

Prospectus



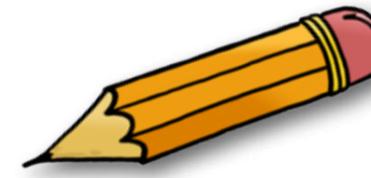
Straidhavern Primary School

"Small School with
High Expectations"



Parent Quote:
"Straidhavern PS is one of a kind. The children are so well cared for. Our children are so happy- I couldn't ask for a better school for them!"

Welcome



Thank you for showing an interest in Straidhavern Primary School. Whether you already have a child at our school, or this is your first step on the primary school journey, you are equally welcome. At Straidhavern Primary School, we pride ourselves on our family ethos, and although it is difficult to capture all dimensions of school life, I hope that as you read through the pages of this prospectus, you will become more aware of what we are trying to achieve and how you, as a parent, can play a vital role in the process.

At Straidhavern Primary School we have a clear understanding of how children learn and we continually strive to provide the best possible conditions to facilitate our learning, as demonstrated in our most recent inspection report. We live in a changing world and we need to prepare our children for tomorrow's needs. Consequently, we not only value the traditional 3Rs, but also believe that children need to be:

Resilient | Reflective | Resourceful

We acknowledge the importance of developing a caring and stimulating environment, where children's high self-esteem enables them to take risks in learning and to learn confidently through their mistakes. Children need to be taught that getting 'stuck' or making mistakes is not a sign of failure and learn strategies for independence. We encourage children to ask questions and to learn how to solve challenges and problems.

We create conditions where children strive for excellence, empowering children to be happy and responsive. Children are challenged within the delivery of an enriched, creative and integrated curriculum. We are an inclusive school that develops independence, responsibility, kindness and good manners through a detailed and extensive programme of Personal Development and Mutual Understanding.

The best way to understand our school aims and values is to make an appointment to visit the school and feel our atmosphere. This would give first hand knowledge and understanding of what we are aiming for and achieving. Please make an appointment to come and experience the environment in which our children learn, so that we can answer any questions you may have.

We hope that this will be the beginning of a long and successful home school partnership between us. Working closely with parents is an important element of our work for the success of each child.

We look forward to welcoming you to Straidhavern Primary School.

Principal, Mr A Scott



School Aims

Every pupil is entitled to a curriculum that is balanced and promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development.

In Straidhavern Primary School, we aim to:

- **Develop and sustain a caring and happy learning environment, promoting respect and co-operation within the school community**
- **Encourage children's confidence, independence and self-esteem to develop**
- **Provide a broad and balanced curriculum taking account of each child's needs**
- **Develop high standards of work and behaviour**
- **Enable each child to fulfil his/her potential**
- **Nurture and sustain positive relationships between home and school**
- **Help pupils to appreciate and respect their immediate and wider environment**

Parent Quote:

"The support the children receive due to the size of the school and classes is a huge positive. All the teachers know all of the children and genuinely show enthusiasm for teaching the children."

Pastoral Care

At Straidhavern Primary, our pastoral aims are:

- **To ensure that each pupil feels valued as a member of our school community**
- **To instil a sense of personal worth and dignity through intellectual, moral and spiritual development**
- **To empower pupils in building and monitoring good relationships with pupils, teachers and others**
- **To assist individuals to develop their lifestyles, appreciate life and respect the world in which they live**
- **To encourage a sense of personal accountability for their own learning and actions.**

Maintaining excellent Pastoral Care, reflective of our ethos, will always be a priority in Straidhavern Primary School.

At school we recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued.

Mr Scott is our Designated Teacher for Child Protection and works with Mrs Hunter (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection), Mrs M Christie and Ms J Christie (Governors for Child Protection) to form our Safeguarding Team. All Child Protection concerns and referrals are handled sensitively, professionally and in ways which support the needs of the children.

We are happy to assist parents in the administration of necessary medication. Should your child require medicine to be administered during the school day you will be asked to complete the necessary authorisation form and to provide the medicine in clearly labelled bottles. If your child uses inhalers you are asked to provide a set to be kept in school in case of an emergency. If your child has any allergies, or other medical needs, you are asked to pass the relevant details to school, along with a letter of confirmation from a medical professional.





The Curriculum

The curriculum includes:

Language & Literacy (Reading/ Writing/Talking & Listening)	Mathematics and Numeracy	The Arts (Drama, music, Art & Design)	The World Around Us (Science/ History/ Geography)	Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU)	Physical Development (P.E)
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Our pupils enjoy the use of interactive whiteboards and iPads in their learning and they have access to a good range of after school clubs.

The curriculum will be delivered to the level that the individual child requires within each class.



Special Needs

Each child has individual abilities and needs. We recognise that some children require more individualised teaching approaches and we endeavour to provide a programme which suits the ability of each child.

Teachers monitor pupils on a daily basis and meet with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) when it is felt that a child needs additional support. At all times we keep in close contact with parents to inform them of our concerns and possible routes for support. Expertise from outside the school is used when necessary.

Assessment

Monitoring of pupil's progress takes place regularly, both formally and informally. A detailed report in June is complemented by interviews in October and February. Children are statutorily assessed at the end of P4 and P7. Standardised tests are used throughout the year to monitor progress.

Where problems arise, a teacher may contact the parent and parents who have concerns are asked to contact teachers to arrange an appointment.



Homework

Pupils are required to complete homework activities. This helps the child to study independently, provides extra practice for skills learned in class and keeps parents in touch with the child's work.

We need the co-operation of parents to ensure that:

- the child makes a real effort to complete the work
- the child has good conditions to work in
- the child completes the homework as independently as possible

You can help your child by:

- listening to reading and asking questions
- calling out spellings
- ensuring that homework is done without loud noise and distractions
- giving little hints that will help a child who is having problems

If a child is having a major problem with work, please put a note to this effect on the homework for the teacher to see. In this way we know to address problems.

Written homework should be done for the day it is set for. Please encourage your child to stick to the homework timetable that has been set. Also encourage them to check all books are in their bag for school.



Our School Uniform

Children are required to wear our school uniform: it gives them a sense of identity and is very practical too. School uniform can be purchased from the school website. Further details can be found in the Parents' Area of the school website.

BOYS

White shirt
School tie
Grey school trousers
Grey socks
A blue sweatshirt with the school crest
Plain black school shoes

GIRLS

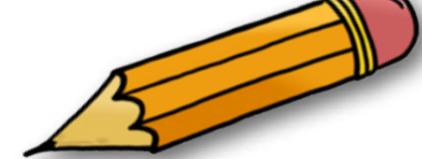
White shirt School tie
Grey pinafore, skirt or school trousers
Grey or white socks or grey tights
A blue sweatshirt/cardigan with the school crest
Plain black school shoes

SUMMER TERM

During the summer term, the children may substitute long trousers for grey 'trouser type' school shorts.
A blue gingham dress may also be worn.



The School Day



Primary 1	9.00am - 12.00pm for the month of September 9.00am - 2.00pm from October onwards
Primary 2	9.00am - 2.00pm each day
Primary 3	9.00am - 2.00pm each day until Christmas. 9.00am - 3.00pm after Christmas on Monday and Tuesday 9.00am - 2.00pm after Christmas on Wednesday to Friday.
P4 - P7	9.00am - 3.00pm each day

Morning break is from 10.30am-10.45pm. We operate a Healthy Break policy
Lunchtime is from 12.10pm-1.00pm each day

Wraparound Care (7.45am-5pm)

We run a breakfast club each morning where the children can get their breakfast and are fully supervised by two members of staff. Breakfast Club costs £2 per day per pupil. Breakfast Club starts at 7.45am each morning!
We also offer an Afterschool Club to 5pm each day. The cost of this is £2 per hour per child.

After School Activities

We have a variety of clubs on offer throughout the year. They may include:

- Irish dancing
- Drama
- Computer (ICT)
- Maths Games Club
- Art
- Cross Country
- Football
- Hockey
- Netball





Physical Education

For P.E. children in P4 - P7 change clothes and footwear while younger children change into trainers.

Swimming

Children from P5 to P7 have weekly swimming lessons at the local swimming pool under the tuition of a qualified teacher. These lessons are very popular with the children, the majority of whom can swim confidently by the end of Year 7.

Lunch

At Straidhavern Primary School we also offer a selection of hot, healthy meals for the children, served with a smile by our five-star rated catering assistant, Ms Sefton. Meal money for the week is collected each Monday morning. Children can also bring a packed lunch to school if they do not want to avail of the school meals.

We are a health promoting school. Children are encouraged to bring healthy snacks to school and to drink plenty of water, from their own water bottles, throughout the day.



Music Tuition

Children from P4 onwards can be selected to learn to play an instrument under the tuition of a peripatetic tutor. There is a fee for this tuition as well as a small charge for the loan of an instrument. Children have the opportunity to enter music exams and play at events.

Educational Visits

An extensive range of school trips is available for all pupils throughout their years at Straidhavern Primary School. Each year, the classes visit a range of local places of educational interest to further stimulate learning. In addition, a residential trip is organised for **KEY STAGE 2** pupils every alternate year. In 2019 our pupils travelled to Disneyland Paris for four days!

Bus service

We have our own bus fitted with seatbelts and the same driver each day. Children are transported safely and with a friendly, familiar face.

Children at foundation stage are escorted home by a member of staff. Transport is free!

Please contact the Education Authority's Transport section for eligibility information.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/checkTransport>

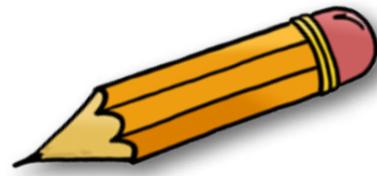


Class Dojo

We use Class Dojo as a positive reward system as well as a communication tool between home and school. Parents and teachers use the system regularly to communicate with each other. Class Dojo is a closed system for our parents only, and you must be invited on by the school to access our information.



Sensory Room

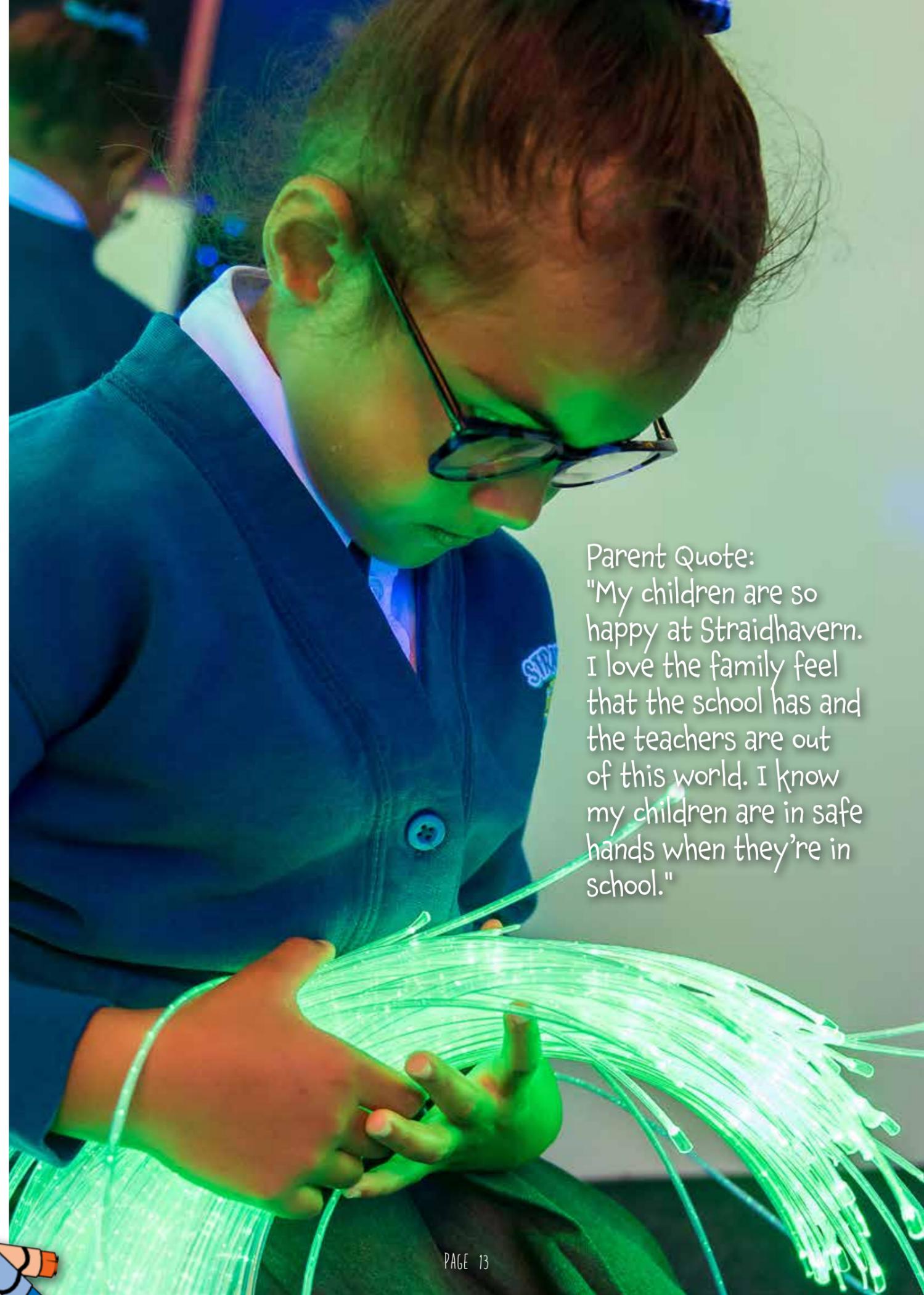
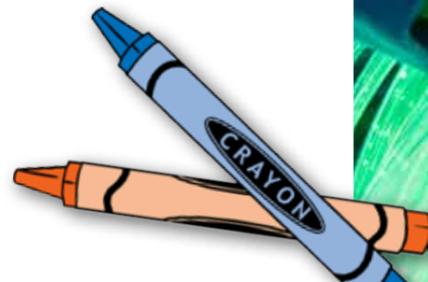


In 2019 we installed a fully interactive sensory room in the school that is currently being used by many of our pupils. The sensory room is a calm, safe space that can provide a few minutes away from the normal hustle and bustle of school. Our room has certainly got the thumbs up from our pupils.



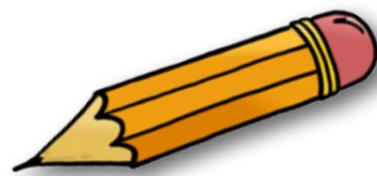
School Counselling Service

Over the past three years we have been able to offer a school counsellor, facilitated by Jigsaw Community Counselling. Many of our parents and pupils have found this to be a very beneficial service.



Parent Quote:
"My children are so happy at Straidhavern. I love the family feel that the school has and the teachers are out of this world. I know my children are in safe hands when they're in school."

Admission Criteria



In the event of the school being oversubscribed, pupils of compulsory school age will be admitted according to the following criteria, applied in the following order:

Preference will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at their time of proposed admission

PI intake:

1. Pupils who have attained compulsory school age at the time of their proposed admission.
2. Pupils who have a brother or sister currently enrolled in the school.
3. Pupils who reside in the school's natural catchment area.
4. Pupils who reside closest to the school as measured by public road.



Induction Procedures for P1 Children

All parents of prospective Primary 1 children are encouraged to visit the school to talk to the Principal /staff and see for themselves what we offer.

In June, we have an induction day for parents and children to meet the teacher and sample some activities and materials on offer.

Parents who wish their children to transfer to Straidhavern Primary from another school should phone the school to arrange an appointment with the Principal in order to view the school premises and discuss the child's needs.



Inspection Report

An inspection of the school was carried out in October 2018 and the inspector's report concluded that outcomes for learners, quality of learning and the quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and actions to promote improvement were all **good**.

The judgement on the overall effectiveness of the school said that, '**Straidhavern Primary School now demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners.**'

This is the second highest level that the inspectorate can give to a school.

Views of parents and staff in the Inspection Report

The parents/carers who responded to an online, confidential questionnaire indicated that they were **happy** with the quality of the children's all-round learning, the improved communication between school and home and the arrangements for supporting the children's pastoral needs. The positive staff responses highlighted the **productive** and **supportive** working relationships



Parent Quote:

"Straidhavern is a great choice of school. It is a lovely, small, rural school that has excellent pastoral care. All the teachers and staff have a wonderful, caring, kind, nurturing approach towards the children - bringing out the best in them!"

END OF KEY STAGE RESULTS 2018/19

End of Key Stage Assessment for P4 and P7 were completed in summer term of 2019.

Stage One Results: Level 2 is the target level for achievement at Key Stage One

Communication

	Level	QQ*	1	2	3
School Outcomes	Number %			5 63%	3 37%
N.I. Outcomes	Number %	68 2.02%	389 11.56%	2415 71.79%	492 14.63%

Using Mathematics

	Level	QQ*	1	2	3
School Outcomes	Number %		1 12%	5 63%	2 25%
N.I. Outcomes	Number %	54 1.60%	346 10.24%	2446 72.39%	533 15.77%

Using ICT

	Level	QQ*	1	2	3
School Outcomes	Number %		1 13%	7 87%	
N.I. Outcomes	Number %	34 1.02%	377 11.33%	2715 81.61%	201 6.04%

Please note that the 2018/19 data has been produced based on submitted returns from approximately 11% of primary schools and the information presented here has not been weighted to reflect the school population. Schools should therefore exercise caution when interpreting these results and analysing data year on year.

*QQ = Working towards level 1



END OF KEY STAGE RESULTS 2018/19

Key Stage Two Results: Level 4 is the target level for achievement at Key Stage Two

Communication

	Level	QQ*	1	2	3	4	5
School Outcomes	Number %			5 63%	1 17%	4 66%	1 17%
N.I. Outcomes	Number %	#	30 0.89%	88 2.60%	594 17.55%	2075 61.32%	589 17.41%

Using Mathematics

	Level	QQ*	1	2	3	4	5
School Outcomes	Number %					5 83%	1 17%
N.I. Outcomes	Number %	#	25 0.74%	92 2.72%	554 16.37%	1969 58.17%	738 21.80%

Using ICT

	Level	QQ*	1	2	3	4	5
School Outcomes	Number %				1 17%	4 66%	1 17%
N.I. Outcomes	Number %	#	24 0.71%	51 1.52%	401 11.93%	2709 80.62%	169 5.03%

Please note that the 2018/19 data have been produced based on submitted returns from approximately 11% of primary schools and the information presented here has not been weighted to reflect the school population. Schools should therefore exercise caution when interpreting these results and analysing data year on year.

*QQ = Working towards level 1

Figure not disclosed due to rules of statistical suppression



Calling all Parents!

Are you looking for a school for your child that;

- **Is small and has a friendly atmosphere?**
- **Is pro-active?**
- **Uses technology to enhance learning?**
- **Has excellent pastoral care?**
- **Has a superb record of providing support for pupils' additional learning needs?**
- **Provides an excellent pupil teacher ratio?**
- **Offers an extensive and varied extra-curricular program?**
- **Is in a safe rural setting?**
- **Has supervised buses with dedicated drivers and seatbelts?**

You will find all of this...and more...in Straidhavern Primary School!



We are nominated for two awards at the Families First NI Education Awards 2022: 'Best Primary School Teacher in Co. Antrim' for Miss McKenzie; and 'Best Primary School in Co. Antrim'!

Thank you for taking time to read our prospectus. I invite you to attend our Open Day Event or to make an appointment to visit Straidhavern Primary School, so that you can experience our happy, caring and productive school.

Tel: 02890 825530 | Principal: Mr. A. Scott | Email: ascott727@c2kni.net



Straidhavern

Primary School



3 Straidhavern Road
Nutt's Corner
Crumlin
BT29 4SN

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www.straidhavernps.co.uk