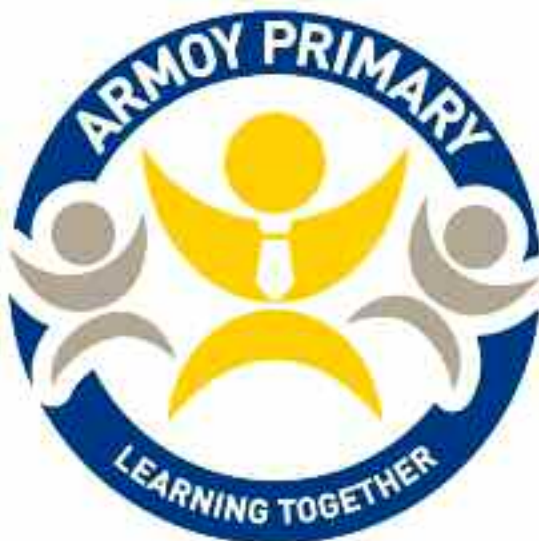




# Armoy Primary School



## Prospectus



# *“Pupils, Parents, Staff and Community... Learning Together.”*

## Contents

3	Welcome to Armoy Primary School
4	School Organisation
4	School Policy
4	The Curriculum
5	Shard Education
5	The Stages of Learning
5	Homework
6	Charging and Remissions
6	Our Uniform
7	P.T.A. / Friends of Armoy Primary School
7	School Holidays
7	The School Day
8	Your Child's Progress
8	Special Educational Needs
9	Extra Curricular Activities
9	Extended School
10	Admission Criteria
10	Applications and Admissions
10	Pastoral Care
10	Complaints Procedure







# Welcome to Armoy Primary School

Dear Parents/Guardians  
I am delighted that you have taken the time to look through our prospectus. Perhaps you have visited Armoy Primary, if not you are most welcome to make an appointment to view the school where a warm welcome awaits!



Together we can make the next seven years in school a rewarding experience for your child and, hopefully, some of the happiest times in your child's life.

Children are at the heart of our school. Our committed team of teachers and assistants provide a safe, friendly environment in which our children are able to grow in confidence, to learn and to develop their talents and abilities in preparation for tomorrow's world and their future in it.

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make. We hope that this prospectus not only gives you the information that you need, but also a flavour of the caring, friendly atmosphere that exists.

We welcome children of all abilities, of all faiths and of none.

I hope that you will choose Armoy Primary and that this will be the beginning of your child's educational journey with us. Join us on our journey... learning together.

We value every child and aim to give every pupil the opportunity to experience success in all areas of development. But our expectations can only be fulfilled if we work effectively in partnership, with you, the parents.

Yours sincerely  
Mrs C Steele,  
*Principal*







## School Organisation

The Principal, Mrs Steele, and the Senior Teachers, effectively manage the school's resources and lead the staff on a day to day basis. The responsibility for the running of the school, including appointment of staff, lies with the Board of Governors, consisting of representatives from the Education Authority Northern Ireland, the local churches, parents and staff. The Governors at Armoy Primary School are heavily involved in all aspects of school life. Armoy Primary School is a controlled, co-educational school. The current enrolment is 97 pupils from Primary 1 to 7. The schools staffing compliment is Principal plus 5 teaching staff and with 7 non-teaching staff.

## School Policy

Armoy Primary School aims to educate your child to his/her full potential in a happy, caring environment, where they learn to be valuable contributors to the society in which they live. We have high expectations for our pupils in all areas of their development - academic, social, physical and emotional.



## The Curriculum

There are seven areas of learning taught within the Key Stages;

- **Language and Literacy**
- **Mathematics and Numeracy**
- **The World Around Us (incorporating Geography, History and Science and Technology)**
- **Personal Development and Mutual Understanding**
- **The Arts (including Art and Design, Music and Drama)**
- **Religious Education**
- **Physical Education**







## Shared Education

Pupils participate in shared learning with pupils from St Olcan's Primary School in each class. Many of our pupils start together in Armoy Community Playgroup before moving on to either Armoy Primary School or St Olcan's Primary School. Our classes and activities are well structured and after more than 20 years of working together, we are very proud of the high quality teaching and learning which takes place.

Our shared work doesn't stop there - we are very proud of the international recognition for our shared classroom project in Uganda. For the past six years, we have established connections with Truth Primary In North East Uganda, we have had teacher exchange visits and we have shared ideas and resources. We also sponsor a pupil called Edison Odulai who is in Primary 6. We look forward to watching Edison grow up and see how our project continues to develop.

## The Stages of Learning

### Foundation Stage (P1 & P2)

Learning must be enjoyable therefore the Foundation Stage is broad and stimulating, providing the foundation for the development of concepts. Through practical activity, pupils have the freedom to explore, create and experience learning in a variety of contexts.



### Key Stage 1 (P3 & P4)

During Key Stage 1, pupils consolidate and build on their early literacy and numeracy skills. They develop independence in reading and writing, and extend their understanding of mathematical concepts: It is at this stage that formal assessment begins, with the cross-curricular skills of Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT being assessed at the end of Primary 4.

### Key Stage 2 (P5, P6 & P7)

This stage is where we prepare our pupils for the transition to the post-primary phase. The pupils develop skills which enable them to become independent, confident learners in a challenging and supportive environment. Pupils are assessed throughout this key stage identifying and extending the abilities of each individual child.

## Homework

Homework is set for the following reasons:

- **It helps to consolidate work which your child has been doing in school. No home work will be set which has not been covered already in class.**
- **It lets you, the parent, see what your child has been learning in school.**
- **A project or similar investigative piece of work may be set to allow the child to explore a subject in more depth and for parents and children to work together in a creative way.**

Homework is set at the beginning of the week and pupils / parents can self manage the tasks allowing for children to attend other clubs or activities during the week.

All classes use Seesaw to communicate with parents and to share their child successes in and out of school.





The school has set down the following recommended times for written homework:

P3 10-15 minutes  
 P4 15-20 minutes  
 P5 25-30 minutes  
 P6 30-40 minutes  
 P7 35-45 minutes

If your child regularly spends more time than recommended on homework you should contact the class teacher. The school expects the same high standard of work in written homework as of the work done in class.

## Charging and Remissions

Armoy Primary use an online payment system. All parents will book and pay for meals, school trips and uniform items online safely.

It is the policy of the school to request parents cover the cost of admission and transport on Educational and Residential visits, costs associated with optional extras such as theatre visits, tuition in musical instrument / swimming instruction. Parents are also responsible for covering the cost of replacing novels or learning materials which the pupil may have lost or damaged.

## Our Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear school uniform as we feel that it gives each child a sense of belonging and pride in the school.

### Girls

Grey pinafore or skirt  
 Navy jumper / cardigan with crest  
 White blouse  
 School tie  
 White socks / dark tights

Strong black shoes (*no steel toe caps*)

### Boys

Navy jumper with crest  
 White / grey shirt  
 School tie  
 Grey / black / navy socks  
 Strong black shoes (*no steel toe caps*)

### Girls Summer Term

Blue check gingham dress  
 White socks

### Boys Summer Term

Plain white Polo shirt (*crest optional*) replacing shirt / tie.







## P.T.A. / Friends of Armoy Primary School

We are fortunate to have a committed group of parents who form the P.T.A. committee with some of the teachers. As a parent with a child at Armoy Primary School you are automatically a member. We are very proud of the partnership which exists and this fosters good relationships between staff and parents.

### Aims of P.T.A.

- **To organise events for pupils' enjoyment**
- **To raise funds for the school**
- **To further develop links with the school**
- **To organise events to enable parents to socialize.**

Any monies raised are to directly benefit the children.

## School Holidays

Parents are provided with a calendar in June outlining the pupil holidays for the next school year. This is provided in the P1 induction pack. We would ask parents to avoid booking holidays during term time.



## The School Day

Early Morning Club: 7.45am - 8.45am

School Starts: 8.50am  
(pupils may arrive from 8.45am)

Break Time: 10.30am - 10.45am

Lunch Time: 12.15pm - 1.00pm

Home Time: P1 - 12.15 pm (during September)  
2.00pm thereafter

P2 & P3: 2.00pm P4 - P7: 3.00pm

\* School finishes at 2.00pm for all pupils every Friday

2-5 Club: 2.00pm - 5.00pm daily (by arrangement)

Please note: Pupils involved in after-school activities will usually be finished at 4.00pm.







## Your Child's Progress

At Armoy Primary School, our aim is to foster a strong partnership with each parent. By sharing consistent goals and information, we believe each child will strive to reach their full potential. During the school year there will be a number of opportunities to discuss your child's progress.

**Parent/Teacher Consultations:** During the year, (October / February) meetings are arranged to discuss your child's progress. However, parents / guardians are welcome to meet the teacher at any stage during the year to address any concerns.

**Written Report:** Every parent receives a written report of their child's progress in June each year.

## Special Educational Needs

At Armoy Primary we are very proud of our Additional Needs provision. Teachers implement differentiated lessons to meet the needs of every child, they work one to one or in small groups before, during and after school.

Our four trained Teaching Assistants complete tasks and specialist programmes assigned by a class teacher or the Principal.

All staff have undergone specialist training in Autism and Dyslexia identification and support, and Intervention programmes such as Reading Together, Catch Up Spelling, Catch Up Literacy, Catch Up Numeracy and Reading Recovery continue to prove very successful.

Children requiring additional help with reading and numeracy skills are diagnosed through an observation of behaviour, performance in class and formal assessment. We also provide additional teaching for our more able pupils in Primaries 4-7, to enhance and stretch their understanding and ability in literacy and/or numeracy. Whenever it is appropriate the SEN coordinator liaises with the School Psychology Service and other external agencies concerned with the child's welfare. Parental involvement is an important part of this programme.

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







## Extra Curricular Activities

We, at Armoy Primary School, encourage our pupils to participate in a wide variety of activities organised by class teachers.

These include:

- **Cycling Proficiency**
- **Dance**
- **Football**
- **Junior and Senior choirs**
- **Netball**
- **Tag Rugby**
- **Scripture Union**
- **Hockey**
- **Boxercise**
- **Cross Country.**



## Extended School

### Adults

We offer a range of activities and courses for parents; these include computer courses in partnership with Northern Regional College, first-aid courses, positive parenting, internet safety classes and evenings designed to support parents with literacy and numeracy activities for their children.

### Families

We endeavour to host fun activities for the whole family. One of our favourite ventures has been Super Saturdays where families have the opportunity to try something a little bit different at the weekend. We have been on rope courses and climbing walls - with many more adventures at Outdoor activity centres still to be had!

### Children

School opens at 7.45am for our Early Morning Club. We offer a range of sports, crafts and games to children from P1 to P7. Laughter can be heard echoing through the corridors early in the morning as pupils and staff get ready to start the day. We also offer after-school provision from 2.00pm to 5.00pm each day. A minimum number of pupils is required and a pupils place needs to be booked by 9.30am. We provide Irish dance, tag-rugby, instrument tuition and holiday schemes during the summer months amongst many other things. We listen to our pupils and meet their needs and interests.

### Please Note:

*The information provided in this prospectus is correct at October 2020. If any significant changes to the above information are envisaged, notes will be circulated in advance.*





## Admission Criteria

A child who is 4 years on or before 1st July can be admitted to school the following September, providing there are places available. The schools admission policy is available on request.

Application is in January and an Open Evening takes place in December each year, with an Open Morning in early January. The Principal would be pleased to show interested parents around the school at any time and have a chat. In the first instance, a suitable time should be arranged via the school office or contact us on our email address - or even Facebook! Our induction programme at Armoy Primary School allows P1 children to visit their teacher and classroom before they officially begin in September, hopefully avoiding any anxious moments. The Education Authority Northern Ireland publishes enrolment information each December for all schools in the Moyle Council areas. Copies are available free of charge from the school.

## Applications and Admissions

The DENI have set our admissions number at 17.

Year	Applications	Received Pupils Admitted	Total Pupils in School
2017/18	16	16	85
2018/19	17	17	89
2019/20	14	17	97



## Pastoral Care

All the staff at Armoy Primary endeavour to provide a safe, secure and happy learning environment. Our pastoral care policies include, Safeguarding, Positive Behaviour, Anti-Bullying, Drug Education, First Aid, Code of Conduct for teaching and non-teaching staff. All the policies are available on request from the school office or may be viewed on our school website.

## Complaints Procedure

Parent who wish to register a complaint against any employee of the school, either teaching or non-teaching, should do so by contacting the Principal. Should a complaint be against the Principal, the Chairman of the Board of Governors should be contacted. We encourage parents to make contact with the school, if they have any areas of concern. In this way, we would hope to resolve issues before they escalate.

*\*Information correct at October 2020*











### **Armoy Primary School**

Principal: **Mrs C Steele** Chair of Governors: **Mr Paul Paynter**  
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