

Prospectus
**Glengormley
Integrated
Primary School**
& Pre-School
Playgroup



GLENGORMLEY INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP



"Celebrating Individuality and Diversity"

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Welcome

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Thank you for taking the time to look through our prospectus and for considering Glengormley Integrated Primary School as a suitable school for your child. If you have not yet visited the school, please do call or email to arrange a visit. Only then can you really get a true sense of what we can offer for your child's primary education.

Our school has grown rapidly over the last decade since transformation to integrated status and the enrolment currently stands at approximately 350 children from P1-P7 and a further 50 children in our on-site Pre-School Community Playgroup. Our whole school wraparound care services have been very attractive to families in our community. We offer support to children from Breakfast Club at 7.40am through to After-School Club ending at 6pm.

Starting school is a very big step in the life of every child and choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever have to make. We hope that this prospectus will help to make that decision easier for you, and from it you will get not only the information you need but also a sense of the caring and warm, welcoming community that is Glengormley Integrated Primary School.

With our dedicated, supportive and talented staff at Glengormley IPS, we strive to ensure that the time your child spends at primary school is happy, memorable and rewarding. Our experienced teachers deliver a broad, balanced and creative curriculum. They aim to nurture the individual talents and abilities of each child and provide a holistic education that prepares them for tomorrow's world and their future in it.

As a trailblazing integrated primary school in the Newtownabbey area, we are an all-inclusive school that opens our arms to the entire community and celebrates individuality and diversity.

At Glengormley IPS, it is our belief that education should lead change and that the future for our children and our community is brighter if children live and work together in an atmosphere of reconciliation and trust. Differences are respected, diversity is a resource and our mutual cultural heritage is celebrated.

We value every child and recognise the importance of clear trust and communication between home and school. This vital communication, as well as being mutually beneficial, will help our children develop into young people who are secure, happy, socially well-adjusted, proud of their achievements and who can contribute positively to the rapidly changing world in which we live.

Nigel Arnold, Principal



A Message from the School Board of Governors

Mr. Arnold has very eloquently expressed the aims and objectives of all of us who are connected with Glengormley Integrated Primary School – the provision of a well-rounded education for all of our children, in a caring, vibrant environment. Many of the members of the Board of Governors as parents, have had first-hand experience of what Glengormley Integrated Primary School offers its pupils. We pride ourselves not only on the quality of learning and teaching, but also from the strong sense of community and identity engendered by the school. This sense of involvement and inclusiveness is important for all of us, and as the Education Authority's first truly International Integrated primary school in Newtownabbey, we are uniquely placed to provide this opportunity for everyone.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this prospectus. Should you have any questions about the school, I know that Mr. Arnold would be more than happy to answer them.

Admissions

Enrolment number 446

Admissions number 60

As an integrated school, striving to educate children of differing cultural traditions, the school will endeavour to maintain a balanced enrolment as outlined in the Statement of Principles of Integrated Education written by and with the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE.)

Online applications for P1 and Playgroup through the Education Authority Open Enrolment process will commence early January for the following September admissions. Closure is the end of January. Admission to P2-P7 is based on available vacancies and further advice should be sought from the Principal.

Admissions to the school will be administered by the Principal.

If the school is over-subscribed, pupils will be admitted according to the following criteria, applied in the order set down:

1. The child has a brother/sister, half brother/sister, step brother/sister or foster brother/sister currently at the school.
2. The child has attended Glengormley Integrated Primary School Community Playgroup.
3. The child is the eldest in the family.

In the event of over-subscription despite the application of the above criteria, preference will be given to children on the basis of the proximity of their permanent home address to the school, measured on the basis of "walking distance."

Only children of compulsory school age will be admitted. It is important that parents ensure that they provide all information required by the school in order that the criteria may be applied fairly.

Pre-School / Playgroup

Admissions number 48

(2 x 24 per session)

AM session: 8.45am – 11.30am

PM session: 12.30pm – 3.15pm

Located on our school site we have an independent, integrated playgroup with a dedicated and fully qualified team of staff. The playgroup staff always help to ensure that your child will be well equipped to make the transition into Primary One as smooth as possible. Although learning is a large part of the curriculum here and generally reflects the same subject areas as the school, it is also designed to make this a fun and enjoyable experience that helps make each day memorable for your child.

The aims and objectives of our playgroup are to provide a safe, happy and fulfilling environment for 3-4 year olds, using play as a means of progressing through the six areas of learning as denoted by the curriculum.

These six areas are as follows:

- 1. Personal, Social and Emotional**
- 2. Language**
- 3. Physical**
- 4. Mathematical**
- 5. The Arts**
- 6. The World Around Us**

The playgroup is popular and frequently over-subscribed so it is important that you consider this opportunity for your child well before the year they intend to start.

The leaders in charge can be contacted directly on **028 90843172** for further information and you may wish to visit their web pages on the school website at **www.glengormleyips.co.uk** for a clearer understanding of their service.



Wrap-around Care

At Glengormley IPS, we recognise and appreciate the busy lifestyles of 21st century families. As a means to assist with families' expensive child-care costs and to create greater flexibility for parents the school has developed an extended service of wrap-around care for all pupils in our charge. This runs during both term-time and holiday periods from 7.40am to 6pm each weekday.

This facility is managed by our own school staff of classroom assistants and supervisors. Although we are operating under the header of DE Extended schools, we are also registered with Social Services and ensure our facilities and staff requirements meet their standards.

This allows parents to pay for the service through the use of the Employers for Childcare schemes available, which in turn helps families to save on costs. This service is only available to pupils from our own school.



Our wrap-around care offers the following benefits:-

- The children are already familiar with the staff.
- They have full access to many of the school facilities, including the grounds and play/sports equipment.
- No additional pick-up/collection/transport issues.
- Continuity of ethos/policies/organisational structure.
- Ease of parent arrangements / changes.

Uniform | School Day

Uniform

At Glengormley IPS we regard the wearing of school uniform as very important. We believe it gives the children a sense of identity with the school and encourages them to take pride in their appearance. School Uniform can be purchased through our local suppliers, The Jeanery and School Days, both in Glengormley. We also offer F&F embroidery online services via our school website. More details of each supplier can be found on our website.

Boys

Grey trousers
Sky blue polo shirt
(with school logo)
Navy sweatshirt
(with school logo)
Grey socks

Black shoes

Summer option

Grey shorts

P.E. Kit

We allow children to wear their own items of sensible sports clothing for physical education and sporting activities, as we believe this is one of the great opportunities to allow children to demonstrate their own sense of identity.

Pupils are permitted only to wear a watch and plain ear studs. The wearing of other items of jewellery is not permitted for either boys or girls.

Girls

Grey skirt or trousers
Sky blue polo shirt
(with school logo)
Navy sweatshirt
(with school logo)
Grey tights or white socks
Black shoes

Blue gingham dress



School Day

Breakfast Club opens **7.40am**

Children arrive at school.
Staff on playground duty. **8.40am**

School day begins. Children line up in classes and are brought in by teachers. **8.55am**

On very wet or inclement mornings, children may be brought into their classrooms before 8.55am

Mid-morning healthy break and outdoor play **10.30am-10.45am**

Lunchtime **12pm-1pm**

Classes will finish at:-

P1
September **11.45am**
Mid-October **2pm**

P2 **2pm**
P3
September – October **2pm**
After ½ term Monday-Wednesday **3pm**
Thursday – Friday **2pm**

P4-P7 **Mon -**
Thurs: 3pm
Fri - 2pm

End of Extra-Curricular Clubs for P4-7 pupils **4pm**
After School Club ends for all pupils **6pm**



Home School Links

Links between home and school are vitally important for the success of children at school. At Glengormley IPS we endeavour to keep parents informed of each child's progress through parental interviews and reports. Teachers are also available to discuss any matter which may arise. All that we ask is that you make an appointment before coming to school so that the teacher will have the time, without distraction, to sit and discuss things.

Parents are kept informed of all that is happening in school through the school website, social media sites, text messages, notes home, "Seesaw" smartphone application and the PTA noticeboards.

We seek and value the opinion of parents and carers and use this information to help meet the individual needs of our pupils.

The expectations which school and parents may have of each other could be expressed in the following lists:

Parents' expectations of the school:

1. Child to be valued as an individual in a safe, well-ordered, caring environment.
2. Programmes of teaching and learning planned so that pupils are challenged to give of their best.
3. Early warnings of problems with work, relationships or discipline.
4. Teachers to inspire confidence by good teaching of skills at an appropriate pace of learning for each pupil.
5. Good lines of communication to express views and discuss school issues.

School's expectations of parents and carers

1. Parents to support the work of the school with helpful attitudes and an interest shown at home.
2. Children to be regular and punctual in their attendance.
3. Parents to attend meetings to discuss progress, attainment and the curriculum.
4. Early contact on matters at home affecting a child's progress, happiness or behaviour.

Pupil Voice

At Glengormley IPS we believe that every member of the school family has a right to be heard. As a child-centred school we are committed to involving our pupils in discussions and decisions on school life that directly affect them. Each pupil is given a voice through our School Pupil Council. Here the children are able to share their ideas, thoughts and concerns about school life. The school management listens to their views when planning and reviewing school activities.

Curriculum

Literacy

Literacy in school is divided into three components: Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing.

Literacy is essential as a subject in its own right. It also has a vital part to play as a medium through which all other subjects are taught. Aspects of Literacy are introduced, developed and reinforced through other areas of the curriculum.

There is a strong emphasis on the development of reading fluency and understanding. We encourage parents to be role models and partners for their children.



Mathematics & Numeracy

Mathematics in school covers the areas of: Number, Measures, Handling Data, Shape & Space and Processes.

We encourage a love of numeracy through practical and problem-solving activities related to real life. Mental strategies are developed through the use of a wide range of games and challenges.

We aim to develop skills in numeracy which will help children make informed and responsible choices and decisions throughout their lives.



I.C.T

Information and Communication Technology is an aid to pupils' learning and is a powerful tool in the teaching of children. At Glengormley IPS the pupils have access to programmes designed to enrich their learning experiences. Using interactive whiteboards, laptops, iPads and cameras, the children have opportunities to transfer their knowledge, understanding and skills in a variety of meaningful contexts across the curriculum. These include:

- Explore digital sources of information, investigate and solve problems.
- Express creative ideas using multimedia presentation.
- Exchange work and collaborate online.
- Evaluate and reflect on processes and outcomes for improvement.
- Exhibit, manage and showcase their learning.



Enrichment Subjects

“None of us is born intolerant of those who differ from us. Intolerance is taught and can be untaught, though often with great difficulty. But in this area, as in others, prevention is far preferable to cure. We must work to prevent intolerance from taking hold in the next generation. We must build on the openmindedness of young people to ensure that their minds remain open”

Kofi Annan, Secretary General, United Nations, Nov 2001

In Glengormley IPS, the lives of the pupils are enriched by a plethora of curricular and extra-curricular experiences which broaden their knowledge, social and physical skills and provide them with a holistic education.

Opportunities include:

Music & Drama - alongside music in the classroom, children have the opportunity to perform in the school choir, learn to play an instrument, take dancing lessons and participate in stage productions.

Sport - As well as the regular P.E. curriculum, children are invited to participate in football, netball, table-tennis, tennis, golf, Gaelic football, tag rugby, badminton, athletics and swimming.

Art & Craft - All pupils have the opportunity to work in a variety of media and further develop their creative skills in and out of the classroom.

Residential & Day Trips - All children experience school trips at least once a term. Day trips include local venues e.g. Belfast Zoo, Ulster Folk & Transport Museum, Sentry Hill and the Armagh Planetarium. Residential trips visit Corrymeela, Share Centre and Krakow, Poland.



Religious Education

The School adopts an all-inclusive approach so that all the children have the chance to learn together about different faiths and religions. We aspire to create an environment where those of all faiths and none, are respected, acknowledged and accepted as valued members of the school community.

Pupils will learn together all that can reasonably be expected for them from the shared Christian curriculum. The school makes provision for Catholic pupils whose parents wish them to undergo sacramental preparation. In the sacramental years, parents are also offered the choice of a Social and Moral programme or a Protestant option for their children.

“We open our arms to the entire community and celebrate our individuality and diversity.”

Inclusion

Inclusion & Diversity

“The integrated school provides a learning environment where children and young people from Catholic and Protestant backgrounds, as well as those of other faiths and none, can learn with, from and about each other.” NICIE Declaration of Ethos

Glengormley IPS is the only international controlled integrated primary school in Newtownabbey.

Our commitment to Sharing across our community, celebrating Equality and Diversity comes to life in the school through our established links with Glenann Primary School, Mossgrove Primary School, Lea Green Behaviour Unit, Holy Cross Boys' School, and a range of primary and post-primary school in Newtownabbey, Belfast and beyond. We are supported by a number of outside agencies for example, PeacePlayers International, Community Relations In Schools (CRIS), Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, local churches and community groups to name but a few.



Additional Educational Needs

Every child matters to us in Glengormley IPS. The school identifies children who require specialised teaching to meet their unique needs. Teachers, in consultation with parents, agree targets for Individual Education Plans for children with these additional needs. We organise and carry out diagnostic tests and provide individual and small group tuition. When required, we work with outside agencies such as Education Psychology, RISE-NI and various other EA services to support a child's special needs in school.

Any child identified with an exceptional ability will be nurtured and supported appropriately. Glengormley IPS offers Newcomer tuition for children who have English as an additional language.



International Curriculum

An important dimension to our school ethos is our focus on our International Curriculum. We pride ourselves in being an International School and have children with over a dozen different languages and cultures learning and playing together here each day. Our international work include links with schools in Europe and beyond, embedding the sharing of cultures and languages into our curriculum and celebrating diversity. We are connecting with schools overseas through Erasmus+ programmes, e-twinning opportunities and a range of online technologies to collaborate together.



Positive Behaviour



Positive Behaviour

We believe that effective learning can only take place where there is a high standard of good behaviour. Our approach to discipline is to encourage and celebrate good behaviour and positive achievements in all children. This is promoted through the use of:

- Class Pupil of the Week
- Whole school assembly for Pupils of the Month
- Pupil input to Rules and Rewards
- Class Contracts / Whole School Language Programme for Behaviour Choices
- Circle Time
- Parental involvement
- Sanctions when appropriate

Pastoral Care and Safeguarding Children

The school takes the issue of child protection extremely seriously and we have two teachers designated to coordinate this area of pastoral care. All staff at Glengormley IPS are fully trained to an appropriate level in child protection and are committed to looking after the pastoral needs of every child in their class. Children who are happy and relaxed are more likely to experience academic success and accept new ideas and people.

Further Information

This prospectus gives an overview of what Glengormley IPS provides. Further information is available and we would be delighted for parents to visit the school to discuss our plans for meeting your child's needs. An appointment may be made by telephoning the Principal on 028 90832786 or by email to:

info@glengormleyps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE YOUR OWN NOTES HERE:-

Photography & Design by www.coolforschoolcreative.com



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