



GIBSON CONTROLLED PRIMARY SCHOOL



PROSPECTUS

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WELCOME TO GIBSON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

Thank you for taking time to consider Gibson Primary School as a school for your child. While it is never possible for this prospectus to share the unique atmosphere of our school it is my hope that it will provide an overview of some of the opportunities our pupils have. In order to fully experience our school we would encourage you to bring your child along to our Open Evenings in December/January, which will allow you to see for yourself what we offer.

Our building and grounds have some of the best facilities on offer anywhere in Northern Ireland. We have our very own forest and outdoor learning areas which extend the pupils' learning beyond the classroom. We are extremely proud of

all of our pupils and their achievements, and I strongly believe it is our pupils and excellent staff who make Gibson what it is!

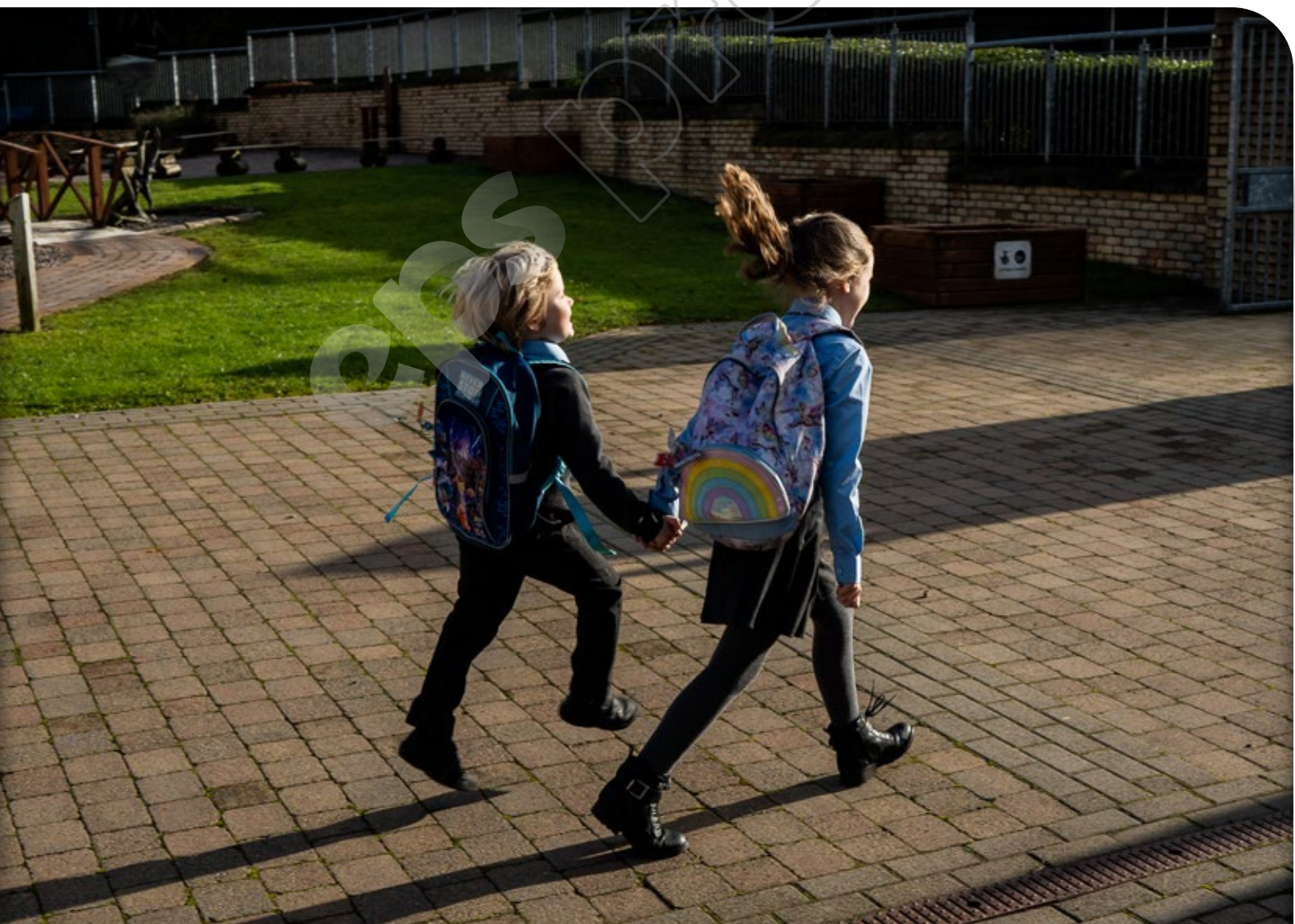
Our wish is that while your child is at Gibson they will grow into happy, confident young people who have made good friendships and developed skills in all the key areas.

If you require any more information on any aspect of school life or would like to visit the school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

K. Sterritt

Principal



ETHOS AND AIMS

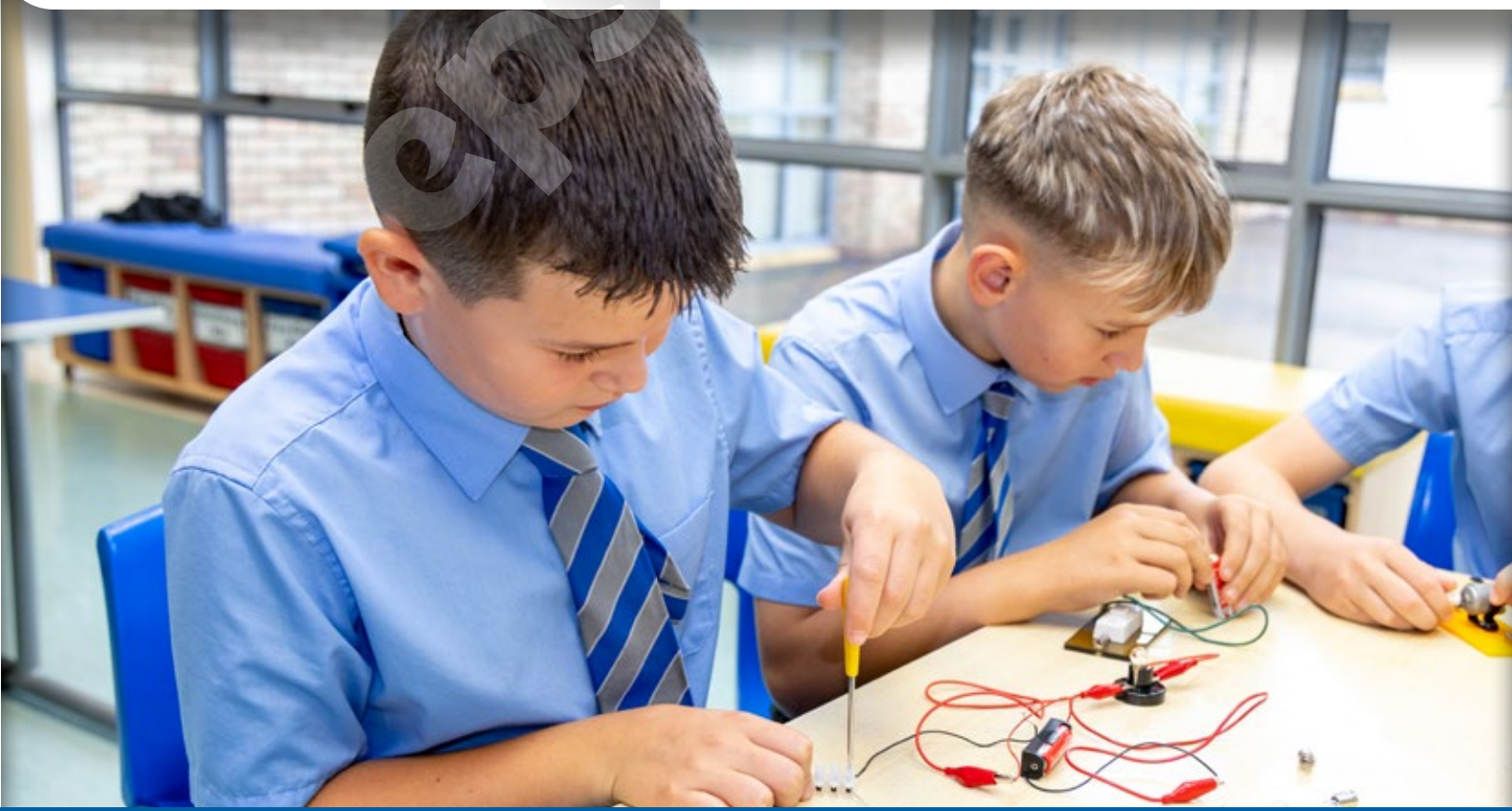
We aim to provide the highest quality educational experiences in a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment.

Gibson Primary School achieves high academic standards in a caring and child centred environment which promotes the social and emotional development of all our pupils.

We provide a wide range of educational experiences and are extremely proud of the achievements of all of our children. We strive to maintain the highest possible standard of classroom teaching and to offer all of our pupils a wide range of educational opportunities.

We aim to provide each pupil with:

- A safe, secure and stimulating learning environment;
- An ethos of challenge and support;
- A broad and balanced curriculum;
- High quality learning and teaching experiences;
- A wide variety of extra-curricular activities;
- Opportunities for personal development.



CURRICULUM

We believe children learn best when they are motivated and fully engaged. We ensure that all pupils will have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. We have a long tradition of academic excellence and outstanding sporting achievements.

Children will have the opportunity to develop a variety of skills throughout their time in primary school especially in Literacy, Numeracy and ICT through a variety of fun filled activities. We are proud that pupils from throughout these islands and from further afield make up our school community.

We promote a Christian ethos yet welcome children of all faiths and none. Those wishing to opt out of collective worship or RE should contact us and alternative arrangements will be put in place.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

We communicate with our parents via email and Seesaw (Year 1 – 3). Parent consultations are carried out in November or February and a written progress report is sent home in June. However, we are always available to discuss matters with our parents and welcome the opportunity to talk to parents throughout the year.



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We aim to identify children who are experiencing difficulties in their learning as early as possible.

All teachers provide differentiated work in the classroom. Individual help or additional learning support in small groups is offered to those who experience difficulty in Literacy or Numeracy.

We regularly monitor performance to identify children who may benefit from additional support. If necessary, the children will be placed on the SEN Register with the parent's permission and appropriate support may be sought from other staff and outside agencies.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

At Gibson we recognise the importance of developing the whole child and endeavour to provide as many different opportunities for learning as possible. We are incredibly fortunate to have numerous outdoor learning areas which are used widely by the children.

The crown in our jewel is however our very own forest which is situated at the back of our large playground. Adventure trails, slides, polytunnel, viewing platform and reading areas are only some of the facilities our forested area provides.

Our school choir practises on Tuesday afternoons and performs in assemblies, within the community and to parents throughout the year.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A full range of extra-curricular activities is available to all children promoting their cultural, recreational, creative, musical and sporting talents.

The following is a list of what is normally on offer:

- Rugby, Hockey, Football, Netball;
- Dance/Fitness;
- Running Club;
- Scripture Union;
- First Aid;
- Computer Club;
- Art & Craft;
- Gardening;
- Speech/Drama;
- Cookery.

We are renowned for our sporting successes and we aim to encourage a positive attitude to sport and physical exercise by providing opportunities for all of the children to experience a broad range of activities. Those selected for school teams also participate in many tournaments and competitions throughout the year.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS

All classes have the opportunity to go on educational visits throughout the year. These are a very important aspect of school life and helps develop independence while fostering a love of learning.

Our Year 7 pupils go on a residential visit to an Outdoor Learning Centre which always proves to be the highlight of the year.

The school (in line with its Charging & Remissions Policy) charges for board and lodgings for residential trips and help in covering transport and admission costs for other visits. Charges are always kept to the minimum amount required to cover the cost of the trips. This policy is reviewed annually.

PASTORAL CARE

Every member of staff contributes to the pastoral care of our pupils. We view each pupil as an individual and pride ourselves on our relationships with them. We welcome information from parents and children when problems arise at home or in school.



If you've a concern, please contact the class teacher. If a more serious issues arises Mr Sterritt is always available to discuss matters with.

We will act promptly and fairly to combat bullying whenever and wherever it occurs. If a parent or child has a concern regarding bullying, it should be reported immediately.

Our Designated Teachers for Child Protection are:

- Mr Sterritt (Designated Teacher);
- Mrs Irwin (Deputy);
- Mrs Shortt (Deputy).



GENERAL INFORMATION/ ADMISSION CRITERIA

Gibson Primary School Admission Criteria can be found on the insert within this prospectus. Additional information regarding our Board of Governors and school policies and procedures can be found on our website, www.gibsonps.co.uk.



SCHOOL HOURS	
8.30am	School opens
9.00am	School begins
12.00 – 12.45pm	Lunchtime (Group 1)
12.15 – 1.00pm	Lunchtime (Group 2)
2.00pm	Year 1 & Language Unit Pupils leave school
2.15pm	Year 2 & 3 Pupils leave school
3.00pm	Year 4, 5, 6 & 7 pupils leave school

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club provides a healthy breakfast and supervised activities from 8.00a.m. until 8.40a.m. every morning in the school canteen. At £1.50 per child per day or a maximum £6 per week, it offers the children an opportunity to relax and enjoy their breakfast in the company of friends.

LATE CLASS & BUSY BEES

All children who leave school before 3.00p.m. are entitled to attend Late Class. Opportunities to apply for a place are available at the beginning of each academic year. We also run an After School Facility called 'Busy Bees' which runs until 5.00pm



UNIFORM

GIRLS

Pinafore/skirt	Mid grey
Blouse	Blue
Jumper	Light grey plain knit, v-neck
Tie	Blue and grey (school design)
Socks	White (or grey tights)
Shoes	Black



BOYS

Trousers	Mid grey (short or long)
Pullover	Light grey plain knit, v-neck
Shirt	Blue
Tie	Blue and grey (school design)
Socks	Grey
Shoes	Black



P.E. KIT – (BOYS AND GIRLS)

Polo Shirt	Light blue with school logo
Shorts	Navy
Tracksuit bottoms	Navy
Hoodie	Navy
Footwear	Trainers – without plastic sole

This uniform is available from local shops such as Watterson's, Russell's and Select Kidz. Most of it can, however, be purchased elsewhere. The P.E. shirt is only available from Watterson's or Select Kidz.





Reception

Main Entrance

