated to parents at the beginning of each school year. The PE uniform is:

- Blue polo shirt.
- School sweatshirt.
- Abercorn tracksuit bottoms or plain navy tracksuit bottoms.

All items of uniform can be purchased from Robin Fields in Banbridge or Maxwells in Lurgan.





Admission

If the school's admission and enrolment numbers have not been reached the school will admit all children of appropriate age whose parents wish them to attend the school.

Admission Number: 60

Enrolment Number: 343

Year	Applications	Admissions
2021-22	37	37
2022-23	44	44
2023-24	30	30

Applications for a P1 place are submitted online in January of each year.

[Admissions | Education Authority Northern Ireland \(eani.org.uk\)](https://eani.org.uk)

Places may be available for P2-7 children whose parents wish them to move school. Interested parents should contact the Principal. We make every effort to ensure that your child is happy and feels secure as they make the transition to Abercorn Primary School.

Attendance

A record of your child's attendance during the year is carefully maintained.

We have a record of high attendance, **consistently higher than 95%**. Should a child's attendance fall below 85% or give cause for concern the school will liaise with the Education Welfare Officer for support.

Certificates are presented for full attendance at the end of each school year.



Introduction

Pupils in Abercorn Primary School learn through the NI curriculum. The primary phase of the Northern Ireland Curriculum comprises of the following three stages: The Foundation Stage (Primary 1 and 2), Key Stage 1 (Primary 3 and 4) and Key Stage 2 (Primary 5, 6 and 7). Play is fundamental to learning in Foundation Stage and progresses to Activity Based Learning in Key Stage One. The curriculum aims to provide children with exciting opportunities to explore and develop their interests, talents and skills across each of the following six areas as well as the teaching of Religious Education:

Language &
Literacy

Mathematics
& Numeracy

World Around
Us

Physical
Development
& Movement

The Arts

PDMU

At the heart of the curriculum lies an explicit emphasis on the development of skills and capabilities for lifelong learning and operating effectively in society. Literacy (Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing) and Numeracy form the cornerstone of education in our everyday curriculum as well as permeating through all other subject areas.

Our dedicated teachers employ a range of different teaching approaches and strategies, depending on the needs of the children and the subject being covered. Activities are matched to pupils' individual needs and abilities to ensure effective learning.

Assessment

The assessment of children's progress is an integral part of the learning and teaching process. It will contribute to a holistic view of the child – that is, the child's personal, social, physical and intellectual achievements.

Assessment activities and outcomes help children in the learning process by providing opportunities to: inform children, parents and teachers about individual progress and enable diagnosis of individual needs and the identification of appropriate learning targets.

CURRICULUM

Language and Literacy

Literacy focuses on developing each child's ability to understand and use language as an integral part of learning. This enables children to interact effectively with the world around them, to express themselves creatively and to communicate confidently (through talking and listening, reading and writing) using a variety of skills and media.

Language and Literacy are fundamental prerequisites for thinking, learning and interacting in personal, social and work contexts throughout life. Literacy is therefore a key to learning as well as a key to enjoyment and personal growth. The children are signed up to Accelerated Reader (P5-7), online literacy programmes which complement the work that the pupils are doing in school.

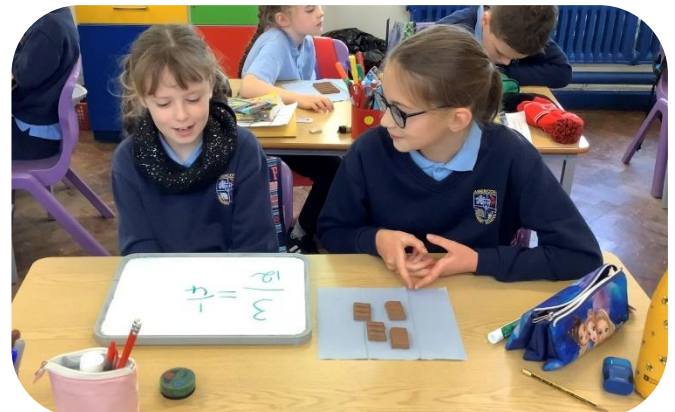


Mathematics and Numeracy

Children are encouraged to develop a love for Maths and a sound understanding of mathematical principles through first hand investigation and problem solving, while at the same time ensuring that basic table facts and methods of computation are firmly grasped.

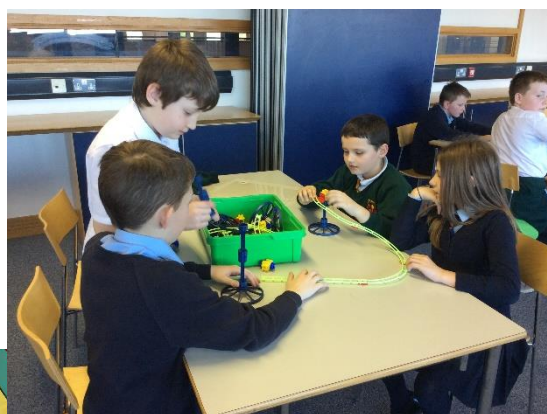
The place of mental mathematics is highly valued as it promotes quick and independent thinking as well as being an invaluable tool in everyday life.

Processes in mathematics pervade the entire programme involving children in using and applying mathematics in practical tasks and real-life situations. To supplement the work the pupils are doing in school they use Mathletics online numeracy programmes.



Shared Education

Abercorn Primary School is currently involved in the Department of Education's Shared Education Programme. Our Shared Education programme with our partner school, St Mary's Primary School in Banbridge, established in 2019 provides many opportunities for pupils and staff from both schools to work in partnership engaging in collaborative and meaningful learning experiences.



ICT

ICT in Abercorn Primary School is used to empower pupils, develop self-esteem and promote positive attitudes to learning. Children develop the skills of using ICT by engaging in meaningful research and purposeful activities set in relative contexts. Additionally, through the creative use of ICT we seek to improve pupils' thinking skills, providing them with opportunities to become independent, self-motivated and flexible learners.

The use of ICT is an integral element in all aspects of teaching and learning and is assessed on a cross curricular basis. Each classroom has been fitted with brand new touch screen interactive panels. Our computer suite, together with the school's use of iPads, laptops and Chromebooks within class enhances the school's delivery of the NI curriculum and equips children with essential skills for the future.

The children have a wide range of resources in ICT to enhance their learning experiences.

The school is equipped with:

- Beebots
- Chromebooks
- Interactive touch panels
- iPads
- Laptops
- PCs
- BBC micro:bit



CURRICULUM

The school app is one of the main methods of communication between school and home. Important information, relevant letters and DE circulars are shared here. We use data capture forms to limit the amount of paper notes sent home.



Online Learning

Accelerated Reader



Accelerated[™]
Reader

Pupils in P5-7 participate in the Accelerated Reader Programme. They are assessed online three times per year giving them a suitable level of books to read independently. Children can choose from a wide variety of interesting and enjoyable books available in our school library. Children then complete quizzes on each book read to assess their understanding and gain points.

Seesaw



Seesaw

P1-4 classes in school use 'Seesaw', an app that allows teachers to record and share what's happening in the classroom and for online learning when a child is absent from school for a prolonged period. Seesaw is used to communicate messages, homework and other classwork. It helps pupils learn how to use technology, be creative and stay connected.

Website



Abercorn Primary School

Learning and Working Together

"The quality of education provided by this school is outstanding" January 2014 ETI

We are very proud of our website in Abercorn. Check our dedicated class pages for regular updates within each class. We share pupil work, day trips, invited guests and much more on our website. We have a video centre showcasing school productions and class video clips that have been created for parents to view. An online version of our school prospectus can also be found on our website at www.abercornprimaryschool.co.uk

Learning Support

Abercorn Primary employs a range of strategies, both formal and informal to measure the progress of all our children. We use teacher judgement and assessment scores to identify difficulties and, where appropriate, to make early interventions with children who need additional support. Through early intervention approaches, the school works closely with any relevant external agencies in the support of children with additional needs. On occasions, if a child is unable to access the curriculum appropriately, a Statement of that child's needs may be issued by the Education Authority and extra assistance put in place or, if absolutely necessary, placement in another appropriate setting may be sought.

We recognise that a small percentage of children will be gifted or talented. Any child identified with an exceptional ability will be nurtured and supported appropriately.





Physical Education

At Abercorn Primary School, class PE includes games, dance, athletics and gymnastics. Each class also participates in the Daily Mile initiative, accessing the multi-purpose pitch at Banbridge High School adjacent to our playground. Pupils are provided with the opportunity to play for a variety of school teams and/or participate in a range of sporting afterschool/ in school activities.

Each class has two sessions of physical education per week during which all areas of PE are covered:

- Athletics
- Dance
- Games
- Gymnastics
- Swimming (P5 – 7)

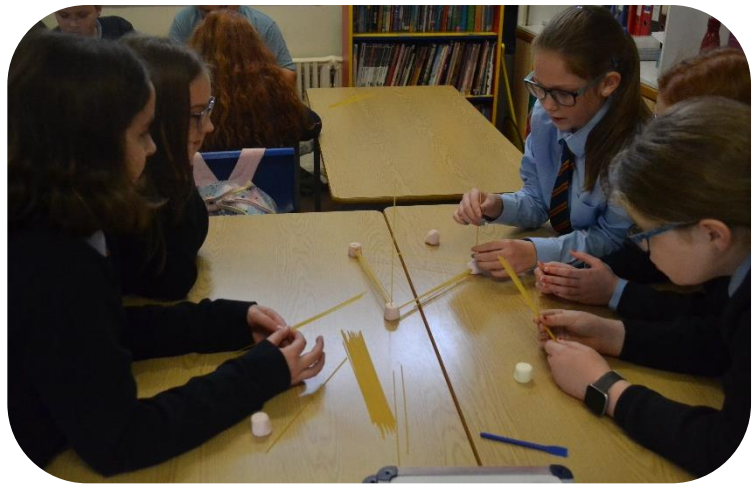
In addition to teacher-led PE lessons, pupils receive coaching in a variety of sports' skills from various outside agencies which include; Banbridge RFU, IFA, Teach It Train It and more.



World Around Us

Children are naturally curious and often ask profound questions about themselves and the world around them.

World Around Us consists of the three contributory elements: Geography, History, Science and Technology. It focuses on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding through a topic based approach. Teachers are flexible and move the topic they are studying in whatever direction they and the pupils choose.



Religious Education

The basic religious principles shared by all Christian traditions are at the foundation of the school's ethos. Religious Education is taught through the context of a Christian and non-denominational syllabus. In recent years Banbridge has benefited from a rich inflow of people from other parts of Northern Ireland and from all over the world. Within its Christian ethos Abercorn welcomes children of all faiths and none.

Assemblies are taken by the Principal, members of staff, children and community visitors and local clergy. In assembly we have short acts of collective worship and celebrate pupil achievements.

Two religious services in the year provide us with the opportunity to celebrate our Christian faith – Harvest and Christmas. Traditionally pupils and parents are invited to attend a P1 - 3 Nativity in the school assembly hall and P4-P7 to an evening Carol service held either in Holy Trinity Parish Church or Scarva Street Presbyterian Church.

Parents are entitled to withdraw their children from RE if they wish. If this is the case, please contact the Principal.

The Arts

The Arts play an important role at Abercorn. A wide range of opportunities are provided to enable children to develop their musical, artistic and dramatic skills. There is a strong tradition of Music at Abercorn Primary School. All children will have the opportunity to enjoy musical experiences through listening, singing, movement and dance and by playing tuned and untuned instruments. Children will be introduced the recorder at the beginning of Key Stage 2.

Children from P4 to P7 may avail of specialised musical tuition provided by EA tutors in a variety of instruments, e.g.

- Cello
- Guitar
- Violin

In addition, the Ulster Scots Agency provide tuition in:

- Drums
- Pipes



Children undertaking tuition are given the opportunity to perform at various school events throughout the year and may go forward for exams where applicable.

In recent years, our choirs have enjoyed success at the Portadown Festival, performing at Stormont and taking part in the Peace Proms. Our Junior and Senior choirs participate at our annual Harvest and Christmas services and enjoy singing in our local community.

We regularly enter local art competitions which allow children who are gifted in this area to showcase their abilities to a wider audience. Children's work is celebrated through attractive displays throughout the school as we value their achievements and feel that this helps to create a positive learning environment.



Enriching The Curriculum

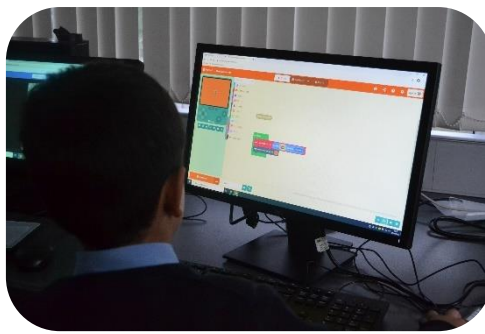
Our programme of after school activities, events and visits is continually evolving to meet the needs and requests of the children. The school is fortunate to have excellent additional facilities which make the development of a range of interesting and worthwhile activities possible.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We offer a wide range of athletic and academic opportunities to all of the pupils enrolled in our school. Staff and other qualified instructors give the children the opportunity to participate during school hours and after school hours. Throughout the school year, pupils are offered the following activities:

- Art & Craft
- Board Games
- Chinese Lessons
- Choir
- Cycling Proficiency
- Duathlon (Tri-Athlon Ireland)
- Fitness
- Football
- Glow Group Minecraft Coding
- Hockey
- Music tuition
- Netball
- Rugby
- Scripture Union

The children have opportunities to represent the school in several sporting tournaments and over the years have enjoyed success particularly the football and hockey teams. We are very proud of the boys and girls who represent the school for these events, not only for their accomplishments, but for their sportsmanlike behaviour.



Breakfast Club

A Breakfast Club operates each day from 8.15 – 8.45am. This Club facilitates parents who may have early work commitments. Children are supervised and a light breakfast and a drink are provided. The Club costs £2.00 per day.



Little Acorns Club

After school provision is available in school Monday to Thursday for all pupils from 2-4pm. The club is run by our Classroom Assistants. Pupils engage in a variety of activities such as indoor/outdoor play, craft activities, board games etc. Little Acorns Club provides opportunities for children to complete written homework where possible and a snack is also available.

This is a place for pupils of all ages to mix together as well as providing convenient after school care in a familiar setting. The current cost is £3.00 per hour.



Educational/Residential Trips

In connection with The World Around Us curriculum, educational visits play an important part in enriching a child's education and are great opportunities to inspire and stimulate the children. Each year group participates in at least one visit a year and all classes invite visitors into school to speak to pupils where appropriate.

Primary 6 pupils enjoy a residential visit to a local Outdoor Education Centre and Primary 7 pupils have the opportunity of a residential trip to Dublin or Edinburgh each year.



ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM



Pupil Involvement

As a school family we are keen to give generously to those less fortunate than ourselves. Fundraising events are organised with children and parents being given opportunities to contribute throughout the school year.

Our P7s are given specific roles and responsibilities each year including:

- Tech Team
- Eco-Monitor
- Canteen Crew
- Playground Friend
- PE Store Monitor
- Assembly Hall Team



School Council

Pupils are encouraged to make a positive contribution to all aspects of school life. Staff seek the views and opinions of the pupils and involve them in school decision making. The school council consists of 2 elected representatives from each Primary 4 – 7 class who meet regularly with the teachers in charge and the Principal.



Sustrans

We are currently participating in the Sustrans programme encouraging pupils to travel to school by cycling, scooting and walking wherever possible. In 2018 we achieved our Bronze award and in 2021 our Silver award.

Children in Primary 7 are encouraged to participate in the popular Cycling Proficiency Scheme led by qualified teachers and P6 pupils receive introductory lessons from Sustrans.



Rewards in School

Our emphasis is on the positive approach of praise and encouragement for both academic, social and behavioural matters. We consistently seek to acknowledge the effort, positive attitudes, achievements and good behaviour of all children to develop their self esteem as well as acknowledge success.

Pupils are encouraged and rewarded in many ways. Continued emphasis is placed on personal, social and emotional development. To achieve this, we follow the Barnardos PATHS (**P**romoting **A**lternative **T**hinking **S**trategies) programme throughout the school. Through the Barnardos PATHS programme, we have established a 'Pupil of the Day' alongside our Star of the Week. Providing merit stickers and certificates or sending children to another teacher/Principal for praise are regular practice. Golden Time (P4-7) and additional playtime outside (P1-3) are rewards every Friday for positive behaviour and attitude throughout the week. Star of the Week in each class has a special treat of hot chocolate each Friday breaktime.





Parental Involvement

There is no more important relationship for a school than the one it has with its parents/carers. Two-way communication is essential if the partnership between parents and school is to remain strong and effective and we therefore endeavour to keep parents fully informed and involved in all aspects of school life. We aim to achieve this through open evenings, regular newsletters, Seesaw & Microsoft Teams, parent/teacher meetings, school reports and when appropriate curriculum information sessions. Routine communication with most families is through the school app, Primary365 and another useful source of information is the school website – www.abercornprimarieschool.co.uk.

Homework

Homework encourages pupils to develop the skills needed for independent learning; consolidates and reinforces current learning in the classroom; gives you an insight into what is happening in school and enables you to share in your child's learning.

We would ask you, the parents, to:

- Check deadlines and help your child to develop time management skills.
- Inform the teacher of any problems or difficulties the child is presenting in relation to homework.
- Provide a suitable quiet place to work.
- Sign completed work.
- Talk about the homework and emphasise the importance of carrying out the task.

Concerns/Problems

If you have a problem or concern you should in the first instance discuss this with the class teacher. If the issue is not addressed to your satisfaction the Vice Principal and then the Principal should be involved. The majority of issues are resolved at the first stage of the process, but, in the unlikely event of them still being unresolved after discussion with the Principal, the matter may be referred to the Board of Governors via the Chairperson.



Parent/Teacher Consultations

You are encouraged to play an active role in your child's education by meeting with teachers during scheduled consultations/phonecalls arranged each year. At the end of the school year, each child will receive a detailed written report in June informing you of your child's progress.

Friends of Abercorn (FoA)

Abercorn Primary School has a long history of well-established close links with parents and a thriving Parent Teacher Association. Just this year our PTA was rebranded to 'Friends of Abercorn' as we are open to all friends and family in our community coming on board. The FoA is a voluntary group of parents and staff who are willing to work on behalf of all parents. They plan social activities and fund-raising events throughout the school year. As a school we rely on the support given by our parents in so many ways and are very grateful for a very active and enthusiastic FoA.

Every pupil benefits from this generous support and parents are encouraged to participate. It enables parents to meet other parents and staff informally and to become involved in the life of the school.

In the past few years, our FoA has supported the school with:

- Christmas Fayre Fundraiser
- Classroom Resources
- Interactive Panels
- iPads
- Outdoor play equipment
- P7 Leavers' ties & hoodies
- Playground equipment
- Reading books



GENERAL INFORMATION



Health & Safety

We consider the safety of your child of paramount importance to ensure that the school does everything possible to keep our school community safe.

The school has a controlled access policy. Parents or others wishing to visit during the school day should only use the main entrance doors at the front of the building. Access is monitored by security video systems.

Children are not permitted to leave during the school day. Where a child has to leave, for example to visit a doctor or dentist, you are asked to send a message to your child's teacher via Seesaw/Teams or inform the school office via email info@abercorn.banbridge.ni.sch.uk with details of the collection arrangements and times.



Drugs Statement

Drugs misuse is beginning to affect many communities in our province; it crosses gender, cultural and social boundaries. We, in Abercorn Primary School, recognised that we have an important role to play in enabling pupils to make informed and responsible decisions. Drugs education forms part of our PDMU programme, which contribute to equipping pupils with the skills to manage their lives effectively and make responsible health decisions.

Dealing meaningfully with drugs related issues involves the whole school community, including teaching and other staff, Governors, parents/guardians and relevant outside agencies.

GENERAL INFORMATION



Pastoral Care

As a school committed to offering excellence in pastoral care to all our pupils Abercorn Primary School offers support for those children in need. Primary aged children are in the early stages of their personal, emotional, social and educational development. As such they deserve the highest standards of pastoral care and support to assist them to develop their full potential.

Every member of staff is committed to looking after the pastoral needs of the children in Abercorn Primary School. We recognise that children cannot work to their full potential if they have anxieties or worries and we welcome information from parents and the children when problems at home or school may be causing distress or anxiety. All children and parents are encouraged to express concerns to a member of staff in assurance that the matter will be pursued. Statements about the school policy on Bullying, Child Protection and Discipline are distributed to parents when their children start school.

When a child is sick or injured our first action is to inform the parent or other contact available to us. Should this not be possible, we will seek medical treatment for the child in all cases where we feel this is necessary.

Charging & Remissions

In accordance with the requirements of the Northern Ireland Education Reform Order 1989 it is the policy of the Board of Governors to: maintain the right of free education for all pupils; establish that activities organised wholly or mainly during school hours should be available to all pupils; require parents to pay charges for board and lodging for their children on residential trips, taking account of any relevant remission arrangement; confirm its right to invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of activities organised by the school. It is our policy to request voluntary contributions to ensure that our programme of visits and activities does not become a drain on the school's budget and to reserve the right to cancel any visit or activity if sufficient contributions are not made.

If you wish to contribute to our school fund you may send £15 per pupil/£20 per family on an annual basis. Money from School Fund is used to help with classroom resources and special treats through the year for the children. This is entirely voluntary, but all contributions will be useful and greatly appreciated.

School Policies

School policies are updated and ratified by the Board of Governors on a bi-annual basis. All policies are available on request from the school office.



Contact Details

02840 662880

info@abercorn.banbridge.ni.sch.uk

www.abercornprimaryschool.co.uk

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