



CREGAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

‘Together, we make a difference’

PROSPECTUS



“Cregagh Primary School’s long-standing vision is understood by all stakeholders, who are wholly committed to building the school ‘as a family of learning at the heart of the community’. The strong sense of a family of learning, including the staff professional learning network, is enhanced by support from a wide range of external agencies and links across the community.” ETI Inspection Report

ASPIRATIONS

As part of our work on reviewing our vision, staff summarised our aspirations for your children in these ‘building blocks’:

We want children at Cregagh Primary School to:

- **Want to come to school**
- **Have positive self-esteem**
- **Find out what they’re good at and feel successful**
- **Be safe, happy and healthy**
- **Feel supported by their families in partnership with the school**
- **Be part of contributing towards making Cregagh Primary an outstanding school**
- **Be well-rounded, confident, mature individuals**
- **Have aspirations and achieve their full potential**
- **Show empathy and consideration to others**
- **Be proactive and innovative in their own learning**
- **Be independent, reflective learners**
- **Have strong resilience and to strive for excellence**

WELCOME

DEAR PARENT / GUARDIAN,

I am delighted to introduce our prospectus giving you some valuable information about our award-winning school.

I hope that as you browse these pages you will be able to gather something of the ethos of our school.

The pupils at Cregagh know that they attend a happy, supportive and caring school. Academic standards are high and positive behaviour, hard work and learning go hand in hand with mutual respect, courtesy and kindness. Everyone is welcome and everyone is valued in our school.

The curriculum includes an extensive range of subjects, activities and experiences in which every child can participate and parental involvement is always welcomed.

It is our policy to welcome visitors to school so that they may experience Cregagh Primary School for themselves.

We look forward to meeting with you and your family.

David Heggarty B.Ed., M.Ed., PQH
Principal

VISION

At Cregagh Primary School, we want our pupils to develop enthusiasm and motivation for life and for learning; taking pride in success and achievement.

Our pupils are encouraged at every step to **A**spire, **B**elieve, **B**elong and **A**chieve.

We want to work in partnership with the wider community; growing and learning together to prepare our pupils to be confident, resilient and independent contributors to society.

MISSION STATEMENT

Within our ethos we will:

- **Create a happy, caring, safe and secure atmosphere where children and staff feel valued**
- **Develop a concern for the needs of others through an understanding of the Christian faith while promoting tolerance, understanding and a respect for others who hold different religious, moral and cultural values from our own**
- **Teach a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum which extends the children’s interests and experiences; providing opportunities for pupils to identify their aptitudes and areas for development**
- **Recognise individual effort and promote high achievement in all areas**
- **Develop confidence, resilience, self-esteem and independence in our pupils**
- **Provide a stimulating and well resourced learning environment and opportunities for imaginative and creative expression**
- **Within a learning community, ensure equality of opportunity for all and instill a love for life-long learning**
- **Maintain a partnership between teachers, parents, governors and pupils**
- **Maintain a strong relationship between school, local Churches and the wider community**

ETHOS & INFORMATION



“The teachers have high expectations for the children’s behaviour, and contributions to, and engagement in, their learning.”

ETI Inspection Report

The school has a very positive ethos. It is a pleasant place to work and learn and the pupils feel secure, happy and valued. Standards of discipline and pupils' behaviour are exemplary. Staff morale is high and relationships between pupils, staff and parents are excellent. In everything we do we have the highest expectations.

Cregagh is a learning community. We aim for the highest academic standards but also seek to ensure that all talents (artistic, musical, sporting, dramatic etc.) are developed to the full. Through the fostering of high self-esteem we try to ensure every opportunity is given to all members of the school to discover and develop whatever talents they have to the highest level of which they are capable. We welcome and encourage the involvement of parents, governors, friends, former pupils and members of the local community in the development of the school.

We believe it is important to develop in our pupils, qualities such as leadership, self-discipline and self-reliance coupled with the ability to work effectively in teams and to empathise with the needs of others.

In summary, we aim to:

- Assist children to develop competency in the NI Curriculum, promoting a variety of challenging, activity-based learning experiences to inspire, generate knowledge with understanding and instil pleasure.
- Facilitate children in developing a personal skills and attributes “tool-kit” that can be utilised or applied in any given situation.
- Assist children to develop clear and confident communication skills, appropriate to different audience, occasion or purpose.
- Provide a wide range of cultural, creative, physical and intellectual experiences.
- Provide children with a child-centred, broad and balanced curriculum that affords all children the opportunity to enjoy success.
- Foster and nurture work habits and attitudes which develop independence and an appreciation of life-long learning.
- Encourage children to recognise the value of developing a healthy mind and body to foster, within each child, a positive self-image.
- Promote and encourage the spiritual and moral development of each child.
- Help each child acquire a set of values that enables them to become a positive contributor to society.
- Develop a respect for self, for others and for the environment.
- Establish and maintain an educationally effective partnership with parents, encouraging them to have an active, constructive role in the school and help place the school at the heart of the local community.
- Promote and sustain an organised, stimulating and caring environment, which facilitates the best learning and teaching opportunities and where children feel valued, safe, secure and happy.



INFORMATION

Cregagh is a controlled, co-educational, all inclusive primary school situated in the Cregagh suburb of East Belfast. The school opened in 1939 and has a current enrolment of 111 pupils. All pupils in attendance at the school are of compulsory school age.

A list of current staff can be viewed on the school website.

Class Range: Primary 1 to 7

Region: South Eastern Region, Education Authority

Grahamsbridge Road

Dundonald BT16 2HS

Tel: 028 9056 6200

Website: www.cregaghprimary.org.uk

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/cregaghprimary

The region publishes details about all schools in its area and a copy of this information can be obtained from the above address.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The school's Board of Governors bring a wealth of enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring Cregagh Primary is an effective school, meeting the needs of the children and the community it serves. Governors are like a Board of Directors and make decisions about how the school is run. They are required to meet a minimum of three times per school year and they have legal duties, powers and responsibilities.

Their functions have been increasing in recent years and they have responsibility in the following areas:

- Oversight of the curriculum
- Staff interviews and appointments
- Decisions regarding how the school budget is spent
- Maintenance of the buildings
- Development of links with the community

Current Board membership can be viewed on the school website.

“The friendly, happy children engage well in their learning. They use kind words, follow directions, share resources readily and are polite to others and staff. They respond to questions enthusiastically, listen intently and speak clearly across the range of learning opportunities to develop their communication skills.”

ETI Inspection Report



UNIFORM & SCHOOL DAY

The school governors and staff believe that it is very important for our pupils to wear school uniform with pride. All our pupils do so and we are often complimented on their smart appearance.

UNIFORM

GIRLS

A choice of navy, green, red and yellow sweatshirt (must have school badge)
A choice of blue, green, red and yellow polo shirt
Grey skirt or dark grey trousers
Grey or black socks / grey or black tights or grey/white socks
Black school shoes
Checked cotton dress (summer time only) - choice of blue, green, red and yellow checks

BOYS

A choice of navy, green, red and yellow sweatshirt (must have school badge)
A choice of blue, green, red and yellow polo shirt
Dark grey trousers
Grey or black socks
Black school shoes
Dark grey shorts (summer time only)

P.E. KIT

P1-P7: (Indoor PE) Black plimsolls: navy shorts & white T-shirt.
P4-P7: (Outdoor games) trainers, white T-shirt, sweatshirt, tracksuit bottoms/shorts.

N.B: All uniform items must be clearly labelled.

Our school uniform is available to purchase online from <https://www.signatureschools.co.uk/belfast/primary-schools/cregagh-primary/> or in-store from Signature Works located at Unit 5b Castlereagh Road Business Park, Belfast, BT5 6BQ.



SCHOOL DAY

A Breakfast Club service is available from **8:00am** each morning. School begins at **8.55am**. All children are expected to be in the school playground by **8.50am**.
Morning break is from **10:30am to 10:40am**
Lunch is from **12:10pm to 12:50pm**.

Classes are dismissed as follows:

P1 12:00noon for first 3 weeks of September.
P1, P2 & P3 2:00pm
P4, P5, P6 & P7 3:00pm (2:00pm on Friday)

Children being brought to and from school by car: we request for the safety of the pupils, that parents observe the voluntary one-way system in place during school hours and that they do not park in front of the school gates.

In the interest of safety, children will not be allowed to leave the school during the day. Where a child has to leave, for example to visit a doctor or dentist, you are asked to send a note to your child's class teacher briefly outlining the arrangements being made for the collection of your child. It would be useful if you would let us know if your child is likely to be returning to school later in the day.

It would be appreciated if you would let us know if your child is likely to be absent. Following any absence a brief note to your child's teacher is expected. This is a requirement from the Education Welfare Officer.

DEAF UNIT

The Deaf Units (Foundation/Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2) at Cregagh Primary School support deaf students who have a statement for Special Educational Needs. We promote a total communication approach to teaching and learning for children with varying degrees of deafness. Our children are fully included in the life of the school. They are first and foremost members of their class, taught by a Qualified Teacher of Deaf Children and Young People (QToD) and Special Needs Assistants. They integrate into their mainstream peer classes for various activities - both academic and recreational. Each child receives support as needed from specialised staff from the Deaf Units when they are in mainstream. We have a strong focus on developing the children's self-esteem as learners and supporting their deaf identity, and we have high expectations for all our pupils to achieve their academic best.

THE TEAM

The team includes two Qualified Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People (QToDs), A Speech and Language Therapist specialising in working with deaf children, and specially trained Teaching Assistants assigned to support deaf children in class and while in the mainstream.

We also work closely with professionals from the following:

- The QToDs and Educational Audiologists within the Education Authority Sensory Service
- Qualified Teachers of the Deaf (QToDs) and audiologists from the Auditory Implant Centre and Members from Cochlear Implant teams
- Educational Psychologists
- Specialists in Deaf education
- Various deaf charities: Action Deaf Youth, NDCS, Action on Hearing Loss, British Deaf Association

We liaise closely with Speech Therapy, Auditory Implant Centre and Audiology Departments in the Ulster and Royal Hospitals as well as numerous other educational professionals so that we can fully understand and cater to the needs of each child.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

Cregagh has the advantage of an onsite Speech and Language Therapist 3 days per week and a Speech and Language Assistant 1 day a week. Individual and group support plans are designed and carried out by the Speech and Language Therapist/Assistant in consultation with Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People, and support staff.

FACILITIES

- In order to provide optimal listening conditions:
- Deaf Unit classrooms and the Speech Therapy room have sound field systems and are acoustically treated
- Qualified Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People carry out daily checks of hearing equipment and test Ling Sounds
- Radio aids are used as soon as appropriate and in all aspects of school life

“The enriching provision for deaf children is at the core of inclusion in this school. The deaf and hearing children integrate daily and are thriving personally, socially, emotionally and academically with the support of the dedicated and skilful staff.” ETI Inspection Report



LEARNING AT CREGAGH

All pupils in the Deaf Units have Individual Educational Plans/PLPs and their curriculum learning is tailored to meet the individual needs of each child. This will be pitched at their unique learning levels and evaluated and adapted regularly throughout the year to challenge and motivate the students.

Our aim is for each child to have full access to the curriculum and school life by:

- Being taught by a Qualified Teacher of Deaf Children and Young People
- Having equipment checks daily and use of Radio Aid Systems as soon as appropriate
- Learning alongside their peers
- Providing in-class support from a Teaching Assistant when in mainstream
- Pre/post teaching of key language/ concepts
- Providing a wide range of visual resources
- Small group and individual teaching in an acoustically treated environment
- On-going deaf awareness training for all staff
- Careful monitoring of progress

INVOLVING FAMILIES

We forge and maintain very close links with the families of our deaf children. Teachers and parents communicate through Seesaw to share what is happening in school and at home. The Qualified Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People are readily available to discuss your child's progress and well-being at short notice, whether it is for a celebration or a concern. We organise activities in school where parents can meet each other and share their experiences and take the opportunity to tour the classrooms and see their child's work.

ENQUIRIES AND ADMISSIONS

Enquiries about admission to Cregagh Primary School Deaf Units are made via the Education Authority. However, we welcome enquiries and visits from parents and carers of prospective pupils. We consider applications for children who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs and whose primary need is Deafness ranging from severe to profoundly deaf. We also consider applications that detail a requirement for Unit Provision at a Deaf Unit.



General Information



AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Cregagh Primary School currently offers a Pay-As-You-Go Breakfast Club each morning from 8am; a Two-to-Three Stay and Play Waiting Club (for P1-3 parents with other children in older classes) and an afterschool Homework Club for P4-7 children. A wide range of after-school extra-curricular clubs run Mondays-Thursdays, 3:00pm-4:00pm and Fridays 2:00-3:00pm.

HOLIDAYS

The school holiday list for the current academic year is available on the school website and are shared with parents at the start of each school year. Additional copies of the holidays can be requested from the school office.

SCHOOL MEALS

School meals are prepared off-site and delivered to the school. The cost of meals is set by the South Eastern Region of the Education Authority and you will be advised of current costs at the start of the school year along with a copy of the menu. A current menu can also be viewed on the website. Arrangements are made for children who prefer to bring a packed lunch to school.

CHARGING POLICY

The Board of Governors is aware of the valuable contribution of visits and other enrichment experiences that have always formed an integral part of the life of the school. Their policy, in line with the 1989 Education Reform Act, is an attempt to sustain these activities.

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 limited budget and to reserve the right to cancel any visit or activity if sufficient contributions are not made. The full policy is available on application to the Principal.

SCHOOL FUND

Parents are asked to contribute to the School Fund on an annual basis. As a result of schools being responsible for their own finances, the School Fund now plays an increasingly vital role. It is used to subsidise transport for educational visits and the purchase of additional equipment and educational materials. All aspects of school life benefit from the Fund at some time during the year. Clearly every child benefits in a direct way from the additional resources it provides. It is the aim of the school that all parents contribute to school fund regardless of benefit entitlement. At the time of publishing, school fund is charged at £20 per family.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

The school adopts a positive approach to behaviour, expecting all pupils to behave in a responsible manner by always showing consideration, courtesy and respect for other people. At Cregagh Primary, staff make every effort to, 'catch children doing something right.' The co-operation of parents is sought about maintaining high standards of pupil attendance, punctuality, personal appearance, the wearing of school uniform, having the proper equipment for learning and the supervision of homework. To this end, the school has developed a 5-Star Award Scheme that promotes, reinforces and rewards positive behaviour and good effort.

If problems do arise, we like to involve parents at an early stage rather than leave it until later. We hope that you, as parents, will do the same with us. An upset at home can cause your child to behave differently at school just as worry over schoolwork can cause you problems at home.

A copy of the school's Positive Behaviour Policy can be inspected by arrangement with the Principal.

ATTENDANCE

A record of your child's attendance during the year is carefully maintained and its accuracy depends on your co-operation.

The Department of Education requires schools to keep a record of the Annual Attendance Rate (all pupils) for the previous school year. In recent years the Annual Attendance Rate has averaged at 94%.

SECURITY

The school has a controlled access policy to all areas of school. Parents or others wishing to visit during the school day should use the main entrance doors at the front of the building and report to the school secretary.

Access and areas around school, including Reception, are monitored by CCTV cameras.

Children arriving late for school should also use the main entrance doors as playground doors are secured at 8.55am.



PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care is a vital part of a child's primary schooling with Parents, Teachers, Principal, Board of Governors and Support Services playing an important role.

At all times we focus on the positive achievements of our pupils, academic and otherwise. This is fostered by positive marking and classroom incentive schemes.

We strive at all times to develop each child to his or her potential by creating an atmosphere based upon good relationships between teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents.

We recognise that we have a responsibility to do everything possible to care for each pupil's physical and emotional wellbeing. At all times the school will endeavour to provide a secure, caring and safe environment for learning. A school Council operates to give pupils a voice in whole school issues.

CHILD PROTECTION AND PERSONAL SAFETY

The welfare of each child must be paramount and the school has a duty of care to report any concerns about abuse or neglect to social services.

All staff are vetted under Education Authority procedures and they all have been trained to be aware of the signs of possible abuse or neglect and of the procedure to follow. Cregagh Primary is an NSPCC Keeping Safe school and works with many other organisations, both statutory and non-statutory, to provide the best pastoral care possible.

Our designated team for Safeguarding and Child Protection is listed on the school website and displayed in Reception.

A copy of our Child Protection Policy; Code of Conduct for all employees; all other Pastoral Care Policies and complaints procedures are available in school for those parents who wish to see them.

DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

As in all matters, it is the school's policy to promote healthy, positive attitudes. Health is perceived, not so much in terms of illness and disease, but as a more positive state of well-being. Drugs education forms part of a comprehensive health education programme, which contributes to equipping pupils with the skills to manage their lives effectively and make responsible health decisions.

Guidelines for the management of prescribed medicines are in place and parents must complete a medicine administration form.

Full details can be found in our Drugs Policy, available from school on request.



HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education is an increasingly important focus in Cregagh and is incorporated into many aspects of school life, both in and out of the classroom. Our Healthy Break scheme encourages all pupils to eat a healthy snack for break each day, with Fridays being our 'Treat Day'. Children also enjoy participating in the Daily Mile exercise programme.

We also strongly encourage our pupils to eat a healthy lunch each day. School meals are prepared in accordance with nutritional guidelines and children taking school meals are encouraged to eat broad and balanced diets by being served complete meals. Cregagh Primary School is a nut-free school.

Pupils are permitted to drink water in class, both after exercise and as required throughout the school day to ensure they are sufficiently hydrated.

Healthy lifestyles are studied and encouraged both through classroom teaching and also through various visits from outside agencies, such as Action Cancer and the Belfast Giants. Children learn about sun safety through our "Hats and Shades Day" and we encourage pupils to consider the health benefits of walking or cycling to school.



"Every child is supported by this family of learning to, 'Aspire, Believe, Belong and Achieve'." ETI Inspection Report

CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT

Cregagh Primary is committed to delivering the Northern Ireland Primary Curriculum. The school embraces innovation, while retaining traditional best practice.

The areas of learning are:

- **Language & Literacy (Communication)**
- **Information & Communication Technology**
- **Mathematics & Numeracy**
- **The Arts**
- **The World Around Us**
- **Personal Development & Mutual Understanding**
- **Physical Education**
- **Religious Education**

ASSESSMENT

“At the heart of our school’s ethos lies the belief that every child can make progress, improvements and experience success.”

Each pupil’s individual progress is continuously monitored and tracked throughout their time at Cregagh. This builds on what already happens in the classroom and focuses on continuous monitoring by your child’s teacher about each child’s knowledge, understanding and skills development. Internal assessment is robustly monitored and progress targets are set for all children.

Teachers can use different assessments and you will have the chance to meet your child’s teacher in the first term and talk through their progress in a meaningful way.

Diagnostic assessments, such as Progress in English and Maths assessments (PTE and PTM), will help support your child in their learning by helping teachers to find out if they are having any particular difficulties, or if they are finding their learning too easy and need more of a challenge.

HOW WILL I KNOW HOW MY CHILD IS DOING?

- ‘Meet the Teacher’ afternoons are held in September for each year group.
- Parent-Teacher consultations are held twice a year in October and May.
- An open day takes place in the autumn.
- A comprehensive annual written report is issued in June.
- A summative Record of Achievement is issued in Primary 7 celebrating a child’s achievements, both academic and non-academic, while at Cregagh Primary School.



DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

There is a statutory requirement to make certain information readily available to parents. This includes curriculum details, statements of school policy and formal papers issued by the Department of Education.

Copies are held in the School Office and can be viewed by arrangement with the Principal.

CURRICULUM COMPLAINTS

Complaints about the curriculum policy of the school can be made in writing for consideration by the Board of Governors.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The school policy is to enrol only those children who have reached compulsory school age (i.e. children born on or before 1 July).



PRIMARY 1 INTAKE

Open enrolment criteria and information can be viewed on the school website. Application forms can be obtained from the school office at the beginning of December.

Applications for admission to P1 after the beginning of the school year - criteria as per open enrolment criteria.

PRIMARY 2-7

Criteria as for P1, where and when applicable and determined by the spaces available in each year group up to and including school’s maximum overall enrolment.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

It is the parents’ responsibility to ensure that all information relevant to the admissions criteria is included on the application form (or attached to it).

An open evening for prospective P1 children is held in January with a further Parents’ evening in June followed by an afternoon when the children will meet their class teachers.

The Principal is happy to meet all other prospective pupils and their parents, to talk to them about the school and to show them round the facilities. We feel it is important to meet with you no matter which year group your child is in. The applications process changed in 2018 to a digital method. Please visit the Education Authority’s website for full details and follow the relevant links to begin making an online application to Cregagh Primary School.

LEARNING SUPPORT / SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We pride ourselves that each teacher provides a full programme of work for all children in their class, whatever their ability. Pupils with Special Needs and Specific Learning Difficulties are quickly identified and catered for using the expertise within the school and/or by utilising the advice and support of the Education Authority's Psychology Service.

A range of provision is made for children who may have learning difficulties. The school's special needs policy, which is based on the SEN Code of Practice provides further details and is available on request. Whatever arrangements are proposed, you will be fully consulted. Your support and encouragement will be a key element in helping your child make appropriate progress. The school's highly-trained and experienced Learning Support Coordinator (LSC) is listed on the school website.

CLASS ORGANISATION

We aim to ensure that teaching and learning in every class is purposeful, well planned and matched to the abilities and needs of the children. Teachers employ a variety of teaching approaches; whole class, group and individual, depending on the needs of the children and the requirements of the subject being studied.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Throughout their time at Cregagh, we offer our pupils a wide range of ICT experiences. Learning with technology takes place across the curriculum and the children greatly enjoy using ICT resources in a range of creative ways. All our classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards or SmartTouch screens and we also have a dedicated Computer Suite. Pupils also enjoy using mobile devices such as iPads, laptops and digital recording equipment which open up new opportunities for using ICT: both in and out of the classroom.

Some of the activities pupils currently participate in are: making presentations; designing simple computer games; making movies and animations and much more!

Our Primary Seven pupils have even used html to create their own websites. With advances in technology happening all the time, pupils' work in ICT is always changing, but we're confident that they're well equipped for whatever the future may bring.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important part of school life. It provides children with an opportunity to practise and consolidate work done in school. It encourages the development of self-discipline and independence. It gives you an opportunity to see what your child has been doing in school. Homework is set regularly for all children, at a level appropriate for each individual child.

For P1 children, homework will mainly focus on reading, early mathematical skills and related activities.

P2 and P3 children will continue with reading and mathematics along with the introduction of spellings in P3.

In P4 to P7 a range of learning and written homework will also be included. As your child progresses through the school, homework will gradually become more demanding but less direct parental supervision should be required.

A copy of the school's homework policy is available on request from the Principal.





LIBRARY

We are extremely fortunate to have our own central library, which provides an attractive and welcoming environment to support the promotion of reading. It is well resourced with a variety of fiction, non-fiction and reference material suited to different needs and preferences.

The library is fully computerised and its layout and operation prepare its users for libraries beyond Cregagh. The children are also given the opportunity to use electronic information sources and the adjacent ICT suite provides scope for the development of independent learners.

The success of the library is due to the co-operation between the staff, classroom assistants and P7 children who are involved as 'junior librarians'.



ECO-COUNCIL

Cregagh prides itself on being heavily involved in environmental issues. We operate an active ECO Council and through their success and drive, we have been awarded several ECO Schools' awards in recognition of our efforts.

CHARITIES

Throughout the school we encourage and interest the children in helping people less fortunate than themselves, through a wide range of interesting and diverse fund-raising activities. The great generosity of parents and friends associated with the school means substantial funding can be donated to a wide range of charities.

MUSIC

Music plays a significant role within the curriculum at Cregagh, with all children being given the opportunity to participate in singing, playing simple instruments, composing and listening to a wide range of musical styles. Cregagh Primary School regularly welcomes professional musicians to perform to its pupils.

We work with a variety of musical tutors to provide tuition in a range of instruments at reasonable cost.

At present, we have a school choir of approximately forty children from P4 to P7 and have great fun getting out and about and singing at every opportunity. We have gained a reputation for our high standard of performing and have received invitations to sing at a variety of venues ranging from council buildings, concert halls, churches, hotels and even airports.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education is an important part of our curriculum as we believe that specific attention should be given to the physical development, health and well-being of our pupils.

During each year our pupils participate in athletics, dance, games, gymnastics and in addition the P5, P6 and P7 classes have a series of swimming lessons at Belfast City Council's Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre with a qualified coach.

We facilitate many after-school activities such as football, rugby, netball and cricket.

We teach fundamental movement skills and in doing this we hope to improve body management, coordination, locomotion and manipulation. Our desire is that our pupils will have self-confidence and high self-esteem with a positive attitude towards physical activity.

We are continually striving to encourage our pupils' awareness and understanding of the immense value of the importance of healthy life styles.



"The school fosters an inclusive ethos, reflected in the high expectations for each child and the dedication of staff to encourage all children to reach their full potential. The children embrace diversity; they value, accept and include others in daily learning activities, class discussions, and after-school clubs including the weekly sign classes."

ETI Inspection Report

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Cregagh has always had a focus on developing skills and talents that children can use throughout life. Our wide range of Extra Curricular Activities offered shows the emphasis we place upon it. From football to Movie Club, there is something for everyone to enjoy!

Our school's activity programme, run in partnership with Belfast City Council's Sports Development Programme, aims to develop basic skills in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One before finally putting those talents to test in competitive scenarios in Key Stage Two. The ethos we develop through all our activities is that the children enjoy themselves whilst aiming to be the best they can possibly be.

Throughout all Key Stages, the pupils learn, practise and develop some of the basic skills of hockey, multi ball skills, handball, football and even golf! Weekly practices take place over the school year to extend the children's fundamental movement and talents further.

These sporting activities are extended at Key Stage Two with numerous competitions and matches played against schools in the surrounding area. This allows us to encourage the children to have a competitive edge whilst never forgetting good sportsmanship and sporting etiquette.

We are always looking to develop our programme further so new ideas or initiatives are welcomed.

If the sporting side isn't for you, we provide a wide range of non-sporting activities too. If you are musical why not get involved with our amazing choir or enjoy watching and reviewing films in our Movie Club?

SCHOOL TRIPS

Much emphasis throughout the school curriculum is placed on trips out of school. Last year's trips included many half and full day visits to local places of interest for P1-P7 classes. The highlight of their school experience for many children is the P7 trip to Ardnabannon Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Castlewellan.

These trips have been organised for many years and have always been greatly enjoyed by the pupils who attended. Pupil comments have included:

"The best time of my life!"

"I never thought I could do those things!"

"The activities were all fantastic!"



TRANSFER AFTER PRIMARY

Pupils living in this area are fortunate in being within easy reach of a wide range of post-primary schools. The following are some of the schools to which we have sent pupils in recent years:

- Ashfield High School for Boys
- Ashfield High School for Girls
- Bloomfield Collegiate
- Breda Academy
- Campbell College
- Grosvenor Grammar School
- Hunterhouse College
- Lagan College
- Methodist College
- Royal Belfast Academical Institution
- Victoria College
- Wellington College

THE SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY

The school and its teachers are held in respect by parents and the local community who in turn actively support the work of the school. This is exemplified through our active Parent-Staff Association (PSA) and partnership with local businesses that support our Five Star Award Scheme.

Cregagh Primary uses its involvement in the Extended Schools Programme effectively in meeting the needs of the wider community and nearby schools and youth groups. The school works closely with other relevant statutory and voluntary agencies whose work impacts on education, especially Health, Social Services, and the Public Library Service.

Cregagh Primary School is committed to maintaining and developing its existing close links with its local Churches, Barnardo's Children's Charity, The National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS), Belfast City Council, Cregagh Community Association, the Ulster Scots Agency, Action Deaf Youth and the Cregagh Interagency Forum.

"The children aspire to do their best, believe in themselves, have a strong sense of belonging at school and achieve in line with their ability. The groups of children who spoke with inspectors told us they enjoy school very much. They are proud of their school and feel valued by the staff. The staff know and support all the children well in their learning."

ETI Inspection Report

FURTHER QUOTATIONS FROM ETI INSPECTION REPORT:

“The wellbeing of the children is evidenced through the high levels of care, the high expectations for every child and the supportive working relationships across the school. Consequently, the children feel safe, well cared for and enjoy their learning. At the time of the inspection, the evidence provided by the school demonstrates that the arrangements for child protection align to the current statutory guidance.”

“The school prioritises well the health, wellbeing and safety of the children, through the high levels of care shown by staff to the children and the positive interactions at all levels. In discussions with groups of children, they told us how they learn to manage their emotions; keep themselves safe in school, in the community and online; and use a range of strategies to address bullying, eat healthily and engage in regular physical activity. They value how the staff plan engaging events and opportunities to benefit from the after-school clubs, healthy break scheme, and the daily mile in helping them to lead healthy lifestyles.”

“The highly effective provision for the children in the deaf unit is characterised by a range of well-considered approaches, including the use of assistive technology and sign language. The well-planned daily opportunities for the deaf children to learn and socialise with their hearing peers are impacting positively on all of the children in the school, in particular, improved self-confidence and well-developed talking and listening skills.”

“The children aspire to do their best, believe in themselves, have a strong sense of belonging at school and achieve in line with their ability. The children’s successes are celebrated daily through the staff’s positive praise, encouragement and feedback. Good attendance is encouraged and is acknowledged through assemblies and the ‘Cregagh Champions’ scheme reinforces high aspirations and self-belief and awards, including ‘The Little Ray of Sunshine’ embed the importance of personal and social success. Vibrant displays, social media posts and events capture well the many ways the children experience success. Thoughtful approaches to remembrance pay tribute to those from the school community who have passed away.”

“The strong sense of a family of learning is enhanced by support from a wide range of external agencies and links across the community, including local churches, sports clubs, charities and the health and social services. The children benefit from the local council and extensive business funding, which has enhanced significantly the quality of the learning environment, including access to the community multi-purpose pitch. The family hub is a valuable resource for the school community, including the parental workshops and access to counselling services. Parents/carers support the school well through the wide range of social and fundraising events organised by the PSA.”

The school has made every effort to ensure that the information provided in this prospectus is correct at the time of going to print but can accept no responsibility for any error or omission. It should not be assumed that it will remain current throughout the school year.

If significant changes to the above information are envisaged, notice giving details and effective dates will be posted on the school website.

We are delighted to welcome your family to Cregagh Primary School and hope your association with us will be productive and enjoyable.





CREGAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

‘Together, we make a difference’
PROSPECTUS

CREGAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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