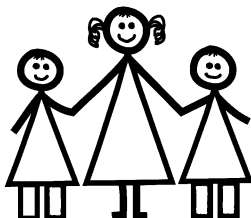


# *Spires Integrated Primary School*



## *Annual Report of the Board of Governors 2016 – 2017 School Year*



### Article 3

All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.



# **Board of Governors**

## **Year of Retirement**

### **Trust/Foundation Governors:**

Mrs C Keatley (Vice-Chair)	2018
Ms B Niblock	2019
Mrs E L Crawford	2019
Mr D Eastwood	2019
Mr S O’Kane	2020
Mrs F Watters	2020

<b><u>Parent Governors:</u></b>	Mr B Doyle (Chair)	2018
	Mr G Greer	2019
	Ms A Sobieraj	2018
	Mr P Shaw	2020

<b><u>DENI Governors:</u></b>	Ms M McMullan	2017
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<b><u>Teachers Reps:</u></b>	Mr I Cheevers	2019
	Mrs S McConnell Duffy	2019

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Guardians

As Chairperson of the Board of Governors, I am delighted to introduce to you the annual report of Spires Integrated Primary School for the year 2016 - 2017. The report details the work undertaken by the Principal and staff to ensure that the children attending Spires Integrated Primary School receive the highest standards of education and pastoral care.

This was another busy year with many enriching and rewarding planned activities for our children. The School continues its high quality teaching and learning with a wide range of learning opportunities provided by the staff for the development of each child.

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to congratulate Mrs Bell and her staff for continuing to carry out their work with such professionalism and dedication. It was good to see this recognised with the numerous awards achieved by the school this year, such as the ICT Kitemark and the Rights Respecting Level 2 certification. We are fortunate to have such a committed and talented staff to work with our children and I thank them, on behalf of the Board of Governors, for all the effort they put into providing a stable and stimulating environment in which our children can grow.

I would also thank all of the parents and guardians, for the important role they play in supporting and promoting the school. In particular, it has been great to see the Parents' Community up and running again and I wish them every success with the events they have planned and I would urge you to support them in any way you can.

Thanks to our dedicated Board of Governors for their help in the management of the School business throughout the year, they freely give up their time in order to support the school on behalf of you and your children.

I would like to congratulate all of the children for their various achievements throughout the year, and we all look forward to the challenges and successes ahead of us in the next year.

Finally, should you wish clarification or further information on any aspect of the report, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

*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 2016 – 2017 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 continue to avail of additional opportunities for the children, eg 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 also our NSPCC Keeping Safe Programme.

Pupils with specific literacy difficulties engaged in small group support led by staff from the North Regional College. This is funded by the lottery's Empower Project.

The children attended several outings which enriched their learning experiences. P7 pupils participated in the Pushkin Project. This involved weekend training for staff and a visit to Baronscourt for the children and working with other schools. Following on from this an environmentalist and an artist worked with the P5 children to develop work with the theme 'Floodtide in the Heart'.

Staff training was completed in several areas such as STEM; Literacy and Numeracy CPD Project; ICT, Global Learning and Heart Start. Several 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 three Nursing Homes.

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

The Pupil Council led an audit of lunchtime meals. They met with Alodia, who is head caterer at St Mary's Grammar School. They discussed healthier choices for both dinner and dessert. All pupils devised a menu for Integrated Education Week.

The complete School Community continues to embrace a Rights Respecting ethos throughout every aspects 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 reviewed our Child Protection, Pastoral Care, RSE, Anti-Bullying, Assessment, Marking and Feedback, Literacy and Numeracy, Educational Outings, Drugs Education, Critical Incident Management, and Whole School Food Policies.

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.

### **Web Page**

During the year we had our School Website redesigned. To view it and to keep up-to-date with what is happening in Spires Integrated Primary School, visit [www.spiresips.org.uk](http://www.spiresips.org.uk).

### **Eco Award**

I am delighted to confirm that we have been successful in renewing our Eco-Schools Green Flag. Paul Moore and Emma O'Hagan were very impressed with our school's work.

Congratulations to all concerned, Miss Crawford, Governors, staff and pupils alike, and not forgetting the many parents who helped our school achieve its environmental targets.

The assessors made the following comments about the strengths of our school, evident in the assessment visit:

*“All of the pupils we met in the school were very enthusiastic and knowledgeable, we were particularly impressed with their knowledge on electricity, fossil fuels and birds. The Eco-Code was really well known throughout the school, with everyone well engaged in it. Great school grounds for work on Biodiversity. Well done!”*

## **Inspection**

The school received a sustaining improvement inspection on 31 January 2017. Due to action short of strike, teachers did not comply with the inspection process. However, the key findings of the ETI report were:

- *The strategic leadership is well-informed, reflective and focused on improving the provision for the children and the standards they attain. The priorities in the school development plan have been identified through effective self-evaluation and consultation with children, staff, parents and governors. There is good use of internal assessment data to identify high, low and underachievement and to monitor the children’s progress.*
- *During the discussion with a group of Year 6 children, the children spoke with confidence and insight about their learning, their rights and responsibilities.*

## **Staff**

All teachers who participated in PRSD successfully completed it.

Mrs Murray attended Global Learning and Heartstart training. Mrs Henry attended ICT Co-ordinator and On-Line Safety training. Mr Cheevers attended Child Protection Training, CPD Numeracy and Curriculum Leader Training. Mrs Griggs also attended CPD Literacy Training. The staff continued to work tirelessly throughout the year to provide a range 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 2016 - 2017 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.

With good support from Parents we earned £462.57 commission from our book fair. This was used to purchase books for the school.

### **Links with the Community**

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

P2 visited our local Tesco store as part of their “Yum, Yum” Theme and P7 Visited Tesco regarding Fair Trade. P4 visited the Bridewell to learn about the ‘old jail’. A visit to the Seamus Heaney Centre was enjoyed by P6. A visit to Domino’s Pizza in Magherafelt to see how pizzas are made was thoroughly enjoyed by P7 who were rewarded by getting free samples! Ballinderry Rivers’ Trust visited P7 and P7 visited the hatchery at Ballinderry and they released fish as part of the Fish Sustainability Programme.

Students from Sperrin Integrated College engaged in the Reading Partners programme with some of our pupils.

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 were runners-up in the Antrim Sixes tournament. The Soccer team was also 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 Rugby Team participated in a tournament at the City of Derry Rugby Club and also in Ravenhill. They received coaching by Benji Van de Byl and myself.

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 Integrated Primary School. As did the cluster group for Integrated Primary Schools in the Mid Ulster and Omagh area and the Mid-Ulster Principals group.

Spires Integrated Primary School 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 Mrs Kearney liaised with Magherafelt Nursery School as part of our transition programme to assist pupils who are starting P1.

Some of our pupils had success in an Art Competition run by one of our local nursing homes; C2K Endangered Animals Project and a Tesco Art Competition.

## **Governors**

The Board of Governors meet regularly and carry out this voluntary work enthusiastically and without complaint. We welcomed new Governors this year and I would like to thank all governors for their support and commitment to the school.

## **Educational Outings & Events**

- P1            Crawford's, Maghera  
              PSNI Road Safety Talk and Stranger Danger
- P2            Tesco Store Magherafelt  
              Greenmount  
              PSNI Road Safety Talk and Stranger Danger
- P3            Oxford Island
- P4            Magherafelt Library  
              Ulster Transport Museum  
              Kilronan for their Christmas Concert  
              Henry Brothers Nature Reserve – Biodiversity Event
- P5            Swimming  
              Magherafelt Library  
              Meadowbank Sports Arena – Fit for Life  
              Planetarium in Armagh  
              Belfast Zoo  
              Magherafelt High School – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory  
              Sperrin Integrated College – Drama Workshop
- P6            Magherafelt Library  
              Swimming  
              Meadowbank Sports Arena – Fit for Life  
              Belfast Zoo  
              St Pius College – Science Workshop  
              Sperrin Integrated College – Maths Workshop  
              Magherafelt High School – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory  
              North-Regional College – Hour of Code  
              Love for Life Sessions held in School



P7 Bee Safe Event  
Woodhall Residential  
Magherafelt High School  
Meadowbank Sports Arena – Fit for Life  
Swimming  
Magherafelt Library  
Pushkin - Baronscourt  
St Mary's Grammar School – International Peace Day  
Ballinderry River Trust  
Athletics at Meadowbank  
Domino's Pizza Magherafelt  
Magherafelt High School – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory  
Sperrin Integrated College – STEM  
Tesco – Fair Trade Event  
Love for Life Sessions held in School

### **Sporting/Whole School Events**

Tag Rugby at Ravenhill, Belfast.  
Football matches at the Rainey Endowed, Knockloughrim, Meadowbank and Mid-Ulster Sports Arena in Cookstown.  
Mr Doyle and Benji from Ulster Rugby – Rugby After School  
Gaelic Football and Hurling at Meadowbank and Glen GAA  
Cross Country at St Patrick's, Maghera  
Camogie at Meadowbank  
Basketball at St Pius X College  
Track and Field Events at Meadowbank  
Girls' Hockey tournaments at Limavady and Cookstown.  
Fun in Athletics Competition at Meadowbank.  
Key Stage 2 received Gaelic Coaching from the GAA.  
Rugby at City of Derry Rugby Club  
Sustrans Day – Walk to School in October 2016  
Tin Whistle Tuition  
Hockey, Rugby and Gaelic Coaching  
Learning Hub for pupils with Literacy Difficulties  
Choir at Meadowlane Shopping Centre, Milesian Nursing Home, Manor and Brooklands Nursing Home  
NSPCC Keeping Safe Programme

Internet Safety Day

Big Bird Watch with the RSPB

Cash for Clobber – Recycling

RSPB Big Bird Watch

IFA Support for P2, P3, P4 and P6

### **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 Pastor McKee

Halloween Disco

Rights Respecting School Assembly

ECO School Assembly

Baha'i Assembly

Fairtrade Assembly

KS1 and KS2 Carol Service

Individual Class Assemblies

Easter Assembly and Easter Egg Hunt

RNLI Assembly

Mothers' Day Assembly

Our Open Night was held on Monday 5 December 2016

Assembly led by Ali Shiels – Team Hope

Confirmation (P7)

First Communion and First Penance (P4)

Ms A Devlin (C2K) led KS1 and KS2 Assemblies

Ms Victoria Jackson led Assembly on Bible Stories

Rev J Curry led Assembly

Ms Catherine O'Boyle from RSPB led an Assembly

World Book Day – Dress Up

World Water Day

Odd Socks Day – IEF Fund Raiser

### **Visitors**

Mr A Griggs – Bird Talk – P3

Fireman – Smoke Busters Session

Mr N Gilmour – Postman

Mr A Bates – Yum Yum  
 Healthy Lifestyles – Genevieve the Goat  
 Mr Leacock – Airports  
 NSPCC Workshops  
 Puskin Project Co-ordinators  
 Mr T O’Dowd – Sustrans  
 Mrs McKeown – Nurse P2  
 Miss Emma McKee  
 Santa Claus!  
 Mr Campbell visited P4  
 Mr John Murtagh from the Mid-Ulster District Council – Nest Boxes  
 Mrs Michelle Garvey – Facilitator for Poetry with P5  
 Dairy Council  
 Mrs McCahon – Coding Club with P6

**Training Events Held at Spires Integrated Primary School**

Mid Ulster Principals’ Meetings (x 3)

**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**

Poppy Appeal	£67.85
Children’s Kidney Fund	£400.00
Toilet Twinning	£191.50 Mad Hair Day
Toilet Twinning	£145.00 Guess the Baby
Great Ormond Street Hospital	£600.00
Macmillan Cancer Support	
Shoe Box Appeal	

**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 2016 - 2017 was 96%.

Attendance has improved steadily during the past 3 years. We thank the parents and staff for their commitment to this.

## **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.

## **Speed**

The speed of traffic continues to cause concern for the whole school community. A Governor Sub-Committee was formed and it was very proactive in highlighting our concerns. Pupils wrote to particular departments and MLAs. P7 led a presentation to MLAs, Governors, Parents and the PSNI.

## **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 2017**

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
DENI Grants	697,219	Teaching Staff Costs	441,311
Other Income	7,135	Non-Teaching Staff Costs	162,642
Deficit	c/d <u>12,605</u>	Other Operating Costs	<u>113,006</u>
	<u>£716,959</u>		<u>£716,959</u>
		Deficit	b/f £12,605

## **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) due to continued action short of strike by teaching unions.

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 2016**

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

### **P7 Leavers 2016 - 2017**

P7 pupils transferred to the following schools:

Rainey Endowed Grammar School	11
Sperrin Integrated College	9
Magherafelt High School	1

## **THE STAFF AT SPIRES**

Principal	..	..	Mrs Joan Bell
P1 Teacher	..	..	Mrs Aoife Kearney/Miss C Bradley (Temp)
P2 Teachers (Job Share)..			Mrs Cathy Murray Mrs Michelle Bates
P3 Teacher	..	..	Mrs Royanne Griggs
P4 Teacher	..	..	Miss Shauneen Henry
Vice-Principal & P5 Teacher			Mr I Cheevers
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	..		Mr Roy Simpson
Cleaner ..	..	..	Mrs Roisin McWilliams
Dining Room Assistants..			Mrs Michelle O'Neill Mrs Brenda McShane
Lunchtime Supervisors	..		Mrs Jillian O'Neill Mrs Geralyn Quinn Mrs Joy Wright Mr Roy Simpson

## **SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2016 - 2017**

### **30 September 2016**

- Developing Writing

### **31 October 2016**

- Developing Writing – ESAGS TV and Writing Scheme
- Developing Science within WAU

### **4 January 2017**

- Staff Health and Wellbeing

## **16 March 2017**

- Creative Writing

## **30 May 2017**

- Data Analysis
- Annual Reports

# **AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS**

## **2016 - 2017**

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.)

<b>Led By</b>	<b>Club Name</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Class</b>
Mr Cheevers	Numeracy	8 Weeks	1	P7
Mrs Bell	Literacy	8 Weeks	1	P7
Mrs Duffy and Mrs Bates	Choir	10 Weeks	1	P5 – P7
Miss Bradley	Art	4 Weeks	1	P4
Mr Cheevers	Hockey	7 Weeks	2	P5 – P7
Miss Henry	ICT	4 Weeks	2	P4
Mrs Griggs	Wildlife Club	4 Weeks	3	P5
Mrs Bell	Literacy	5 Weeks	3	P6
Mr Cheevers	Numeracy	6 Weeks	3	P6
Mr Cheevers	Hockey	5 Weeks	3	P5 – P7

