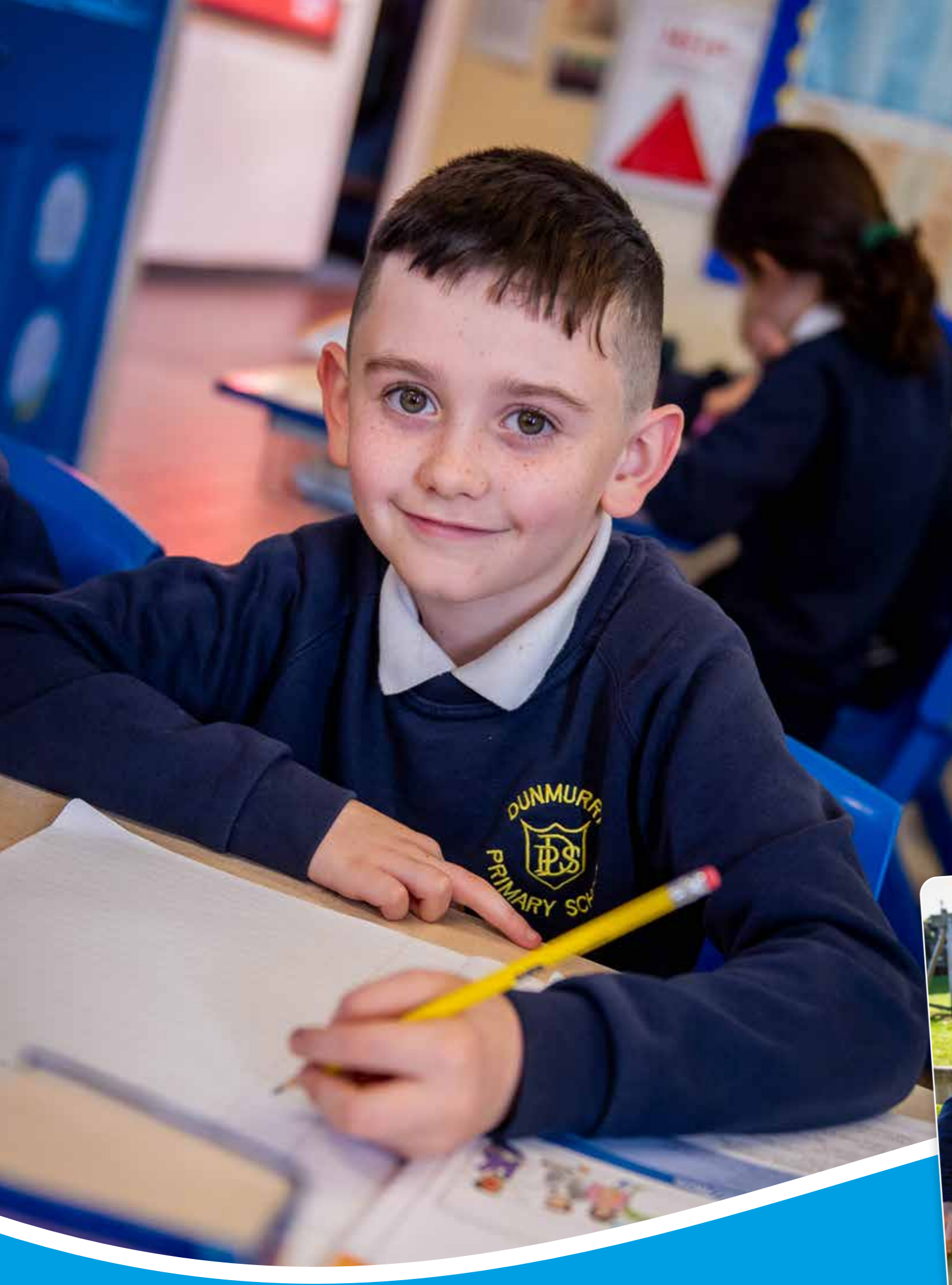


Dunmurry Primary School

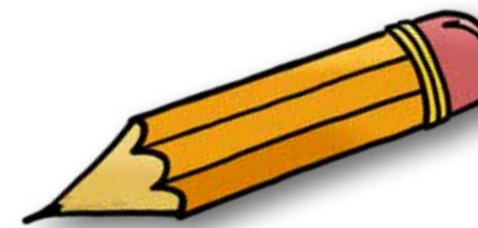
Prospectus



www.dunmurryps.com



Welcome



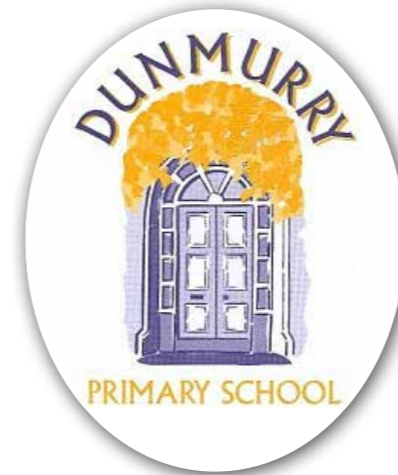
Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, staff and pupils I would like to welcome you to Dunmurry Primary School, whether you are an existing parent or starting your child at our school for the first time.

We have a warm, nurturing and stimulating environment at Dunmurry Primary School with a dedicated and caring staff. All staff are committed to maximising the learning potential of each individual child to ensure they have a happy and fulfilling time at school. We believe the relationship between parent and school is fundamental to your child's wellbeing and we strive to work with you, so every child is supported and encouraged both in school and at home.

This prospectus is designed to inform you of the many aspects of school life and give you an impression of the ethos of the school, as well as the range of activities on offer. However, the true ethos of Dunmurry Primary School can only be experienced through a personal visit so please feel free to come along to our annual Open Night or to make an appointment to see the school.

J Hackett BEd (Hons) MEd PQH
Principal





Vision

At Dunmurry Primary School we are a caring, vibrant and inclusive school in which we value building relationships with the local and wider school community to develop high expectation and life-long learners.

We are **Nurturing, Empowering and Thriving.**

WE AIM:

- To create a nurturing educational environment in which every child feels safe, happy and secure.
- To develop in each child independence and self-confidence while showing respect and understanding of others.
- To provide a high-quality learning environment in which pupils are motivated, challenged and supported to empower them to achieve and become life-long learners.
- To provide a broad and balanced curriculum, appropriate to each child's needs, which takes into account our rapidly changing society
- To work together with pupils, parents and the wider community in an atmosphere of mutual respect, so that all can thrive.





Nursery

We are very proud of our excellent Nursery facilities adjoined to the main school building. There is a main Nursery playroom with an Interactive Whiteboard, a quiet room, a sensory area and a designated playground for the Nursery children. As it is attached to the main school the children are able to make use of some other areas, for example, the hall for physical development.

Learning Through Play

In Nursery the children learn through both indoor and outdoor play, investigating and exploring with toys and natural materials. They have opportunities to be creative every day through music, art and role-play.

Nursery Curriculum

There are six areas to the Nursery Curriculum:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Language Development
- Early Mathematics
- Physical Development
- The Arts
- The World Around Us.

Other Nursery Aspects:

- Time 9am – 12pm daily
- Healthy snack provided
- Visits from music and sports specialists
- Two parent-teacher consultations
- Invites to Special events throughout the year.



Pastoral Care and Safeguarding

Dunmurry Primary School has a responsibility for the safeguarding and protection of the children in our care and we will carry out this duty by providing a safe, caring and child-centred environment to empower them to thrive in a community in which social, moral and spiritual values are promoted so that the rights of all are respected.

The safety and welfare of every member of our school community remains paramount and should you have any concerns the Child Protection Policy sets out the correct procedures.

Positive Behaviour

We believe that a secure and positive environment ensures each child is safe and happy at school to enable them to learn effectively and fulfil his or her full potential at each stage of his or her development. Positive discipline teaches children important social and life skills. It enhances a pupil's self-esteem, increases their social confidence, educates them in good citizenship and establishes good relationships between pupils and teachers.

Our School Rules

- Walk quietly in school
- Follow adult instructions
- Practice good manners
- Take care of all books, equipment and property
- Treat others as you would like to be treated
- Try your best at all times

Healthy Eating

The school promotes a healthy lifestyle which includes healthy eating habits at break and lunch times. P1 and P2 are provided with a healthy snack each day with either milk or water to drink and the rest of the school are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack for morning break. Hot meals are available every day in school at lunch time or children can bring a healthy packed lunch.

Dunmurry Primary School is a Nut Free Zone due to allergies.

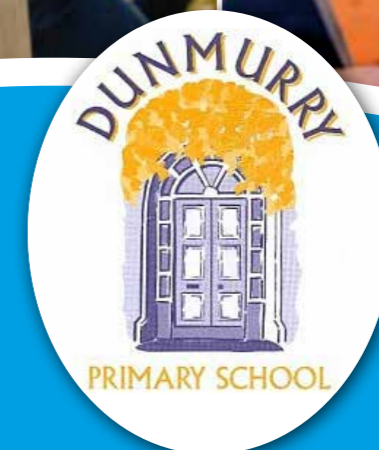


Communication with Parents

It is very important that we work together with parents in their child's education. Parent meetings are held in September to inform you about the curriculum for the year and to give parents the opportunity to meet the teacher and ask any relevant questions. All parents will then be invited to two parent-teacher consultations throughout the year and will receive an end of year written report.

PTA

The PTA is a group of parents and teachers who volunteer their time to support the school by raising funds to enhance the school provision and resources. They arrange events throughout the year including, Discos, Christmas Craft Fair, Movie Night and a Colour Run. Please try to support as many events or activities as possible.





The Curriculum

At Dunmurry Primary School we aim to provide a high-quality learning environment by offering a broad and balanced curriculum and continually monitoring and evaluating pupil progress.

The children are grouped into three Key Stages in the Primary School.

Foundation Stage (P1 and P2)

At this stage there is an emphasis on establishing the foundations of literacy and numeracy and acquiring listening, language and learning skills. The positive environment develops the whole child while increasing their confidence and self-esteem.

Key Stage One (P3 and P4)

Having built strong foundations teaching methods are varied and flexible at this stage and matched to the ways children learn best. They continue to engage in activity-based learning.

Key Stage Two (P5, P6 and P7)

In Key Stage 2 our curriculum is broad and aims to develop children's individual talents as well as being designed to encourage and develop children's decision-making and their thinking skills.

Within each Key Stage these are the main areas of learning:

The Arts	Language and Literacy	Mathematics and Numeracy	The World Around Us	Personal Development and Mutual Understanding	Physical Education (PE)
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Language and Literacy

The Literacy curriculum is divided into three components, Talking and Listening, Reading and Writing. The supportive, stimulating and secure environment encourages our children to express themselves effectively and appropriately in both oral and written forms. We use a linguistic phonics approach to teach children to decode for reading and to be able to spell independently.

Mathematics and Numeracy

Through mathematics and numeracy we aim to equip our children with skills to deal with practical situations and everyday problems and to be able to analyse information and communicate rational ideas. Mathematics is made up of the areas Number, Measure, Handling Data, Shape and Space and Processes permeate all these areas.

The World Around Us

This is taught through a topic-based approach and incorporates aspects of History, Geography, Science and Technology. The children are encouraged to investigate, observe and question the World around them and through the use of our outdoor learning spaces, they will be encouraged to develop and master new skills and ideas.

The Arts

Children at all stages benefit from the opportunities to be creative and expressive through art, music and drama. These are extremely important elements of a child's overall development and contribute to many aspects of school life. We are always really proud of our Christmas concerts and Key Stage 2 show.

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU)

PDMU lessons in school focus on children's emotional development, health and safety, relationships and understanding of others. Through a range of activities they develop their moral thinking and gain a sense of self-value to be able to make informed decisions throughout their lives.



Physical Education (P.E.)

P.E. contributes to the overall education of children by improving their physical development, health and well-being. They develop physical skills, knowledge and understanding in games, gymnastics, dance, athletics, outdoor activities and swimming (Key Stage 2).

Cross Curricular Skills:

- **Communication**
- **Using Mathematics**
- **Using Information Technology and Communications Technology (ICT)**

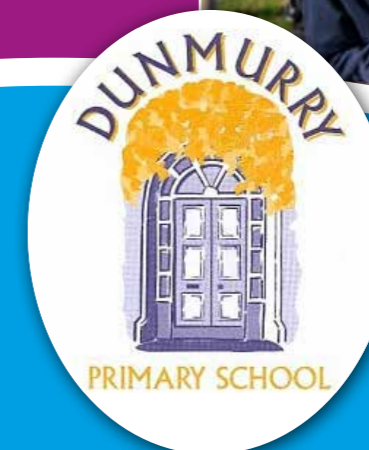
As our aim is to develop high expectation, we believe a cross curricular approach ensures a challenging curriculum which children find relevant and interesting and at the heart of the curriculum lies an emphasis on skills and capabilities for lifelong learning.

Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

- **Managing Information**
- **Thinking, Problem Solving and Decision Making**
- **Being Creative**
- **Working With Others**
- **Self-Management**

Using Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

ICT is a powerful tool to aid the teaching and learning of all pupils as it motivates and increases engagement and achievement, as well as preparing children for the future. In Dunmurry Primary School we have a dedicated computer suite, interactive whiteboards and iPads in every classroom as well as several coding devices.



Homework

We value the place of homework as it is an opportunity for you to become involved in your child's education by monitoring their independent work and providing support and encouragement when necessary. It also gives the children an opportunity to consolidate skills and concepts learnt in school, however if homework becomes difficult it is important to alert the class teacher.

Learning Support

We are committed to meeting the needs of all the pupils in Dunmurry Primary School and ensuring they can all access the full curriculum. If we identify at any stage through observation, monitoring and assessment a child is experiencing any learning difficulties we will work alongside the parents to identify and meet specific needs. We have a dedicated learning support teacher who provides additional teaching to address any short term or longer term needs. We will also work alongside outside agencies when required.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Spanish

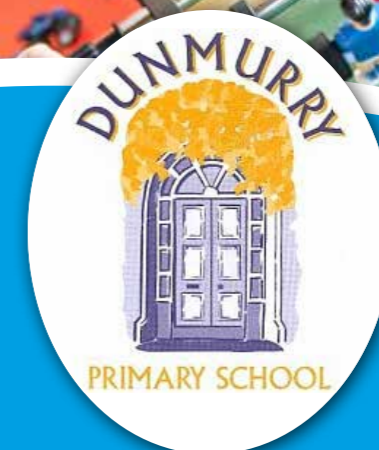
Learning a second language is so much easier at a young age and it creates a meaningful context in which to develop children's understanding of other cultures. We have weekly Spanish lessons with a specialist teacher for all classes from P1 to P7.

Music

All children have opportunities to learn music and use percussion instruments and recorder is taught at Key Stage 2. For those with more interest we have special music tuition from P4. The instruments on offer are strings, woodwind and piano and the children get a chance to perform once or twice a year at school events. We also have a school choir who have the opportunity to sing for school and community events, as well as entering competitions.

After School Activities

We have a range of after school activities on offer throughout the year. Some are through paid providers and others are run free of charge by our teaching staff. These include Football, Multi-Sports, Drama, Choir, Cross Country, Hockey, Art and Gardening.





Educational Visits

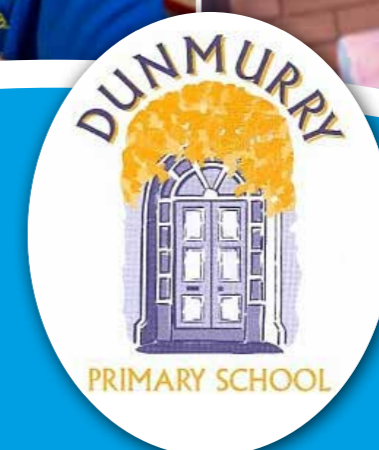
Educational visits are a fun and exciting way for children to further develop their knowledge of a topic they have been studying while also building relationships in new environments. The trips are linked to the curriculum and the topics being taught and each class will have at least one trip a year.

In P6 the children are given the opportunity to take part in a three day residential at Delamont Outdoor Educational Centre in Downpatrick and in P7 they are given the opportunity to take part in a four day residential at Share Discovery Village in Enniskillen. These trips help our pupils' personal and social development, they foster independence and help develop resilience and team building skills.

Assemblies/Concerts

We hold a weekly assembly every Friday morning for all pupils from P1 to P7. This is an opportunity for the whole school to come together and take part in a mixture of religious and moral teachings. We invite different visitors in over the course of the year and each class gets an opportunity to take the assembly in front of the rest of the school. Assemblies are also a time for celebration with weekly certificates, Word Millionaires and Head Teacher certificates being awarded.

At Christmas time P1 and P2 perform a Christmas Nativity, P3 and P4 perform a Christmas Nativity with a twist and P5, P6 and P7 hold a Carol Service.



Uniform

At Dunmurry Primary School we ask parents to support our uniform policy to encourage a sense of belonging and pride within the pupils.

Girls

School sweatshirt with logo

White polo shirt
(with or without logo)

Grey skirt/pinafore

White/Grey/Navy socks/tights

Black school shoes

Summer dress option

Boys

School sweatshirt with logo

White polo shirt
(with or without logo)

Grey trousers

Grey/black socks

Black school shoes

Grey shorts option in summer

P.E Uniform

P1

Black gym shoes

P2 - 7

School P.E. T-shirt or school polo shirt

Black or Navy shorts, leggings or/
tracksuit bottoms

Trainers

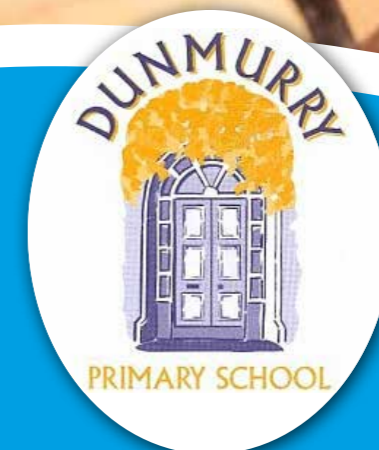


Timetable

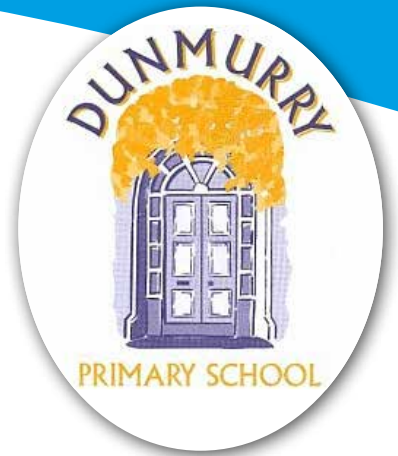
8:45 - 8:55am	School opens
8:55am	School starts
10:40am - 10:55am	Break time
12:20pm - 12:55pm	P1 - 3 Lunch time
12:30pm - 1:05pm	P4 - 7 Lunch time
2:00pm	P1 - 3 finish (P3 stay to 3:00pm Monday & Tuesday in the Summer Term)
3:00pm	P4 - 7 finish (2pm every Friday afternoon)

Wrap-Around-Care

8:00am	Breakfast Club
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Stay and Play Club
3:00pm - 4:30pm	Afterschool Club
2:00pm - 3:30pm	Friday Film Club



Dunmurry Primary School



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www.dunmurryps.com