



St Eugene's Primary School, Victoria Bridge, Strabane Board of Governors Annual Report 2024 – 2025



Principal and Secretary to Board of Governors: Laura Gormley
Chairperson of Governors: Carmel Corry

St Eugene's PS offers an all-inclusive learning community dedicated to nurturing the intellectual, physical, spiritual, moral, social, and emotional development of each individual child. Staff are deeply committed to providing the highest standard of teaching and learning. The school encourages all to realise their full potential in a caring and engaging environment.

S - striving

T - towards

E – everyone

U – understanding through a

G – great

E – education in a

N – nurturing

E – environment

Within our 'Circle of Learning' we are striving towards everyone understanding through a great education in a nurturing environment.

The Board of Governors

The Board of Governors of St Eugene's Primary School reconstituted during 2024/2025 is made up of enthusiastic and committed people who work in close partnership with the staff of the school, to ensure that each child reaches his/her fullest potential. Those on the Board of Governors come from various walks of life and each is dedicated to enhancing the educational experience and outcomes for all those in our care. The governors play an important role within school - they provide strategic management, critical challenge, and accountability. They appoint the principal and staff, and delegate the daily management of the school to them. They also oversee all recruitment and finance matters, monitor all aspects of the curriculum including educational outcomes, and pay special attention to the handing on of the faith within the school. The Board of Governors also play a central role in our Safeguarding team.

Meet the Governors:

Carmel Corry – Trustee - Chairperson

Debbie Gallagher – EA Rep - Vice Chairperson

Fr Seán O'Donnell – Trustee

Mrs Michelle Hurley – Trustee

Mr Gary Winters -Trustee

Mr Peter McNulty – DE Rep

Mr Patrick Kelly – EA Rep

Mr Paul Donnelly – Teacher Rep

Ms Kelly Boyle – Parent Rep

Miss Laura Gormley – Secretary to the Board of Governors & Principal

During 2024-25 the governors met regarding their responsibilities for:

1. School self-evaluation and school development planning
2. The delivery of the Northern Ireland Curriculum
3. Staff appointments, attendance and welfare
4. Admissions policy and enrolment
5. Policy review
6. Financial management of the school
7. Performance review and staff development
8. Child protection, pastoral care and promoting positive behaviour
9. Responding to CCMS and DENI circulars and initiatives
10. School building-health and safety/security

We wish to express a big thank you to all the school governors for willingly giving of their time to ensure that the administration of St Eugene's Primary School proceeds smoothly and effectively.

Staffing

- **Principal**
-
- **Teacher**
- **(Reception & Year 1)**
-
- **Teacher**
- **(Years 2 & 3)**
-
- **Teacher**
- **(Years 4 & 5)**
-
- **Teacher**
- **(Years 6 & 7)**

• **ANCILLARY STAFF**

-
- Clerical Officer
-
- Cook in Charge
-
- Caretaker

Miss. L Gormley

Miss. L Gormley/Mrs. C McDermott

Assisted by Mrs. L McBride & Mrs O'Kane

Mrs. C O'Donnell

Assisted by Miss. E O'Brien

Mrs. D Connolly

Assisted by Mrs. S Preston

Mr. P Donnelly

Assisted by Miss. S McCay

Mrs. M Gallagher

Mrs. J McGinley

Mrs Sharon Connolly

Enrolment Numbers 2024- 2025:

One child was admitted to P5 in November.

One child was admitted to P2 in December

Class Breakdown	Miss Gormley Teaching Principal	Mrs O'Donnell	Mrs Connolly	Mr Donnelly
	Reception – 3 P1 - 14	P2 – 11 P3 – 13	P4 – 8 P5 - 12	P6 - 11 P7 - 5
Total pupils no: 77	17	24	20	16

Child Protection

St Eugene's Primary School undertakes the responsibility for the welfare, care, and safety of pupils very seriously. We always aim to provide a caring, supportive, and safe environment valuing all individuals for their unique talents and abilities. Everyone who works in our school including teachers, non-teaching staff, volunteers and visitors have responsibility for the welfare and safeguarding of all pupils.

The Designated Teacher carries out an audit each year to ensure that the school implements fully the child protection procedures in line with current DENI circulars. This information is maintained in the child protection/safeguarding file. The designated teacher reports on child protection at all Board of Governor meetings and an annual report is submitted in the autumn term. The school is an Operation Encompass school.

The pastoral care and child protection procedures are monitored thoroughly by the DT and both DDT. A safeguarding notice board is located in the foyer and is regularly update with information. Parents receive the summary guidance annually and the full copy of our policy is available at all times on our website.

Training for designators/deputy designated teacher and our CP governor is updated in line with DE regulations and records kept by designated teacher. All school staff (teaching and non-teaching) receive training annually from the designated teacher and are informed about how to maximise safety and share concerns with members of the Safeguarding Team.

Whole school assemblies and class assemblies are used to reinforce the child protection message and particularly the role of key staff in this process.

Other initiatives and preventative curriculum which address Child Protection and safety issues include but are not limited to; PSNI/NIFS/RNLI visits, school nurse/health visiting team, Education Welfare, NSPCC Pants, RSE, PDMU Living. Learning. Together and Wellbeing Champions.

Attendance



Attendance:

- Overall Pupil Attendance: 95.27%
- No pupils will attendance below 85%
- No referrals to EWO

Special Educational Needs

Special Educational Needs

Denise Connolly is out of class 2 days per month for the implementation of SEN Act. Completing SEN paperwork, referrals and testing with children.

15 children (20% of overall enrolment) on the SEN register at the point of writing this report. 3 Statemented Children.

16 children (22% of overall enrolment) on the medical register at time of writing this report.

One child joining P1 in September with a Statement of Education Needs.

Two more children will have statements in the new academic year.

Finance

-

The financial year finished on **-£72, 937** in 2023/2024 and **-£75, 169** in 2024/2025 due to very careful management of funds. The Board of Governors are continuing to work hard to grow the enrolment of the school to improve the financial situation. The Board of Governors are clear that the school is working on the bare minimum staffing and spending, therefore, no further cuts can be made. This was reflected in the assurance statement which was submitted to DE when the Board of Governors signed off a new three-year plan in June for 2025-2028. Details of the three-year plan can be viewed below.

	October 2024	October 2025	October 2026	October 2027
Category	Prior Year	Plan Year 1	Plan Year 2	Plan Year 3
Full Time Equivalent Enrolment (excluding Spec Unit Pupils)	72.0	85.0	88.0	88.0
Planned Teaching Complement	3.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Planned Pupil Teacher Ratio	21.2	19.3	20.0	20.0

		2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
Funding	Column1	Plan Year 1	Plan Year 2	Plan Year 3
Aggregated Schools Budget (Common Funding Formula)		374,422	419,003	429,292
Other Delegated Funding		5,141	5,141	5,141
Split Site Funding Requested		-	-	-
Total		379,563	424,144	434,433

		2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
Category		Plan Year 1	Plan Year 2	Plan Year 3
Income		- 5,468	- 5,468	- 5,468
Staff Costs - Teaching		297,925	316,319	322,033
Staff Costs - Non Teaching		76,768	76,768	76,768
Staff Costs - Other		-	-	-
Accommodation		7,514	7,514	7,514
Repairs & Maintenance		213	215	217
Operating Costs		9,045	9,135	9,227
Non Capital Purchases		-	-	-
Capital Expenditure		-		
Net In-Year (Surplus) / Deficit		385,998	404,483	410,299

Forecast Surplus / Deficit Position 2025-28

		2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
As at 31st March		Plan Year 1	Plan Year 2	Plan Year 3
Opening Cumulative Surplus / (Deficit)		- 75,169	- 81,604	- 61,943
Net In-Year Surplus / (Deficit)		- 6,435	19,661	24,142
Closing Cumulative Surplus / (Deficit)		- 81,604	- 61,943	- 37,801
% Carry Over		-27%	-18%	-10%

School Category

1a

The projected overspend for 2025/2026 is -£6435, bringing a predicted deficit of -£81,604 by the end of this financial year, however, if enrolment numbers continue to grow you will see a move out of the overspend and deficit in 26.27 and 27.28.

There is also a PTA account which is used for fundraising and grants to support the teaching and learning at St Eugene's Primary School. You will see the accounts below.

Credit		
+£2943.47		Deposit Summer Fundraising & Donations
+£680		Refund from Diocesan Office for Bin Storage
+£3,054.50		Deposit Christmas Show Fundraising & Donations & Swimming Bus Money
+£145.49		ASDA Cash Pot
+£1926		Deposit Easter Draw/Book Fair/Donation & Gemma McHale Fundraising
+£2050		Fundraising Donation JP Haulage
+£2319.30		Deposit Summer Fundraising & Donations
+£876		Payment from Edge Hill University for hosting Trainee Teacher
		+£13994.76
Debit		
-£2050		Setting up 4 th Classroom
-£300.73		Classroom resources
-£1927		Interactive Touchscreen
-£101.88		Twinkl Renewal
-£231		Refund to Integrated Education Fund
-£750		Donation to Gemma McHale Foundation 23.24 & 24.25 combined
-£150		Maths Week Ireland Workshops
-£100		Hire of Young Farmer's Hall for Christmas Show
-£770		Musical Pathways to Learning Payment
-£50		CnmB Annual Subscription
-£508.47		Verbal Wellbeing Programme
-840		Swimming Buses
-£264		Rocwell Water Cooler
-£1996.24		Purchase of New I-Pads
-£52		Information Commissioner (ICO) Yearly Fee
-£150		Bus to Springfest
-£914		Book Fair
-£50		Solás Charity Admin Fee
-£180		P7 Trip Oakfire Adventures
-£106.85		Bank Fees
		-£11,492.17
		Balance at beginning of school year 2025/2026 = £6336.10

School Development & Improvement

Ongoing action short of strike in 2024/2025 had an impact on curriculum development and in-service training. This dispute was resolved by the department of education in term 3. Below you will read the initiatives and work which still went on in our school despite action existing for most of the academic year, it is evaluated using RAG, red for achieved, amber for partially achieved and green for achieved.

Curriculum and Staff Development:

Language and Literacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on improving spelling and reading comprehension in KS1 and KS2.• Aim to reduce underachievement in PTE.• Whole School Literacy Display to share good practice.• Small group programme to be devised to raise standards.• Delay Complete Spelling Programme until P4.• Linguistic Phonics to be used P1-P3.• CCEA Assessment task per half termly planner.• Expand library of novels for KS2.• Invest in non-fiction books to aid reading comprehension from FS upwards.
Mathematics and Numeracy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on improving fluency and mathematical reasoning.• Aim to reduce underachievement in PTM.• Whole School Maths Display to share good practice.• TPL training for all teaching staff in fluency and mathematical reasoning.• Small group programme to be devised to raise standards.• Managing and Leading Mathematics training for co-ordinator.• CCEA Assessment task per half termly planner.• Create Maths Mastery Document to guide staff throughout whole school.
UICT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigate fundraising opportunities to purchase new hardware.• CCEA Assessment task per half termly planner.• Update ICT policies.• Continue to promote and develop coding throughout the school.
World Around Us
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a new Eco Committee for 24.25.• Eco-School Display regularly updated following monthly meetings and new developments.• Maintaining Green Flag.• Heritage project with neighbouring school.• Use shared education to develop activity based and outdoor learning in KS2 & KS2.

The Arts

- Musical Pathways to Learning to continue to upskill all FS and KS1 staff.
- Use of EA music specialists for instrument tuition in KS2.
- Use of external specialists to give further opportunities to children through Rural Area Partnership and Extended Schools.

Physical Education

- Complete whole school PE scheme.
- Teachers to embed new whole school PE scheme into half termly planning and teaching across all key stages.
- Continue to promote a variety of sports throughout the school year.
- Attendance at organised sporting events to showcase talents.
- Achieve Active Travel Silver Award through Sustrans NI.
- Promote Active Travel events throughout the school year.

Extended Schools

- Principal collaboration for action planning.
- Breakfast Club running for 37 weeks.
- 2.15 Club outdoor play and library time for FS children.
- 3.15 – 4.15 After School Clubs.
- Internet Safety workshops through cluster.
- Athletics package for all classes P1-P7.
- Intergenerational Art Workshop through cluster.
- Resilience and wellbeing focus for P4/5 children through cluster.

Shared Education

- Principal collaboration for action planning 6th November 2024.
- Focus agreed between three schools to reflect the new framework.
- Teacher collaboration for action planning.

Whole School Issues:

Special Education Needs

- Create new provision map for 24.25 to address underachievement of SEN children.
- Link provision map to individual PLPs.
- Prepare for switch to Bromcrom.
- Face to face meetings with parents for PLPs.
- Twice monthly release for SENCo for implementation of SEND Act.
- Update of SEN & Medical register.
- Training for all staff on new medical needs.
- Back on Track Programme to support children on SEN register.
- Effective use of Classroom Assistant Training.
- Proposal for SPIM on school site.

Safeguarding

- Whole staff safeguarding training in August.
- Safeguarding Report to Board of Governors and training on reconstitution.
- Update Policy and issue to parents.
- Update displays, flow charts, posters.

Health and Safety

- Investigate secure access for mobile.
- Create new Health and Safety Policy.
- Regularly devise and review Risk Assessments.
- Fire training for all staff.
- Legionella training for all staff.
- Fire Inspection and logbook updated, and responsibility shared with building supervisor.
- Acquire a Fire Assembly Point sign for car park.
- Address Health and Safety concerns in car park at 3.15.
- Training for all staff on procedures for dealing with medical needs and allergic reactions.

Attendance

- Half termly pupil attendance audits.
- Letters issued half termly to parents of those with attendance below 90%.
- Refresh procedures for staff reporting absence.

Wellbeing

- Wellbeing to continue to be a standing item on BoG agenda.
- Pupil Counselling Service weekly.
- Use of wellbeing programmes through Extended Schools and McHale Foundation.
- Period Poverty Provision.
- Individual Time Budgets agreed with teaching staff.
- One School Development Day allocated to staff wellbeing.

Staffing

- Employ 4th full time teacher to meet needs of growing school.
- Action permanency of any temporary assistants.

PRSD

- PRSD to resume for all teaching staff.
- Targets to be agreed with staff in first half of the first term.
- Board of Governors to assess Principal PRSD.
- New staff to be guided through EDP.
- Use of GTCNI portal.

Parents and Community

- Monthly newsletter.
- Regular updates on social media channels, text system and website.
- Seesaw for communication between home and school in term 1.
- Investigate new online learning platform from Term 2 due to rising Seesaw costs.
- Induction meetings.
- Return to Parent – Teacher face to face meetings.
- Re-establish parent support group.
- Use feedback from parental engagement to reflect on communication with parents.
- Open doors to parents more regularly.

- Update and share Code of Conduct for those with Parental Responsibility.
- Use of Young Farmer's Hall for school community events.
- Call for volunteers to support provision in a range of aspects of school life.
- PR in local press where possible.

Accommodation and Maintenance

- Clear store in mobile building and create a new library.
- Create a 4th classroom in the mobile building.
- Investigate painting of mobile and staff toilets.
- Repair of wooden board along the flat roof at front of P1 classroom.
- Signage to share vision and goals with school community.

Finances

- BoG to sign off Three Year Plan.
- Effective use of TSN funding to tackle underachievement.
- SENCo funding to release Mrs Connolly twice monthly.
- Stocktake review.
- Make use of any funding streams and ring-fenced money to avoid 'eating in to' LMS budget.

Governance

- Reconstitution & training of new Board of Governors.
- Opportunities for pupils and parents to get to know our Governors.

Test Data June 2025

Class	Number of Pupils	Mean Standardised CAT4	Mean Standardised PTE Score (English)	Mean Standardised PTM Score (Maths)
P3	11	N/A	104	119
P4	8	102	98	102
P5	11	99	98	99
P6	10	98	97	92
P7	5	91	93	92

There was a reduction in underachievement in PTM (Mathematics) in June test data.

In PTE (English) staff have identified spelling and reading comprehension as areas for development within the school. Children identified as underachieving are supported in school in a variety of individual, small group and whole group interventions. It is important to note that smaller class sizes and high levels of special needs result in a lower standardised mean score.

Have a look a monthly breakdown of life at St Eugene's PS during 2024-2025

September



- Musical Pathways commenced
- School Swimming commenced
- School Counselling commenced
- Library Van Returned
- GAA Coaching commenced
- After School Sports commenced
- Sustrans Cycle to School Week
- Teacher of Deaf Sessions
- Back on Track commenced
- Boost programme commenced
- Good Relations Event for KS2
- Miss Gormley commenced Anti - Bullying Leadership Course. Completed Module 1 and 2.
- Parent Teacher Meetings for SEN children



October

Musical Pathways continues	School Swimming continues	School Counselling continues	Library Van
GAA Coaching continues	After School Sports continues	World Mental Health Day Celebrations	Boost Programme continues
Back on Track continues	Miss Gormley Anti Bullying Course completed Module 3 and 4.	Pupil Council Reconstituted	Eco Committee Reconstituted
Literacy Service Support	Teacher of Deaf Sessions	Maths Week Ireland Workshop with Pat Jamison.	Spooky Supper Dance
	Justin Logue Movement & Makaton Workshop	Parent Teacher Meetings	



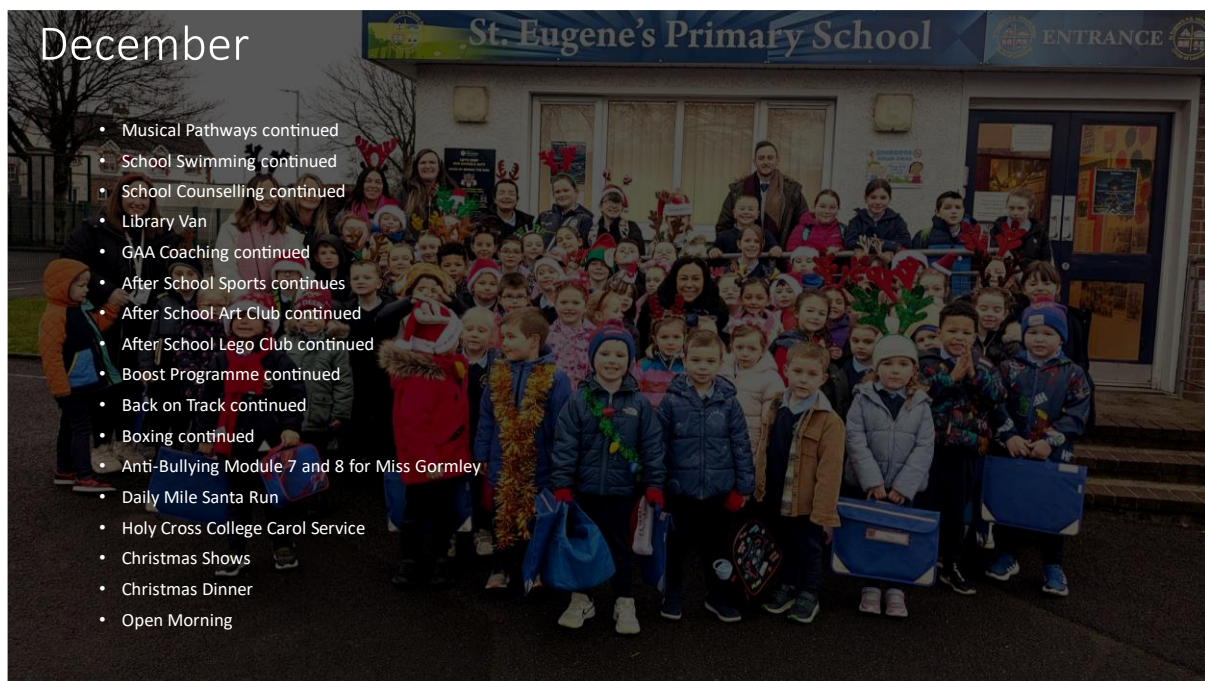
November

- Musical Pathways continues
- School Swimming continues
- School Counselling continues
- Library Van
- GAA Coaching continues
- After School Sports continues
- After School Art Club commences
- After School Lego Club commences
- Boost Programme continues
- Back on Track continues
- Boxing Commenced
- Anti-Bullying Module 5 and 6 for Miss Gormley
- Anti-Bullying Week
- Shared Education Partnership Event attended by Miss Gormley
- Retirement tea party for Mrs O'Kane
- INTO Film Festival Trip
- Educational Psychology Consultation
- Diwali Celebration Day
- World Drawing God Day
- School Improvement Officer Visit
- EWO Audit Visit
- Flu Immunisation
- Verbal Wellbeing Training for staff
- Ditch the Dark Event



December

- Musical Pathways continued
- School Swimming continued
- School Counselling continued
- Library Van
- GAA Coaching continued
- After School Sports continues
- After School Art Club continued
- After School Lego Club continued
- Boost Programme continued
- Back on Track continued
- Boxing continued
- Anti-Bullying Module 7 and 8 for Miss Gormley
- Daily Mile Santa Run
- Holy Cross College Carol Service
- Christmas Shows
- Christmas Dinner
- Open Morning



January 2025

- Musical Pathways continued
- School Swimming completed
- School Counselling continued
- Boost programme continued
- Confirmation Workshops
- Post Primary Transition Sessions
- Stay & Play for PreSchool children.
- Holy Cross Arts Programme for KS2.
- Catholic Schools Week
- Grandparents Day
- Relax Kids commenced
- School Development Training for Principals



February 2025

- Musical Pathways continued
- School Counselling continued
- Boost programme continued
- Relax Kids continued
- Boxing commenced for P4/5
- Holy Cross Arts Programme for KS2.
- School Stock take submitted
- Extended Schools Internet Safety with Wayne Denner
- MID TERM BREAK
- Principal Coaching began
- DT Refresher Training
- School Nurse P1 Health Checks
- First Communion Workshops
- Shared Education Planning days.
- Talent Show



March 2025

- Musical Pathways continued
- School Counselling continued
- Boost programme continued
- Relax Kids continued
- Boxing continued for P4/5
- Steps to Unity Project with Ardstraw Jubilee
- Drama Resilience Project with Rois Kelly
- World Book Day
- Enriching Mathematical Reasoning Training 2 days Miss Gormley
- P6/7 Famine Exhibition
- Annual Reviews for Statemented children submitted.
- Big Walk and Wheel
- Shared Education Partnerships commenced
- SENCO training
- New outdoor play equipment delivered £3500 funding



April 2025

- Musical Pathways paused due to teacher bereavement
- School Counselling continued
- Boost programme continued
- Relax Kids continued
- Drama Resilience Project with Rois Kelly
- Big Walk and Wheel
- Gloria Perry Intergenerational Art Workshop
- Shared Education Partnerships continued
- Leading and Managing Numeracy training – Miss Gormley
- GROW programme beginning for Rec -P3
- Jude Gallagher motivational workshop for P4 -P7



May 2025



- Musical Pathways continued
- School Counselling continued
- Shared Education continued
- Grow Project continued
- Rois Kelly sessions concluded
- Enriching Mathematical Reasoning Training all staff
- PTE/PTM Testing P3 – P6
- Informal Assessments Foundation Stage
- CCEA levels in Communication and Numeracy submitted to DE by Laura
- Extended Schools Annual Report submitted to DE by Laura
- SEN funding report submitted to DE by Laura
- Laura attended Shared Education Conference and applied for Shared Education funding for 25/26

- Book Fair
- First Confession
- Choir
- Library Van
- GAA Blitz KS2
- Cycle to School Fundraiser – Gemma McHale Foundation
- P6/7 visited Gortin Glens
- P6/7 visited Lurgybrack Farm
- Rec – P3 visited Glenpark Estate.



June 2025



- Musical Pathways concluded
- School Counselling concluded
- Grow Project concluded
- Annual Pupil Pupils issued to parents including test data reports in English and Maths.
- Back on Track monitoring and evaluation visit
- Staff have completed evaluations of action plans for SDP
- Tackling Social Need action plan evaluated and submitted to DE by Laura
- PE equipment annual inspection

- Soul of India Workshops
- First Holy Communion
- Induction Programme
- P7 attended Fan the Flame Mass
- P7 Trip to Oakfire Adventure
- HSE Farm Safety Workshops
- P7 attended Post Primary Schools
- GAA Blitz HCC
- After School Clubs finished
- Sports Day
- P7 Leaver Assembly
- Retirement Celebration Fr Doherty