

St. Mary's Primary School Cabragh

10 Whites Road, Cabragh, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 3AN

Telephone: (028) 8776 7356

Principal: Mrs Louise Quinn



School Profile

St. Mary's Primary School Cabragh is situated in the parish of Killeeshil, half-way between the towns of Dungannon and Ballygawley. The school was built in 1968 to facilitate the amalgamation of three smaller schools in the parish.

St. Mary's Primary School promotes the Catholic ethos in all aspects of the school community while educating the whole child in a caring atmosphere. Great value is placed on the individuality of each child as we nurture and develop his or her needs. This school offers a broad and balanced curriculum within a stimulating learning environment and encourages all pupils to fulfil their potential. Appropriate provision will be made for the spiritual, emotional, physical, intellectual and special needs of our children at each stage of their development.

Our enrolment of 208 continues to grow steadily. The teaching staff currently consists of a principal, seven full time teachers, including two senior teachers, and twelve classroom assistants. The office staff, caretaker, cleaner, lunchtime and school meals staff complete a team dedicated to the education and welfare of the children entrusted to their care.

Our well-kept accommodation has seven permanent classrooms, two mobile classrooms, an ICT suite, a Nurture Room and an assembly hall which doubles up as a dining room and meals kitchen. We have a stimulating and engaging outdoor play area, including three large playgrounds, a football pitch, walking track, Sensory Garden, Fairy Garden, early years play area with adventure trail and an outdoor classroom.

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Children have access to a number of educational resources that include science/technology equipment and Clevertouch boards, computer workstations and iPads in each classroom.

St Mary's has recently developed an ICT suite, equipped with twenty-five C2K managed desktop computers, twenty 10th generation iPads and a Clevertouch board.

St. Mary's school community provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere that pervades all areas of the school and it is one of the main strengths and unique characteristics of the school. The children are extremely well catered for; they are very well behaved and are actively encouraged to be responsible for their own behaviour through participating in our various reward-based initiatives.

The aim of our school is to provide a safe, happy, stimulating and secure environment where each pupil can fulfil his/her full potential. We strive for excellence in everything we do. There is a strong caring and supportive environment in the school, in which all children can develop the personal and social skills they need to play a confident and responsible role in society. In St. Mary's children are encouraged to play a positive role in the development of the school through our Digital Leaders programme, School Council and Eco Council.

St. Mary's has a rich history of music and drama. Musical talents of all pupils are developed with an active programme of EA music tuition, in strings, drums, woodwind and brass. Our traditional music group also receive tuition weekly, in fiddle, banjo, tin whistle and

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concertina. Our school choir participates successfully in parish and community events.

Educational visits and extra-curricular activities form an integral part of the school's curriculum, with a structured programme in place from P1– P7. Extra-curricular activities include Gaelic Football, Netball, Multi-Sport, Hurling/Camogie, Choir, Traditional Music Group, French Club, Art and Drama.

The physical and emotional wellbeing of our children is a priority in St Mary's. In P.E., we are very keen that our children right across the school are active and given the opportunity to experience different sports. As such, we actively seek out coaches and organisations to supplement our programme. We have strong links with the GAA, St Mary's GAC, Cumann na mBunscol, AB Coaching, the Torrent Complex and Dungannon swimming pool. We also utilise external agencies including 'The Calm Kit' and 'Relax Kids' to promote the health and wellbeing of all our pupils.

The school is supported by an active Parent Support Group (Friends of Cabragh) who meet on a regular basis to organise social, educational and fund-raising events. The Parent Support Group is a forum where parents can become involved in the life of the school. Fund raising by the 'Friends of Cabragh' helps to provide much needed resources for our school.