



Curriculum Policy

Reviewed: February 2022

Ratified by the Board of Governors: 21st February 2022

Next review date: February 2025

Mission Statement

Loughries Integrated Primary School fosters a nurturing environment which encourages, supports, develops and challenges each child to reach their full potential. We endeavour to equip our pupils with the skills and qualities needed to work together for a shared future.

Aims for our school

We believe that each child will succeed through:

- A warm, caring and stimulating environment
- A culture of support, rapport, challenge and encouragement
- A rich, varied, up-to-date range of learning resources
- A broad, balanced and challenging curriculum
- Innovative teaching and investigative approaches to learning
- An enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits
- Effective learning partnerships between school, home and the community We demonstrate our commitment through:
- Continually evaluating and improving all that we do
- Effectively monitoring standards of provision
- Collaborating towards common goals

Aims for our children

We aim for our children to:

- Have high self-esteem, based on self-respect, respect for others and their environment
- Acquire attitudes of acceptance, tolerance, equality, honesty and trust
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour and actions
- Achieve their best across all areas of the curriculum
- Develop a range of communication, practical, technological and life skills
- Work independently, creatively and collaboratively
- Become confident, well-motivated and inquisitive lifelong learners
- Enjoy their time at Loughries Integrated Primary School and create happy memories.

Integrated Ethos

As an integrated primary school we provide a learning environment where children from Catholic and Protestant backgrounds, as well as those of other faiths and none, can learn with, from and about each other. Our school is committed to the principles of Integrated Education through

Equality, Faith & Values, Parental Involvement and Social Responsibility as outlined by the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education.

Our Motto:

Learn, Integrate, Participate, Succeed.

The Northern Ireland Curriculum

At Loughries we endeavour to provide a broad and balanced curriculum appropriate to the individual needs of each child, enabling them to take advantage of every learning opportunity, to experience success and to reach his or her full potential. Staff will ensure that pupils are provided with the opportunity to develop thinking skills – tools that go beyond the acquisition of knowledge to search for meaning, apply ideas, analyse patterns and relationships, create and design something new and monitor and evaluate their own progress. To ensure each pupil is provided with the opportunity to develop their full potential, the curriculum will be delivered by staff having regard to the Pastoral Care Policy. In particular, the requirements of the Positive Behaviour Policy will be paramount in ensuring that each child feels safe, secure and valued in a positive environment that is conducive to stimulating holistic development.

The learning opportunities provided through the Northern Ireland Curriculum should help young people to develop as:

Individuals	Contributors to Society	Contributors to the Economy and Environment
Throughout the primary stages teachers should help children to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• develop self-confidence, self-esteem and self-discipline;• understand their own and others' feelings and emotions;• develop the ability to talk about how they feel;• develop their motivation to learn and their individual creative potential;• listen to and interact positively with others;• explore and understand how others live; (Personal and Mutual Understanding)• have an understanding of healthy eating and the importance of exercise;• develop positive attitudes towards an active and healthy	Throughout the primary stages teachers should help children to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• become aware of some of their rights and responsibilities;• become aware of some of the issues and problems in society;• contribute to creating a better world for those around them; (Citizenship)• develop an awareness and respect for: - the different lifestyles of others; - similarities and differences in families and people in the wider community;• understand some of their own and others' cultural traditions;	Throughout the primary stages teachers should help children to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• develop literacy, numeracy and ICT skills;• develop their aptitudes, abilities and creativity;• be willing to expand their learning and performance throughout their lives;• work independently and as a member of a team;• develop perseverance, initiative and flexibility;• be willing to take calculated risks when appropriate;• use critical and creative thinking to solve problems and make decisions;• identify the main reasons why people set up their own business. (Employability)

lifestyle, relationships, personal growth and change; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • become aware of key issues which affect their physical, social and mental well-being and that of others; • develop an awareness of their own personal safety; (Personal Health) • develop an awareness of right and wrong; • develop an awareness of how their actions can affect others; • understand that values, choices and decisions should be informed by a sense of fairness; • take responsibility for their actions; • develop tolerance and mutual respect for others; (Moral Character) • develop a sense of awe and wonder about the world around them. (Spiritual Understanding) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be aware of how we rely on each other; (Cultural Understanding) • be aware of, and use, information available to us through all sorts of media; • become aware of the potential impact of media in influencing our personal views, choices and decisions; (Media Awareness) • become aware of the imbalances in the world around us, at both a local and a global level; • become aware of the potential impact of developments upon the lives of others. (Ethical Awareness) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn to manage their money and build up savings; • interpret information in order to make informed choices as consumers; • develop an understanding of the importance of using resources carefully in the classroom; • develop an awareness of some environmental issues; (Economic Awareness) • appreciate the environment and their role in maintaining and improving it; • understand how actions can affect the environment. (Education for Sustainable Development)
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<file:///N:/Downloads/The%20Northern%20Ireland%20Curriculum%20-%20Primary.pdf>

The above table is on page 4 of the Northern Ireland Curriculum Book. Follow link above.

The primary phase for our school comprises:

The Foundation Stage: P1/2

Key Stage 1: P3/4

Key Stage 2: P5/6 and P7.

STRUCTURE OF THE PRIMARY CURRICULUM

The curriculum for the three stages is set out in six Areas of Learning. Although the Areas of Learning are set out separately teachers should, where appropriate, integrate learning across the six areas to make relevant connections for children. Teachers have considerable flexibility to select from within the learning areas those aspects they consider appropriate to the ability and interests of their pupils.

The Areas are:

- 1 Language and Literacy (including Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing; schools are also encouraged to teach additional languages);
- 2 Mathematics and Numeracy (focusing on the development of mathematical concepts and numeracy across the curriculum);
- 3 The Arts (including Art and Design, Drama and Music);
- 4 The World Around Us (focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding in Geography, History and Science and Technology);
- 5 Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (focusing on emotional development, social skills, learning to learn, health, relationships and sexuality education and mutual understanding in the local and global community);
- 6 Physical Education (focusing on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding through play and a range of physical activities).

RE

At Loughries our RE programme is based upon the core syllabus for Northern Ireland. Our ethos is Christian and non-denominational. Pupils will be introduced to the ideas, beliefs and practices of the major world religions, in a manner appropriate to their age and ability, and in line with the NI Curriculum.

RE has a role to play within the context of the curriculum through presenting young people with chances to develop their personal understanding and enhance their spiritual and ethical awareness. A parent has the right to withdraw their child from all or part of RE and if they wish to do this they should inform the Principal in writing.

Each year the R.E. co-ordinator is responsible for enquiring if there are Parents/Carers who wish their child to receive Sacramental Preparation. The Teaching Resource File used is called Grow in Love.