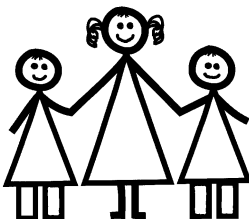


Spires Integrated Primary School



Annual Report of the Board of Governors 2015 – 2016 School Year



Article 29

Education must develop every child's personality, talent and abilities to the full.



Board of Governors

Year of Retirement

Trust/Foundation Governors:

Mrs C Keatley (Vice-Chair)	2016
Mr O Monaghan	2016
Mrs L McCulloch	2016
Ms B Niblock	2019
Mrs E L Crawford	2019
Mr D Eastwood	2019

<u>Parent Governors:</u>	Mr J Payne (Chair)	2016
	Mr G Greer	2019
	Ms A Sobieraj	2018
	Mr B Doyle	2018

<u>DENI Governors:</u>	Mrs O McKay (Treasurer)	2017
	Ms M McMullan	2017

<u>Teachers Reps:</u>	Miss K Crawford	2016
	Miss S Henry	2016

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

As the new Chairperson of the Board of Governors, I would firstly like to thank the previous Chair, Jonathan Payne, for the outstanding work he did and also pay tribute to the retiring governors who have given up their time and worked hard throughout their tenure to promote the special ethos of integrated education that makes Spire Integrated Primary School unique in the local community.

I would also like to thank my fellow governors, the staff and the parents' community for their continued commitment and hard work during the last year which has been challenging but successful. It is clear from the deeds and actions of the staff and governors that they all have the wellbeing and development of the children as their main priority and this is what is needed to create the special environment at Spire which allows the pupils to thrive and flourish.

In particular, on behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to recognise the sterling work that the Principal, Mrs Joan Bell, has accomplished throughout this time of change and last year the Governors were determined to appoint a Vice-Principal to support and assist Mrs Bell in the continued pursuit of excellence at the school.

There are a number of new members to the school community this year, including staff, governors, parents and pupils and I would like to extend a warm welcome on behalf of the Board of Governors to them all. We are looking forward to the various contributions they will make and we will strive to give them the opportunity to develop their skills

Finally, I would like to congratulate all of the children for their various achievements throughout the year, it is always sad to see a class leave and move on and last year's P7's can be proud of their achievements.

The next academic year will bring new challenges and demands but with the help and support of parents, staff and friends we will continue to meet these challenges to secure the best possible education for the children of Spire.

Brian Doyle
Chair of the Board of Governors

Mission Statement

Spires Integrated Primary School strives to promote primary education of the highest quality for all children, in an integrated and caring environment.

It is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Report for the 2015 – 2016 school year.

Curriculum

The school adheres to the Special Needs Code of Practice. Individual Education Plans are drawn up by Mrs Bates (SENCO) and class teachers. Provision for SEN has been developed to support pupils further through both classroom teaching and the withdrawal programme.

Due to the nature of our modern building and the school design, all areas are accessible to pupils who have a physical disability.

We availed of additional opportunities for the children, namely through our involvement with Sustrans Active Travel Programme. This involved a range of activities from walking to school, on-road cycling training, bike safe workshops and our super heroes walk/cycle task.

Pupils with specific literacy difficulties engaged in small group support led by Ms Mulholland of the North Regional College.

The children attended several outings which enriched their learning experiences. P6 pupils participated in the Pushkin Project. This involved weekend training for staff and a visit to Baronscourt for the children. Following on from this an environmentalist and an artist worked with the P6 children to develop work with the theme 'The Fire Within'. This culminated in a celebration day with the P6 pupils and their parents.

A revised maths scheme was implemented and additional resources purchased. Children visited Danske Bank and Dunne Stores as part of our 'Money Week'.

Staff training was completed in several areas such as STEM; Literacy and Numeracy CPD Project; Dyslexia; AFL and Plenary sessions. Policies were renewed and updated. New Governors attended training led by the Education Authority.

Our Rights Respecting Schools, Pupil Council and Eco Teams all worked enthusiastically to develop work in their respective areas. The School Choir sang at Meadowlane Shopping Centre and two Nursing Homes.

Staff participated in a Team Building session and some visited other schools to view outstanding practice.

Mrs Griggs has further strengthened our work with Kilonan School. Activities were planned and implemented with P3 children in both schools working together.

The Pupil Council led an audit of healthy eating as a result of which changes were made to our policy – this informed our newly revised Whole School Food Policy.

The complete School Community continues to embrace a Rights Respecting ethos throughout every aspect of school life. The children are aware of their rights and use their knowledge within all areas of the curriculum to enrich their learning.

We have been working on a review of our Assessment and Marking policies. This will be continued in the next school year.

The following Literacy programmes continued – Time to Read, Reading Partners, Extended Groups, Spelling Support, Paired Reading and Library visits.

Swimming lessons, visits to the Library and sports sessions at Meadowbank continued for pupils in Key Stage 2.

A number of P7 pupils completed the Cycling Proficiency Programme.

Staff

All teachers who participated in PRSD successfully completed it.

The staff continued to work tirelessly throughout the year to provide a range of experiences for pupils in a welcoming, clean and safe environment. My thanks to all of them for their hard work and support.

Parental Involvement

During 2015 - 2016 parents continued to play an active and supportive role in school through their attendance at teacher meetings, assemblies and concerts. A special thanks to those who accompanied classes on school outings. The Parents' Community held a number of events throughout the year, as well as monthly Coffee Mornings. Thank you for your continued support and fund raising.

Links with the Community

The school has strong links with the local community and plays an active part in local events.

P4 pupils engaged in a recycling Halloween Activity as part of the local Council's recycling education programme. They also visited the Travel Agency as part of their 'Out and About' theme.

Students from Sperrin Integrated College led the Reading Partners programme with some of our pupils. Students from St Pius X College assisted with small groups in the classrooms.

Spires' pupils joined pupils from Holy Family Primary School, Magherafelt and New Row Primary School, Castledawson for preparation and celebration of the Sacraments. Key Stage 2 pupils participated in several hockey tournaments. They won the Antrim Sixes tournament. The Soccer team was runner up at the FP McCann tournament held in Knockloughrim. P7 participated in a Basketball competition at St Pius X College and in the annual Athletics tournament at Meadowbank.

The school took part in a range of community events. The Mid-Ulster Integrated Education Partnership continued to develop between Sperrin College, Phoenix Integrated Primary School and Spires. As did the cluster group for Integrated Primary Schools in the Mid Ulster and Omagh area and the Mid-Ulster Principals group.

Spires continued its links with Industry and Business through the Time to Read Programme. Employees of the Henry Group and Citi Bank participated in this reading scheme with some P5 pupils.

Principals from local post primary schools visited and spoke to P7 regarding their school and Miss Bradley completed the annual visit to Magherafelt Nursery School. These visits are part of our transition programme to assist pupils who are starting P1 and those who are leaving at the end of Year 7.

Governors

The Board of Governors meet regularly and carry out this voluntary work enthusiastically and without complaint. My thanks to all governors for their support and commitment to the school.

The Governors appointed the following new members of staff who will begin their posts in September 2016 – Mr Ian Cheevers (Vice-Principal),

Miss Maureen Higgins (Classroom Assistant) and Mrs Roisin McWilliams (Cleaner). I (Brian Doyle) was appointed the incoming Chair of Governors and Mrs Brenda Preston is the incoming Vice-Chair.

Educational Outings & Events

- P1 Maghera Leisure Centre
- P2 Tesco Store Magherafelt
Greenmount
- P3 Oxford Island
Kilronan
- P4 Magherafelt Library
Travel Agent in Magherafelt
Ulster Transport Museum
Bridwell for a Magic Recycling Session
- P5 Swimming
Magherafelt Library
Meadowbank Sports Arena – Fit for Life
Parkanaur Forest Park
Henry Brothers Nature Reserve
- P6 Magherafelt Library
Swimming
Meadowbank Sports Arena – Fit for Life
Pushkin - Baronscourt
Dunnes Stores - Budgeting
Sperrin Integrated College – Grease Musical
Polepatrick - Bulb Planting
- P7 Bee Safe Event
Woodhall Residential
Magherafelt High School
Meadowbank Sports Arena – Fit for Life
Swimming
Magherafelt Library
Sperrin Integrated College – Grease Musical & STEM
Rainey Endowed – Language Taster
Danske Bank
North Regional College – Hour of Code
Burnavon – Seamus Heaney Project
Spring Clean with District Council

Sporting/Whole School Events

Tag Rugby at Ravenhill, Belfast.

Football matches – with Magherafelt Primary School and a football tournament at Knockloughrim Primary School.

Girls' Hockey tournaments at Antrim, Cookstown and Ulster Finals at Lisnagarvey..

Athletics Competition at Meadowbank.

Key Stage 2 received Gaelic Coaching from the GAA.

Rugby at City of Derry Rugby Club

Football Blitz at St Mary's Grammar School

Sustrans Neon Day – Walk to School in October 2015

Tin Whistle Tuition

Hockey, Rugby and Gaelic Coaching

ICT linked with Hamiltonsbawn

Drama Workshop at Meadowbank Shopping Centre

Learning Hub for pupils with Literacy Difficulties

Danske Bank Workshops

Choir at Meadowlane Shopping Centre, Milesian Nursing Home and Brooklands Nursing Home

NSPCC Keeping Safe Programme

Internet Safety Day

Big Bird Watch with the RSPB

Cash for Clobber - Recycling

Integrated Schools' Week

During Integrated Schools' Week we had numerous activities which brought the whole community together. Parents were also invited to attend classes one morning during that week. This provided opportunities for them to join in activities with their children.

Assemblies & Celebrations

Harvest Assembly – guest speaker was Fr A McAnerney

Halloween Disco

KS1 Carol Service

KS2 Christmas Performance

Individual Class Assemblies

Our Open Night was held on Monday 7 December 2015.
Assembly led by Ali Shiels – Team Hope
Confirmation (P7)
First Communion and First Penance (P4)
RSPB Assemblies
Rebecca Spiers – NI Cancer Fund for Children

Visitors

Mr A Griggs – Bird Talk
Local Councillors participated in practical sessions with several classes.
Fireman – Smoke Busters Session
Mr N Gilmour – Postman
Mr D Lyttle – Yum Yum
Mr A Bates – Yum Yum
Healthy Lifestyles – Genevieve the Goat
Catherine O’Boyle – RSPB
Mr Leacock – Airports
Fr McAnerney – Preparation for Sacraments
Poppies & Lilies Workshops
Amelia Deehan – C2K
Biodiversity Study with the RSPB
Energy Talk – Bryson Energy
NSPCC Workshops
Pushkin Project Co-ordinators
Seamus Heaney Project – Mid Ulster Council
Caroline Jones – Choirs
Mr J McCrystal – Sustrans
Santa Claus!

Training Events Held at Spires for Schools

Global Learning
Learning Through Play (Glenda Walsh)
Mid Ulster Principals’ Meetings (x 3)
Jolly Phonics – Anne McKeefry (Parent Meeting)

Students On Placement From:

North Regional College	Stranmillis College
Queens University	Sperrin Integrated College
St Pius X College	Rainey Endowed Grammar School
Liverpool Hope University	

Charitable

Water Aid	£133.30
Cancer Fund for Children	£450.00
Team Hope	£420.00
Poppy Appeal	£46.86

Attendance

The school achieves high levels of attendance and co-operates fully with the Education Welfare Services in ensuring that all children receive their legal educational entitlement. The average rate of attendance for 2015 - 2016 was 96%.

Security

All entrances to the main classroom buildings remain closed throughout the day and staff use codes to gain access to these areas. Gates within the school site are closed during the school day except around the beginning and end of the school day.

Mrs Bell and a parent met with local MLAs, representatives from DRD and the PSNI to try to reduce the speed limit on the Moneymore Road. We believe 50 mph is not low enough and is putting our school community at risk. We will continue to campaign in the next school year.

An additional 3 CCTV cameras were installed around the exterior of the school buildings and an internal telephone system linking the three buildings was also installed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that we have met our financial objective by being able to meet all expenses during the year from our allocated budget. The Board of Governors continue to ensure sufficient funds are available to finance the school's future development and to provide a safety net for unforeseen circumstances. All classrooms are well resourced.

Our Auditors are Baker Tilly Mooney Moore and I would like to thank them for their financial auditing and reports. Also thanks are due to our Financial Advisor, Graham Cochrane, has been of invaluable assistance throughout the year.

Income & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2016

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
DENI Grants	692,330	Teaching Staff Costs	455,126
Other Income	6,857	Non-Teaching Staff Costs	137,893
Deficit	c/d 8,538	Other Operating Costs	<u>114,706</u>
	<u>£707,725</u>		<u>£707,725</u>
		Deficit	b/f £8,538

ASSESSMENT

Formal standardised assessment in Communication and Using Mathematics was not reported at the end of Key Stage 1 (Primary 4) and Key Stage 2 (Primary 7).

Standardised Literacy and Numeracy tests are used in P3 – P7 at the end of the year to inform teaching. The results are analysed and if there are concerns parents are notified. Parents receive an Annual Report in June and verbal reports on children's progress in October and February.

At the end of Primary 7, pupils also receive a Record of Achievement. This is a celebration of the child's time in primary school. It includes academic and non-academic achievements both in and out of school.

END OF KEY STAGE ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

Due to industrial action the school did not report End of Key Stage Assessment.

END OF KEY STAGE RESULTS 2015

Due to industrial action the school did not report End of Key Stage Results.

P7 Leavers 2015 - 2016

P7 pupils transferred to the following schools:

Rainey Endowed Grammar School	9
Sperrin Integrated College	17
Magherafelt High School	1
Cookstown High School	1
Grovenor Grammar School	1

THE STAFF AT SPIRES

Principal	..	..	Mrs Joan Bell
P1 Teacher	..	..	Mrs Aoife Kearney
P2 Teachers (Job Share)			Mrs Cathy Murray Mrs Michelle Bates
P3 Teacher	..	..	Mrs Royanne Griggs
P4 Teacher	..	..	Miss Shauneen Henry
P5 Teacher	..	..	Miss Cathy Convery (Temporary)
P6 Teacher		..	Miss Karen Crawford
P7 Teacher	..	..	Mrs Sheree McConnell-Duffy
SEN Teacher		..	Mrs Michelle Bates
P1 Classroom Assistant			Mrs Geralyn Quinn
P2 Classroom Assistant			Mrs Jillian O'Neill
Other Classroom Assistants			Mrs Catherine Bolton Mrs Cathy McKee Miss Natasha Ferguson (Temporary)
School Secretary	..		Mrs Moira FitzGerald
Building Supervisors	..		Mrs Yvonne Hamilton/Mr Roy Simpson
Cleaner	..	..	Mrs Ana Gillespie
Dining Room Assistants			Mrs Michelle O'Neill Mrs Brenda McShane
Lunchtime Supervisors			Mrs Jillian O'Neill Mrs Geralyn Quinn Mrs Joy Wright Mrs Ana Gillespie

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2015 - 2016

28 September 2015

- Team Building

26 October 2015

- Embedding Planning (Ann McErlane)

3 May 2016

- Assessment for Learning

31 May 2016

- AFL/Data Analysis/End of Year Reports

13 June 2016

- Data Analysis – Target Setting
- Action Plans – Evaluations
- Review of Progress 2015 - 2016

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

2015 - 2016

After School Clubs led by external agencies included: Music and Sport. (There was a reduced number of teacher led clubs held due to on-going industrial action between Unions, DENI and the Education Authority.)

Led By	Club Name	Duration	Term	Class
Mrs Bell	Numeracy	8 Weeks	1	P7
Mrs Bell	Literacy	8 Weeks	1	P7
Mrs Duffy	Choir	6 Weeks	1	P5 – P7
Mrs Bates	Healthy Eating Club	3 Weeks	2	P
Sustrans	Cycling Proficiency	4 sessions	2	P7
Mrs Griggs	Wildlife Club	6 Weeks	3	P5
Miss Convery	Camogie Club	4 Weeks	3	P5
Mrs Bell	Numeracy	5 Weeks	3	P6
Mrs Bell	Literacy	5 Weeks	3	P6