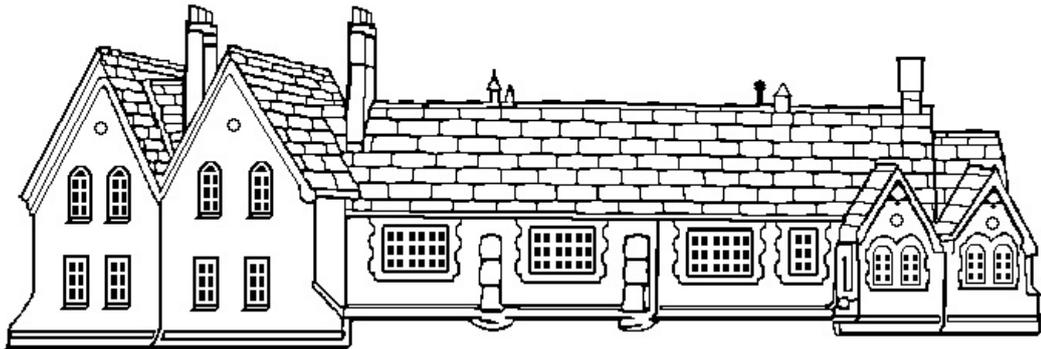


***CULMORE PRIMARY
SCHOOL
GOVERNORS'
ANNUAL REPORT TO
PARENTS***



2016 - 2017

FOREWORD

Dear Parents and guardians

The governors are pleased to present their annual report to parents and guardians. If there are any aspects which need clarified, please contact the principal.

The school year 2016/2017 will be remembered by everyone in the education sector as a very challenging time. School budgets continue to be placed under immense pressure as government departments seek ways to save money. The real effect of this means that our school budget continues to be cut each year.

During the past year BOG and school staff have worked tirelessly to improve the teaching and learning experience of staff and pupils whilst keeping a very close eye on our budget.

Mrs Emma Mc Guinness our principal is now almost two years in post. The school has seen immense changes and improvement during that period of time. She has been instrumental in a lot of the improvements and has proved to be a most effective leader. BOG and school staff have been very supportive in helping her improve the curriculum, management and pupil assessment. We as a management team will continue to support Mrs Mc Guinness and all school staff both academic and non-academic in every way possible.

This year has also seen the opening of our new car park. This has been long awaited and a most welcome development. The school drop off has become much easier and safer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the developers for their help during the building process and we look forward to when the park becomes fully operational.

We are continuing our work in trying to have the school building redeveloped. We are currently awaiting plans from EA to enable us to take the next step to apply for funding.

I would like to thank FOCPS for all their work throughout the year their help has been much appreciated by staff, pupils, parents and guardians.

Once again I would like to thank all school staff for their work throughout the year. Culmore Primary school are the benefactors of a very committed, professional and compassionate group of people who go the extra mile when required.

Finally, I must thank my fellow BOG members who have worked tirelessly throughout the last year.

Neil Doherty

Chair Board of Governors

ETHOS:

At Culmore Primary School we will strive to respect the experiences, knowledge and cultural diversity that every child brings to school. The very structure of our Staff, Board of Governors and pupils reflects a multi-cultural ethos.

At Culmore Primary School, children come first and our priority is to deliver high quality teaching and learning through the whole curriculum whilst, at the same time, providing rich and truly enjoyable learning experiences for our community of children. Everything we do, as a school, is to ensure that the children achieve their very best.

We want every child to be successful, to aim high from the very first day they join us and throughout their school lives so that, when they leave us, they have a love of learning for the rest of their lives. It is our duty to provide each pupil with a bright, stimulating, learning environment which is conducive to all aspects of their learning. We want all children to have the opportunity to express, and celebrate, their individual talents.

We value each child's voice and feel that is important to ensure that they are listened to, and have the opportunity to, contribute to school life.

Governors

Roles of Governors

Chairperson: Mr Neil Doherty

Deputy Chairperson: Mrs Leanne Hughes

Secretary: Mrs Emma McGuinness

Transferor Representatives:

Mrs Leanne Hughes

Mr Jonathan Lyttle

Rev Katie McAteer

Education Authority Representatives:

Mr James Houston

Vacant

Vacant

Parent Representatives:

Mr Neil Doherty

Mrs Louise Loudon

Teacher Representative:

Mrs Clare McMenamin

Principal

Mrs Emma McGuinness

(Non voting member)

Governors' Responsibilities.

Governors are ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school; these include:

- Overseeing curriculum
- Selection of staff
- Admission policy
- School maintenance
- Implementation of new legislation
- Fostering links with the community
- Health and safety legislation
- Financial management of the school

Staff

Principal

Mrs Emma McGuinness

Vice Principal and Year 1/2 teacher

Mrs Clare McMenamin

SENCO and Year 3/4 teacher

Miss Annette Wilson/Mrs Nash

Year 5/6 teacher

Mr Brendan McLaughlin

Year 7 teacher

Mrs Hannah Geddes

Mrs Emma McGuinness

Learning Support Assistants

Mrs Janet Clarke-Millar (Year 1&2)

Mr Liam Tester (Year 1&2)

Mrs Sharon McFarland (SEN Year 6)

Clerical staff

Mrs Janet Clarke-Millar (part time secretary)

Catering assistant

Mrs I Wylie/Mrs Bernie Barr

Supervisory assistant

Mrs Brid McConalogue

In the past year the Board of Governors have:

- Ensured the school stays within its current budget plan;
- Produced an Annual Report to parents;
- Produced a Policy for the Administration of Medicines in School;
- Updated policies in Child Protection, safeguarding;
- Conducted PRSD of the Principal;
- Taken part in various training opportunities;
- Reviewed policies
- Consulted with stakeholders with regard to School Development Plan
- Contributed to the new School Development Plan

Curriculum/Staff Development (including SDD/Baker days)

- Co-ordinator training
- Cluster groups with coordinators, principals
- Miss Wilson attended Special Needs Training
- Mrs McGuinness participated in a first time principals course
- All Staff attended defibrillator training
- All staff attended first aid training
- All staff attended 'PATHS' training
- Internal moderation of children's work
- Analysis of assessment trends and tracking
- Raising standards in Numeracy/Literacy
- School Development Evaluation and Planning

Transfer Procedure

The eleven children in Year 7 transferred to a variety of schools:

- 2 Thornhill College
- 3 Foyle College
- 1 St Columb's College
- 1 St Mary's College
- 1 St Joseph's High School
- 2 Crana College
- 1 St Brigid's High School

Outcomes for Culmore PS End of Key Stage assessment (June 2017)

End of Key stage assessments in Numeracy and Literacy are carried out in all schools in Northern Ireland in Years 4 and 7.

Children in Year 4 would be expected to achieve level 2.

Children in year 7 would be expected to achieve level 4

Key Stage One

	Numeracy	Communication	UICT
Working Towards Level One	0	0	0
Level One	0	0	0
Level Two	100%	100%	100%
Level Three	0	0	0

Key Stage Two

	Numeracy	Communication	UICT
Working Towards Level one	0	0	0
Level One	0	0	0
Level Two	0	0	0
Level Three	18%	27%	0
Level Four	82%	73%	100%
Level Five	0	0	0

National Outcomes (2015-16)

Key Stage One

	Numeracy	Communication	UICT
Level 2 or above	88.4	87.5	-

Key Stage Two

	Numeracy	Communication	UICT
Level 4 or above	78.0	78.7	-

In comparison to other schools in Northern Ireland, children in Key Stage One in Culmore Primary school, are achieving well above national average in both Numeracy and Literacy.

In comparison to other schools in Northern Ireland, children in Key Stage Two in Culmore Primary School, are achieving above national average at in Numeracy and slightly below average (less than 5%) in Literacy.

THE PROVISION MADE FOR PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS:

Children with Special Educational Needs are catered for in class through differentiated activities in both Numeracy and Literacy. Individual Education Plans are written for the children, on the Special Needs Register, by the class teacher. These plans set targets which are 'SMART' and are reviewed in January and June. Children, who do not make anticipated progress, make their way along the stages of the Code of Practice and are seen by the Psychologist at Stage Three. The Psychologist visits school twice a year. Miss Wilson continues to act as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

PUPIL ATTENDANCE:

The attendance statistics for the school are as follows:

2011/2012:	94%
2012/2013:	96%
2013/2014:	93%
2014/2015:	95%
2016/2017	94%

Extra-Curricular Activities

Children throughout the school were able to take part in a range of activities in the 2016-2017 year.

Netball, NI Skills soccer skills, Film club, ICT Club.

The Football, Hockey and Gaelic teams played several matches with other schools and at tournaments.

Community Involvement

- ✓ The choir, led by Miss Wilson, performed in Foyleside Residential Home, Flower festivals (All Saints Clooney), Music evenings and talent shows at different times throughout the year.
- ✓ In March our Djembe drummers and Steel Pan musical group participated in a community evening in St Brigid's High School.
- ✓ Year 4 children took their First Holy Communion in Thornhill Chapel in May.

- ✓ Year 4 children attended a Faith Friends programme in Thornhill College
- ✓ Year 7 children had their Confirmation service in St Mary's Chapel in April.
- ✓ Year 6 and 7 girls attended a Gaelic blitz at Brian Og.
- ✓ All children attended the Farm to Fork initiative run by TESCO.
- ✓ Year 1 and 2 went to Domino's Pizza and wafer ltd
- ✓ Year 6 and 7 went on an overnight residential to Carrowmena
- ✓ Year 6 and 7 went on a school trip to Dublin for 2 nights
- ✓ Everyone thoroughly enjoyed a day trip to Lurgybrack farm in Letterkenny as part of the end of year celebrations.

School achievements and special occasions

- ✓ All the children celebrated World Book Day by dressing up and enjoying a storytelling session.
- ✓ Key Stage 2 children enjoyed a visit from a History themed Victorian Day.
- ✓ As part of the Extended Schools cluster group year 7 children completed a 4 week 'Big Fish, Wee Fish' programme to get them ready for Year 8.
- ✓ FOCPS organised a Summer Fair
- ✓ FOCPS organised breakfast with Santa
- ✓ All children participated in our school show in December
- ✓ All children attended the Millennium Forum to see the 'Cinderella' Pantomime
- ✓ Year 5-7 children attended a STEM workshop in Foyle College
- ✓ Year 6 and 7 children had an overnight stay in Carrowmena Centre
- ✓ Our 'Victorian' themed sports day was held in school
- ✓ Visitation from the Honourable the Irish Society for our annual prize giving, with a Victorian Theme!

Religious Education

Regular visitors to our school to help with Religious Education were Rev Rosborough. Rev Katie McAteer/Rev Millar and Fr Clerkin. All faiths were represented in our biweekly assemblies.

Throughout the year teaching staff delivered denominational Catholic Religious Education to those children whose parents indicated a desire for this. Nine children in Year 7 were joined by children from Hollybush Primary School to take their Confirmation on 01 April in St Mary's Chapel. Eight children in Year 4 took their First Holy Communion in Thornhill Chapel on 20 May. We were pleased to welcome Fr Clerkin who visited on a number of occasions to talk to teachers and pupils.

We continued our joint religious celebrations, of the, major festivals, throughout the year.

School Council

A School council was set up in September and children were elected from each class as representatives. They discussed school issues such as 'playground games' and 'breakfast club'.

Pre-school Links

Children from local Nurseries were invited to our school performance of Cinderella and Rockerfella.

Fundraising

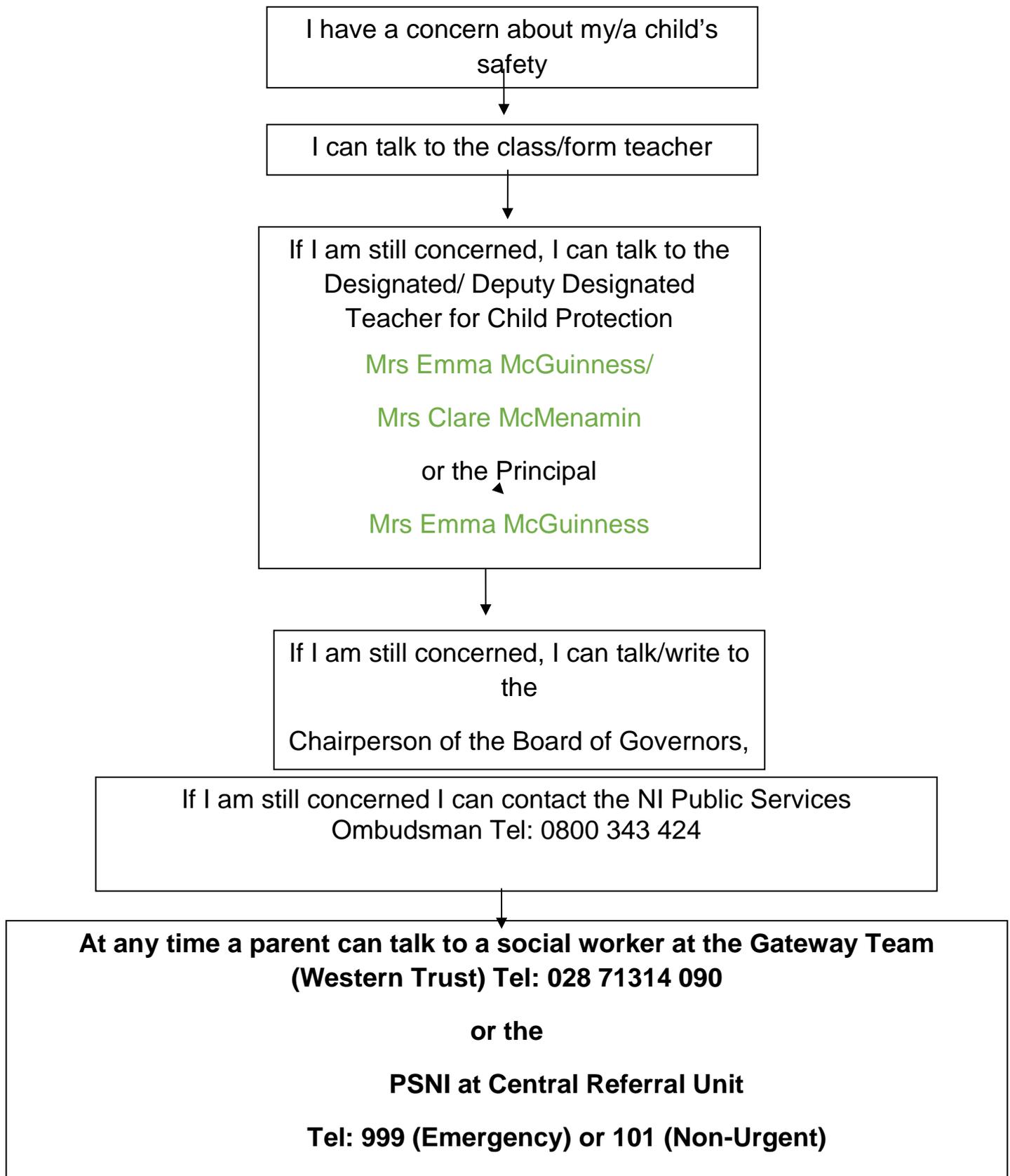
Once again, parents, teachers and friends worked hard on our fundraising projects.

FOCPS organised a number of events throughout the year, this work is very important as it supports initiatives within school.

A special word of thanks to our volunteers who have been fantastic with all their events throughout the year.

Appendix 5

Procedure for Parents who wish to raise a Child Protection Concern



The Board of Governors has overall responsibility of managing the school budget but on a day-to-day basis this is exercised by the Principal.

The Budget is calculated by the Education Authority using a formula, which applies, to all schools in the area. The main element in the formula is the age and number of pupils attending the school. The Budget allocation to the school amounted to £295,861 for the school year 2016-2017.

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

INCOME

Budget Allocation 295,861

Other Income 13,204

TOTAL 309,065

EXPENDITURE

Wages and Salaries

Teaching Staff 226,471

Non-teaching Staff 32,164

Premises and Grounds 11,292

Supplies & Services 18,957

Surplus carry-over

2017-2018 20,181

TOTAL 309,065

SCHOOL ACCOUNT

FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2016-2017

INCOME

Balance in Bank 2,704.53

Trips/Events/
Programmes 9,809.70

OTHER INCOME

Profit from photographs 82.98
Miscellaneous 525.10
Irish Society 500.00

CHARITIES

NSPCC Collection 35.00
BBC CIN 162.00

EXPENDITURE

Gifts/Resources 122.69

Trips/Events 8,539.10

OTHER EXPENDITURE

Bank Fees 152.00
Miscellaneous 9.10

CHARITIES

NSPCC Donation 35.00
BBC CIN 162.00

Balance in Bank 4,799.42

£13,819.31

£13,819.31

FRIENDS OF CULMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL ACCOUNT

FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2016-2017

INCOME

Balance in Bank @ 6/10/16 4,806.42

EXPENDITURE

Fundraising events expenditure 780.00
Promotional activity (banner) 50.00
School activities (Holy Communion) 80.99
PTA Membership 63.00
Bank Fees 48.52
Reading Programme 4,050.00

Fundraising events 3856.95 (note 1)

Balance in Bank @ 2/10/17 3,590.86

£8,663.37

£8,663.37

Note 1 - Fundraising events include:

Halloween Disco 2016

Christmas Raffle 2016

Breakfast with Santa 2016

Christmas Play 2016

Smarty Tubes 2017

Music Night 2017

Summer Fair 2017