

A young girl with blonde hair tied back, wearing a blue school cardigan over a white collared shirt and a dark grey zip-up top, is smiling at the camera. She is sitting at a red table, using black-handled scissors to cut a piece of yellow paper. In the background, there is a wooden door and a blue bulletin board with yellow papers pinned to it. The text "Welcome to" is written in a white, italicized serif font at the top of the image.

Welcome to

Broughshane

Primary School & Nursery Unit

Sept 2026 – June 2027



Broughshane Primary School & Nursery Unit

Dec 2025

Principal Welcome

On behalf of the Board of Governors and our staff team, it is my pleasure to introduce you to Broughshane Primary School & Nursery Unit. The school was built in 1964 and our Nursery Unit added in 2004. We presently provide education for young people from the age of 3 to 11 years.

We are ambitious for our children and aim to offer the highest quality educational experiences possible. An extremely dedicated, enthusiastic and creative staff team meets the needs of all our pupils in a caring, warm and friendly environment. Each child will be recognised, developed and celebrated in all aspects of learning and in life.

None of us know what the future looks like. In embracing a rapidly changing world, we are on an extremely ambitious journey that will place the tools for learning into the hands of our children. Developing a '**Growth Mindset**', expanding '**Thinking Skills**' and understanding the '**How**' of learning is our core business. Good thinking motivates and excites. It challenges and develops creative minds and emotionally engages children in, what we hope will become, life-long learning.

I hope that we can enjoy the journey.....together!

'The pastoral care of the children is given a high priority throughout the school and nursery unit. The children's behaviours and manners are exemplary; they are confident and motivated to achieve their best'.

ETI Report



School Contact

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Chairperson of
the Board of Governors
Dr Andrew Brown

Principal
Mr Richard Topping

Vice-Principal
Mrs Paula Talbot

Our Staff Team

Board of Governors		Non-Teaching Staff	
Chairperson	Dr A Brown	Senior Clerical Officer	Mrs L Laverty
Vice-Chairperson	Rev R Agnew		Mrs A McKeown
Transferor Representatives	Dr A Brown	Building Supervisor	Mr D Robinson
	Rev R Agnew	Cleaning Staff	Mr D Donaghy Mrs M McGavock
	Mr R Hood	Kitchen Unit Manager	Mrs R McKee
EA Representatives	Rev J Blue	Nursery Assistants	Mrs J Hastings Mrs K Boyle
	Mr R Willighan	Foundation Stage Assistants	Mrs P Robinson Mrs W McBurney Mrs G Rodgers
	Mr R McMullan		
Parent Representatives	Mrs V Lucas		
	Mrs J Robinson		
Teacher Representative	Mrs P Talbot		
Teaching Staff		Learning Support Assistants (SEN)	
Mrs A Steenson	Mrs L McIlvenna	Miss O Houston	Mrs S Anderson
Mrs S Ballantine	Mrs J Eley	Mrs V Coleman	Mrs E Taggart
Mrs L Shields	Mrs E Calder	Miss R Campbell	Mrs P Dickey
Mrs P Talbot	Miss S Galloway	Miss R Armstrong	Mrs R Allen
Mrs L Gallick	Mrs K McCafferty	Miss L Perry	Mrs J Moore
Miss S Kane	Mrs T Patterson	Miss H Weir	Mrs S Brown
Ms K Coulter	Miss C Neill	Mrs P Dickey	
EA Peripatetic Music Support		School Crossing Patrol	Miss A Reid
Mr G Murray	Brass		
Mr W Rolt	Strings		



‘The school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.’

ETI Report

School Aims

We continue to develop an environment which is child centred, where every child is valued, treated as an individual, is inspired, and is given the opportunity to acquire knowledge and extend and enrich his/her experiences.

Our specific aims are: -

- To ensure that the highest standard of care is exercised, supported and evident in all child protection and safeguarding arrangements and practice.
- To help each child acquire and develop skills through high quality, creative and innovative teaching that is offered by enthusiastic, highly motivated and informed staff.
- To continually enhance learning and teaching through the effective implementation of strategies that focus on: -

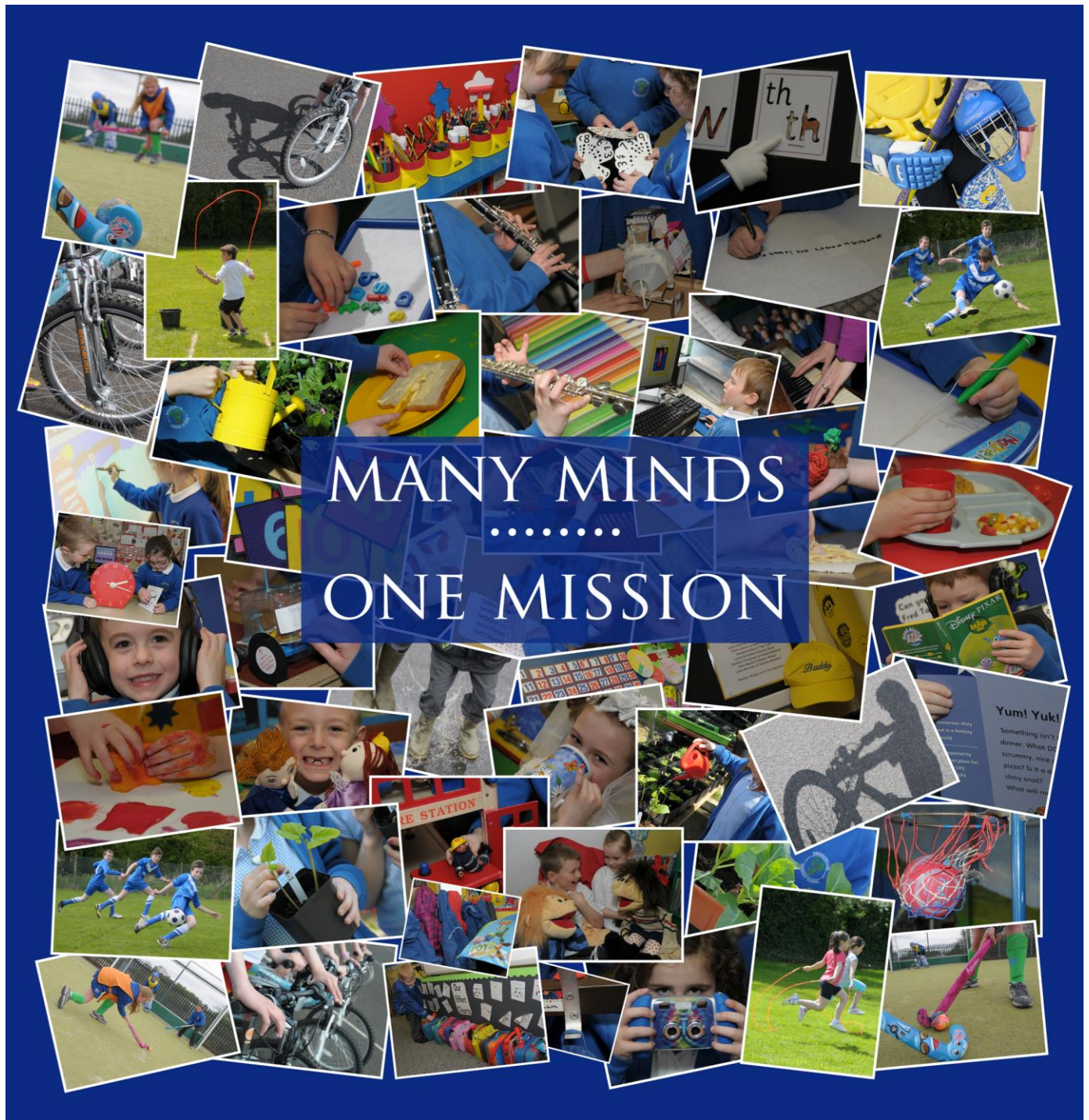
- 1. The Learning Environment*
- 2. A Growth Mind-set*
- 3. Brain Development*
- 4. Multiple Intelligence*
- 5. Thinking Skills*
- 6. Formative Assessment*

- To develop each child's confidence, ability and maturity in all aspects of school life and at home.
- To provide children with a range of experiences to improve their learning and thinking skills, and to assist them to become independent, self-motivated and flexible learners.

- To develop each child to his or her full potential, through moral, spiritual, physical, cultural and aesthetic experiences.
- To encourage each child to take account of the feelings, views and needs of others, respect diversity and develop in each child the social skills required as a member of a community, both in and out of school.
- To ensure that sustained improvement is developed and achieved through continual self-evaluation and self-assessment.
- To foster, value and encourage partnership between school, parents, families and the community.
- To promote physical development and healthy choices through a sound programme of health and physical education.
- To foster a love and appreciation of art, music and literature and encourage creative talents.
- To make each child aware of the need to protect and respect our environment and the earth's resources.
- Promote close links between home, school and the community.



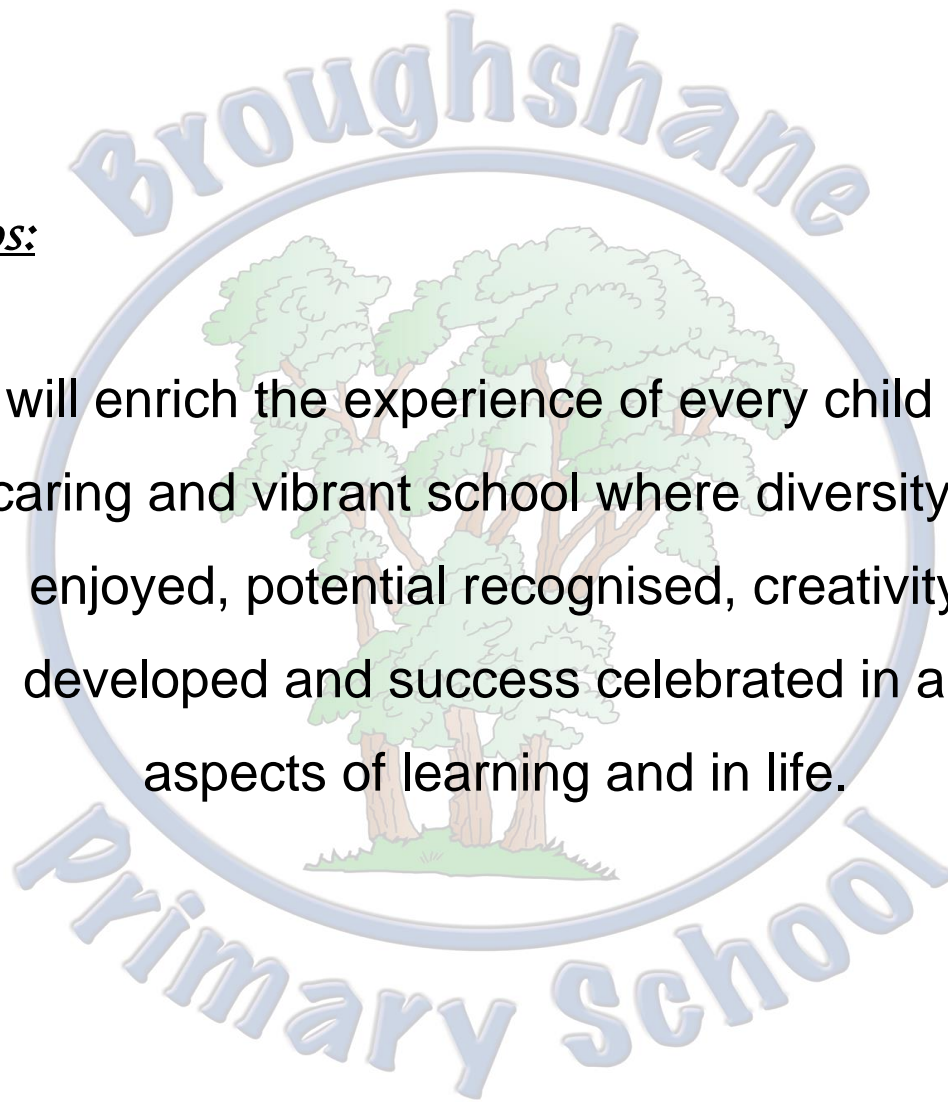
Ethos, Vision and Mission Statements



Broughshane Primary School *and* **Nursery Unit**

Our Ethos:

We will enrich the experience of every child in our caring and vibrant school where diversity is enjoyed, potential recognised, creativity developed and success celebrated in all aspects of learning and in life.



Broughshane Primary School and Nursery Unit

Our Vision:

MANY MINDS.....

ONE MISSION

Our Mission:

Have **PRIDE** in Broughshane Primary School

Core Values:

Friendship	Truth
Fairness	Wisdom
Compassion	Co-operation
Commitment	Responsibility
Respect	Empowerment

Broughshane Primary School and Nursery Unit

Our Mission:

Have **PRIDE** in Broughshane Primary School

Personal Achievement

Everyone is a champion, achieving their personal best, developing new interests, talents and self-confidence.

Respect and Friendship

Developing friendships for life through respecting ourselves, valuing others and supporting our community.

Inspire

Intellectual curiosity through innovative teaching and an investigative approach to learning.

Determination and Courage

Developing confidence and self-esteem in pupils so they are able to take on life's challenges and stand up for what is right.

Excellence

A celebration of everyone's strengths and achievements enabling life-long learning.



'Children's thinking skills and personal capabilities are developed effectively through the opportunities they have to work collaboratively, take decisions and be creative.'

ETI Report

The School Day: Nursery

Arrival Time	8.45am
Learning Commences	9.00am
Break	10.00am
Home Time	11.30am



The School Day: Primary

Breakfast Club	8.00am – 9.00am
Arrival & 'Settling In'	8.30am – 9.10am
Learning Starts	9.10am
Break Time	10.30am – 10.45am
Home Time	2.00pm (Year 1-2 Daily) 3.00pm (Year 3: Mon & Tues) 2.00pm (Year 3: Wed- Friday) 3.00pm (Year 4-7 Daily)



Leaving School

Nursery and Year 1 – Year 3 children should not be expected to go home themselves. In the interest of safety, all Year 1 – Year 7 children will not be allowed to leave the premises during school hours unless a written request / phone call is received. Parents are then expected to personally collect their child from school. Children must be signed out and the reason for collection recorded by the parent at the main school office.





Breakfast Club

Our new, supervised breakfast club is available between 8.00am – 9.00am daily. Children can attend the club on the day(s) of their choice with payment being made on the day. Healthy options include cereal, toast, fruit, milk, water and fruit juice.

Break Time

Our school encourages and promotes a healthy eating policy that is well supported by parents. At break-time only healthy snacks are encouraged. Nursery staff prepare break for the children daily. Pupils in Year 1-7 can choose to buy healthy options prepared daily on site in our 5* rated canteen.

School Meals: Year 1 - 7

Our school canteen offers healthy, balanced and nutritious meals at lunch times daily. Children in Year 1-3 pre-order their meals via the school app for the week ahead. Year 4-7 children simply pay for their meals on the day(s) of their choice.

Packed Lunch

Children from P1 – P7 can bring a packed lunch instead of taking a school dinner. These will be eaten in their classrooms, supervised by staff. Parents can decide what to include in these, but we would always encourage healthy choices at break and at lunch.

Food Allergies

We are happy to meet the needs of all our children. Canteen staff are generally able to accommodate individual pupil requirements. We will always ask parents to make allergies known and discuss this with you at the start of each academic year or where changes in dietary requirements arise.



'The children develop very good social skills and demonstrate a positive disposition towards their learning about which they have the confidence and skills to talk with their peers, teachers and visitors.'

ETI Report

School Uniform

It is school policy that our pupils should wear school uniform choosing from: -

Nursery

Blue sweatshirt with logo
White polo shirt
Blue/Black jogging bottoms

Boys Year 1 - 7


Grey trousers/shorts
School sweatshirt (round-neck)
Blue fleece with school logo
White polo shirt with school logo
Grey/black socks
Black shoes

Girls Year 1 - 7

Grey pinafore/skirt
Grey trousers/shorts
Grey tights/white socks
School sweatshirt (round-neck)
School Cardigan
Blue fleece with school logo
White polo shirt with school logo
Black shoes
Light blue/white checked gingham summer dress
Matching summer footwear



Learning at Broughshane Primary School

A young boy with brown hair, wearing a white polo shirt with a school crest and dark trousers, stands on a wooden play structure in a schoolyard. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a grassy area, a chain-link fence, and trees. A wooden climbing frame is visible to the right.

'The teachers provide a stimulating learning environment for literacy and mathematics which promotes the children's curiosity and thinking skills. They plan effectively to develop progressively the children's reading skills to enable the children to write using different genres.'

ETI Report

In Focus: The Curriculum

The school follows the Programmes of Study laid down in the New Revised Northern Ireland Curriculum. There are leaders for each subject area and detailed schemes of work. Regular staff development sessions facilitate the review of learning and teaching in all areas of the curriculum and professional practice.

Nursery Curriculum: Core Areas of Learning

- The Arts
- Language Development
- Early Mathematical Experiences
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development and Movement
- The World Around Us



Primary Curriculum

There are 3 stages of the primary curriculum:

- **Foundation Stage** Year 1 and Year 2
- **Key Stage 1** Year 3 and Year 4
- **Key Stage 2** Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7

Primary Curriculum: Areas of Learning

- Language and Literacy
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- The Arts
- Personal Development and Mutual Understanding
- Physical development and Movement
- The World Around Us



In Focus: The Curriculum

ICT

All classrooms are fitted with interactive boards, and we have a dedicated computer suite with 30 machines. All children have access to a range of interactive resources including iPad's, laptops, beebots, and roamers. E-safety is a critical component of our work, and our children are taught how to keep safe by learning how to use technology responsibly in school and at home.



Music

Music is vibrant in our school. Children actively engage in class music, and many perform in our school orchestra and choirs in and out of school. Specialist tuition from EA tutors in Strings, Brass and Woodwind is available at an additional charge. Pupils routinely choose to participate in the external Associated Board / Trinity graded examinations successfully throughout the year.

Health, Well-Being and Physical Education

Children are encouraged to adopt healthy habits and to learn about mental wealth. They actively participate in P.E, Dance, Games, Athletics, Swimming, Football, Netball and Hockey etc. A wide range of after school activities supplement our curricular programme throughout the year.



Drama

Drama is actively promoted both in class and as part of our after-school program of events. What our children can achieve in our major Nursery and Primary school Christmas productions is truly quite remarkable. Staff expertise in performing arts is freely shared to bring the best out of our young people on stage.

Religious Education

Collective worship at morning assembly and the curriculum for religious education are entirely non-denominational. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in assembly or R.E. lessons have the right not to. Any such request can be made directly to the Principal.

Shared Education

We enjoy a well-established link with St. Patrick's PS, Loughguile. The aim of the project is to improve children and young people's health, well-being and life opportunities. The core values of equality, respect and tolerance are intrinsic in all aspects of the work between our schools and across all year groups.

PDMU

This is a strong feature of our work in school. Children are encouraged to learn about themselves and to understand how they think and learn best. Strong emphasis is placed on physical and emotional health. Of paramount importance is safety and well-being. External providers often support us in this critical area.



In Focus: Pastoral Care

We offer an environment which is child centred, where every child is valued, treated as an individual, is inspired, and is given the opportunity to acquire knowledge and extend and enrich his/her experiences. The care of our children is paramount.



The positive attitudes and excellent standards of behaviour we enjoy are a direct result of children who:-

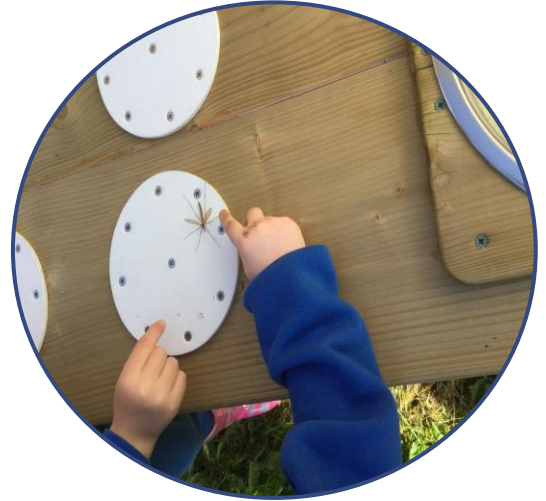
1. Are treated with respect and who are deeply valued by all staff.
2. Respect themselves and others.
3. Feel safe and secure within an atmosphere of honesty, openness and trust.
4. Are supported, nurtured and encouraged to reach their full potential.
5. Experience high quality teaching and learning.

Our children know that their worries and concerns will be listened to sensitively and sympathetically. Mrs Ballantine (Designated Teacher), in conjunction with the principal and staff, ensure that each child is encouraged to respond personally and appropriately in situations that directly affect their welfare. We make full use of EA and external agencies to help meet the needs of each child individually. This includes, for example, facilitating access to services like: -

- The Family Hub
- Action for Children
- CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)
- Barnardos Counselling
- Cruse Bereavement Counselling

In Focus: Special Educational Needs

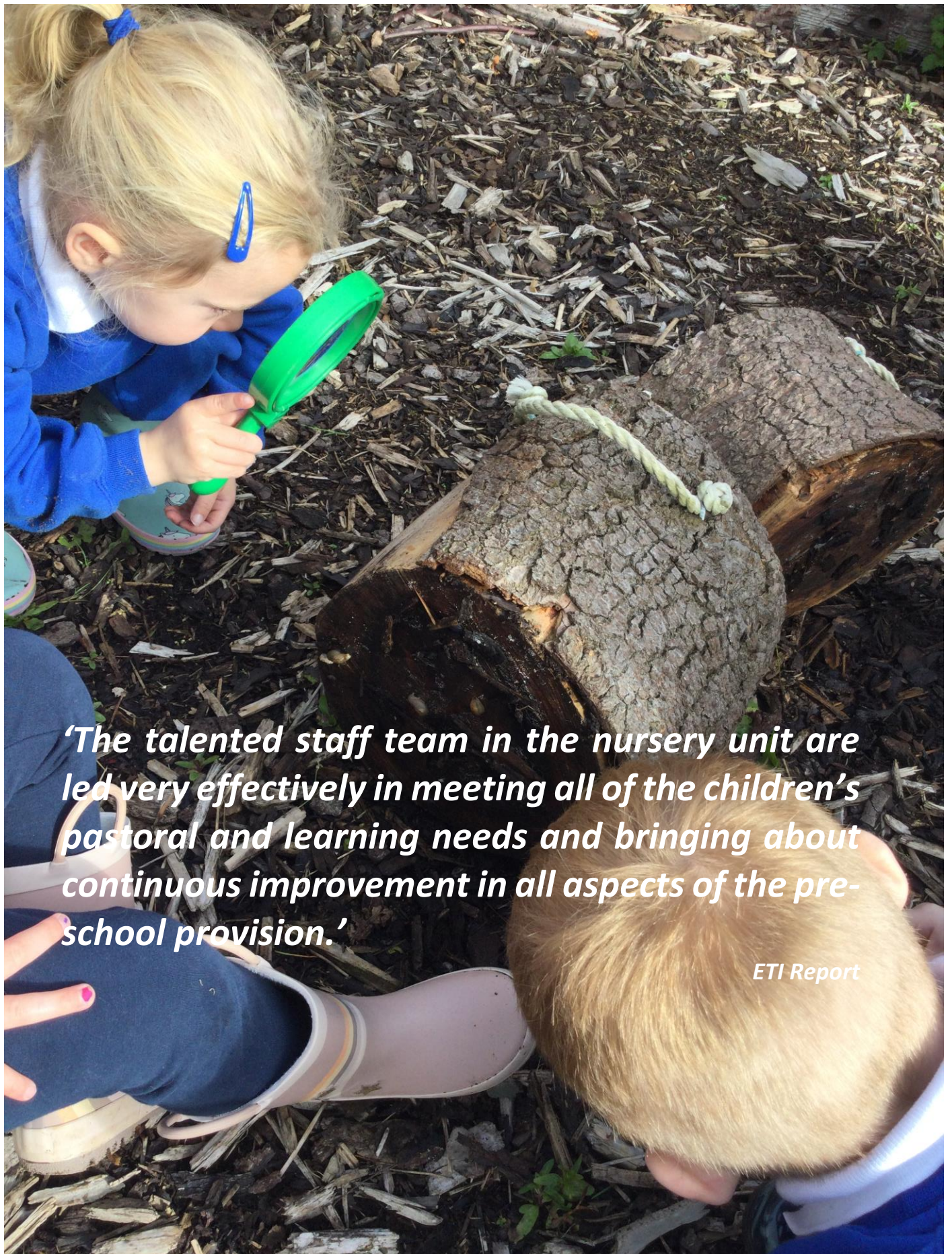
We aim to meet the individual needs of our children, taking account of their personal challenges, experiences, background and learning styles. Our 'Special Educational Needs' policy and provision ensures that children can access the curriculum at a level best suited to their stage of development.



Mrs Talbot, as Vice-Principal & Learning Support Coordinator, routinely monitors the progress of each child in conjunction with class teachers. Needs are identified as early as possible, and the appropriate support put in place. Parents will be invited to contribute at each stage.

Children identified for specialist support will have a '*Personal Learning Plan*' with clear targets that will be monitored carefully. Referrals from school to our Educational Psychologist and the various external support agencies are routine. In association with parents, the priorities for each child will be identified and discussed openly as the relevant support options are implemented.





‘The talented staff team in the nursery unit are led very effectively in meeting all of the children’s pastoral and learning needs and bringing about continuous improvement in all aspects of the pre-school provision.’

ETI Report

After School Clubs & Activities



Typical after school activities include: -

- Choir
- Orchestra
- Drama
- First-Aid Programme
- Football
- Netball
- Hockey
- Games
- ICT
- Scripture Union
- Board Games
- Ulster Scots
- Sewing & Craft
- Orienteering
- Animation & Coding
- Cycling Proficiency
- Art Club
- Eco Club
- Dance
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Adventure Club

Curricular & Extra-Curricular Activities

Termly Summary

This is a brief flavour of the typical range of activities that occur throughout the year. Our annual calendar is packed full of opportunities that richly enhance the learning experience.

Autumn

- Swimming Programme
- Woodwind/Brass/Strings Tuition
- Football Coaching
- Netball Coaching
- Hockey Coaching
- Multi-Sports Programme
- School Council Elections
- Eco Council Elections
- Election of House Captains (VC)
- School Choir
- Orchestra
- Shared Education: Exchange & Visits
- Parent Interviews – Whole School
- Samaritans Purse: Shoebox Appeal
- The ‘Poppy Appeal’
- Harvest Service & Charity Collections
- Big Bedtime Read
- Year 1 Photographs
- Poppy Appeal
- Christmas Pantomime Visit
- World of Owls
- Christmas Productions
- Special School Meals Days
- Stormont & Belfast Bus Tour
- 7-a-side Football Tournament
- Nursery Open Day
- Outdoor Adventure Club
- Ulster Scots
- Cycling Skills
- Fire Service Visit
- PSNI Visit

Spring

- Sentinus STEM Programme
- Taster Day: Dunclug College
- Everybody Active Coach
- ‘Fun in Athletics’
- Travelling Book Fair
- Inov8 – Cullybackey College
- Sunshine Hour: Church Visit
- Library Visit
- Hockey Coaching
- Netball
- Badminton
- Dance Club
- Outdoor Adventure Club
- Gymnastics
- French Club
- Evening Church Service
- ‘Shine’ Scripture Union
- Trip to Downpatrick: Shared Ed
- Sustrans – Road Safety
- Big Schools’ Birdwatch
- Diary Council Talk
- Safer Internet Day
- Amazing Jesus
- Drama
- World Book Day
- Ulster Hockey Tournament
- Netball Tournament
- ABRSM Music Exams
- Visit from Fire Service
- 5-a-side Football Tournament
- Cancer Focus NI Visit

Summer

- School Nurse
- School Photographer
- Library Visit
- Optician Visit
- Cycling Proficiency
- Amazing Jesus
- Football Tournament
- Adventure Club
- Y6 Residential Visit
- Slemish Climb – Shared Ed.
- Y7 School Trip to Edinburgh
- Nursery Day Trip
- Year 1 Induction Days & Information Meeting
- Nursery Induction Days & Information Evening
- Ballymena Academy Taster
- Cambridge House Taster
- Dragon’s Den: Shared Ed.
- ACTIV8 Cullybackey
- W5 Trip
- It’s Your Move: SU
- Sports Day – Whole School
- Nursery Fun Day
- Yr 7 Leavers’ Assembly
- ‘Broughshane’s Got Talent’
- End of Term Special Lunch
- BBQ & Summer Fair
- Graded Practical Music Examinations: ABRSM
- ‘Klass Kids’ Assembly
- RNLI visit – Whole School

EA Admissions Sept 2026

www.eani.org.uk

Pre-School: Key Dates

For full details, go to www.eani.org.uk

Wednesday 10 December 2025	<i>Admissions criteria for Pre-Schools published on the EA website.</i>
Wednesday 7 January 2026 – at 12 noon	<i>EA Connect opens for online applications for Pre-School, submitting verification/supporting documents.</i>
Wednesday 21 January 2026 – at 12 noon	<i>EA Connect closes. Last date/time for punctual applications for Pre-School.</i>
Tuesday 19 May 2026	<i>Pre-School Stage 2 - Parents/carers will receive application outcome via email (where one is held) or by letter.</i>

Primary School: Key Dates

For full details, go to www.eani.org.uk

Wednesday 10 December 2025	<i>Admissions criteria for Primary schools published on the EA website.</i>
Wednesday 7 January 2026 – at 12 noon	<i>EA Connect opens for online applications for Primary 1.</i>
Wednesday 21 January 2026 – at 12 noon	<i>EA Connect closes. Last date/time for punctual applications for Primary 1.</i>
Monday 23 March 2026	<i>Parents/carers will receive application outcomes via email (where one is held) or by letter.</i>



**Broughshane
Primary School
2026 - 2027**

