



# Jones Memorial Reception Class



## PROSPECTUS

A Pre-school Placement for  
Pupils Aged 4



Jones Memorial Reception Class

# ( A pre School Class / Nursery Placement for ONLY pupils who are 4)

Jones Memorial Reception Class - Jones Memorial Primary School  
2 Cappog Road, Mullylogan Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh. BT74 5AJ  
[info@jonesmemorial.enniskillen.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@jonesmemorial.enniskillen.ni.sch.uk)  
website: [www.jonesmemorial.co.uk](http://www.jonesmemorial.co.uk) Reception Pages

Principal Mrs S Isherwood

Spaces: 26

Hours: 9 – 1pm daily (opportunity to avail of Buttercup Club until 3:15pm)

Dear Parents/Guardians

Thank you for your interest in Jones Memorial Reception Class, I would like to welcome you and your children to our class for pupils aged 4 and over.

This booklet aims to give you a flavour of Reception life.

Starting Reception is an exciting step for your child and we aim to make it an enriching and homely experience. We value our parents highly, and encourage you to get involved in all aspects of school life.

If you need more information, talk to Mrs Isherwood or to Mrs Burleigh & Mrs McGee (Job Share). You will be made most welcome.

Mrs Sandra Isherwood

Principal











# About Our Reception

In Jones Memorial Primary school, we host a Reception class within the school building. Reception Class is for any child aged 4 and above in the 2023-24 school year. Pupils can only be admitted when they turn 4. However, it is important to know that the Reception class follows the Statutory Requirement for Preschool Education like a Nursery setting. However, as it is hosted in the school building, they have more access to resources and are part of the inclusive activities of the school.

We aim to provide a safe, caring and happy environment, in which children can flourish and develop to their potential. Each child is unique and special so the school ensures that they will identify a plan to support your child in his/her learning pathway with sensitivity. Parents can avail of a phased entry to ensure their child settles.

The team embeds self-evaluation and aims to promote high standards of learning. They regularly embed practises identified in training and by the Department of Education.

## ETHOS AND VISION FOR OUR CHILDREN

-  To develop creative and enquiring minds with a love for learning
-  To encourage independence & promote skills & attitudes
-  To promote a sense of community
-  To create of sense of wonder, imagination and understanding about our world
-  To develop confidence when approaching new experiences
-  To know that adults can be trusted and will respond to their needs
-  To know that parents and teachers will work together in the learning process
-  To encourage physical activity and a healthy lifestyle

## THE RECEPTION DAY

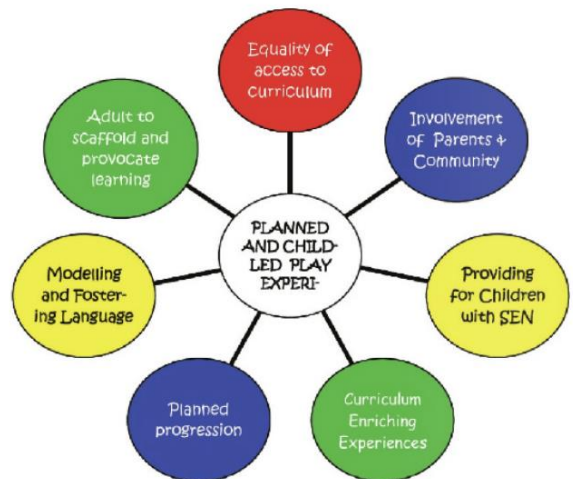
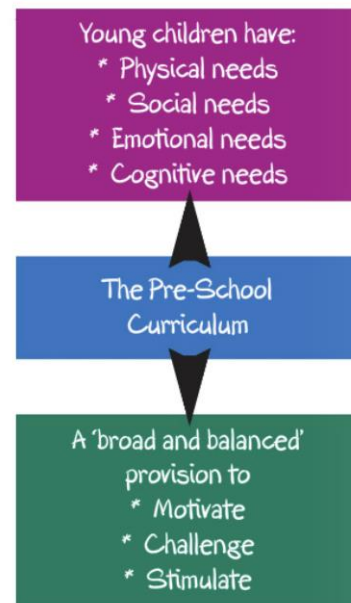
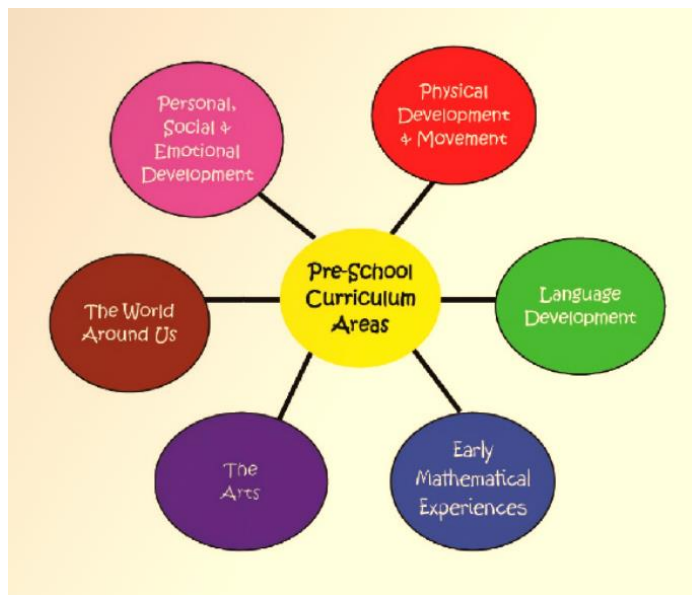
9.00 am	Entrance doors open
9.20 am	Welcome children
9.20am - 11.00am	Morning activities
11.00am - 11.15 am	Drink and snack available(flexible)
11.30am - 12.55pm	Mid-morning activities
12.55pm - 1.20 pm	Early pick-up & dinner time
1.20pm	Collection of children or outside play
1.40pm - 3.15 pm	Optional afternoon Child Care if Required @ Buttercup Club





# Connecting The Reception /Pre-School Curriculum

The Reception Curriculum your child will be following has been laid down by CCEA (a body with responsibility for the curriculum, examinations and assessment in schools). Its document, "Curricular Guidance for Pre-School Education" It identifies six areas of learning that we are obliged to follow: The six areas of learning are:



A particular strength of the Reception Room provision is the quality and richness of the children's experiences offered both indoors and outdoors across all areas of the pre-school curriculum.

Whilst our curriculum is set out under these six discrete headings, children will experience it in a holistic way through play and other relevant experiences. The following pages details some of the learning that we will be planning for under these six headings.

## Early Mathematical Experiences

*Children will be learning to:*

- ✏️ talk about daily routines / events in sequence
- ✏️ use and understand language associated with size and quantity
- ✏️ talk about everyday shapes
- ✏️ sort and group by size / pattern / shape / colour
- ✏️ copy, continue and create a repeating pattern
- ✏️ count objects accurately in play
- ✏️ Ordering objects by size, capacity or weight
- ✏️ Learning counting songs and rhymes
- ✏️ learning about the nursery day and using time words



## Language Development

*We seek to enrich the language used and understood by Your child. Activities include:*

- ✏️ understand and follow simple instructions
- ✏️ enjoy listening to stories, rhymes, jingles, and songs
- ✏️ take part in conversations with adults and peers
- ✏️ enjoy browsing in the book corner
- ✏️ know that the printed word has meaning
- ✏️ re-tell a story from pictures
- ✏️ recognise their own first name
- ✏️ enjoy mark making and writing
- ✏️ using puppets, props and pictures to share stories



## The Arts










*Children will be learning to:*

- ✏️ express their own ideas through pictures & models
- ✏️ enjoy using a wide variety of media, e.g. pencils, paint, scrap materials, sponges, clay, dough
- ✏️ play imaginatively on their own or in a group
- ✏️ enjoy making music by singing, clapping, and playing percussion instruments
- ✏️ enjoy listening to music
- ✏️ enjoying dressing up
- ✏️ finding pleasure in art
- ✏️ exploring a range of materials for art ie leaves shapes etc



## Personal, Social and Emotional Development








*This is a vital aspect of children's development and includes:*

-  a smooth transition from home to Reception
-  Developing a love for learning
-  Learning how to co-operate with other children and enjoy friends
-  Growing in independence and self esteem
-  Exploring emotions and learning how to manage them
-  Respecting and caring for others & the environment
-  Developing concentration on tasks
-  Learning how to make choices and use thinking skills
-  Sharing meals together.



## Physical Development and Movement









***Children are encouraged to be physically active and learning includes:***

-  climbing, pedalling, balancing, jumping, hopping & digging
-  developing body awareness, co-ordination and control
-  learning how to throw, catch and strike a ball
-  moving to music
-  using space imaginatively
-  Developing fine motor skills using hammers, brushes, scissors etc
-  playing co-operative parachute and catching games.



## Awareness of The World Around Us

***Children will be learning to:***

-  use their senses to investigate and describe everyday objects and events
-  show care for living things and the environment
-  handle natural materials with curiosity, such as shells, leaves and stones
-  talk about the weather and the seasons at appropriate times of the year
-  Talking about home and family life
-  working with natural materials: oats, rice
-  learning about food, baking and preparing fruit for snack
-  Learning how to keep safe





# Enriching the Reception Experience

## INVOLVING PARENTS

The Reception operates an 'Interactive Open Door' policy where staff welcome parents in a supportive environment, where the expression of views, thoughts and opinions is appreciated and valued. A monthly newsletter which is an important link in maintaining a home school link. This informs parents about themes, forthcoming events and celebrates achievements. It is always available for your perusal in the school.

There are many ways that you can become involved in your child's Reception year:

- Formal Parent/Teacher meetings
- A written report on your child's progress
- Organising and supporting fundraising events
- Collecting materials for use by children
- Sharing a special interest, hobby or skill with the class
- Participating in ordinary, daily Reception activities
- Helping out on special occasions
- Attending special events
- Activities to extend learning at home



## Getting Ready to Learn

The Reception currently taking part in the project 'Getting Ready to Learn'. This programme supports pre-school settings in encouraging and developing parental involvement in your child's learning at this crucial time. The project aims to develop a positive home environment. We are participating in three key themes:

## BIG BEDTIME READ

### Aims

To explore the importance of reading to young children  
To share ideas about how to enjoy a book  
To provide resources to support bedtime routine/reading

## EDUCATION WORKS IN PRE SCHOOL

### Aims

To provide information on the pre school curriculum  
To enrich understanding of how children learn  
To provide ideas of ways to support your child at home.

## HAPPY HEALTHY KIDS

### Aims

To explore the benefits of exercise  
To share how experiences support physical development  
To support parents to increase children's activity & reduce screen time



## **CURRICULUM ENRICHING EXPERIENCES**

We enjoy exploring the surrounding suburbs of Enniskillen including a walk to the local shop, Post Office, and the Play Park. Visitors are invited into Reception to add a touch of reality to the topics explored eg. nurse, policeman etc.

## **RECEPTION GARDEN**

The Reception class share an attractive and stimulating outdoor covered area. Pupils are encouraged to use the school garden and Forest School areas. We love all weathers and like to experience them first hand.

## **LINKS TO THE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We aim to develop a sense of belonging by integrating Reception children fully into the life of the primary school. They make regular use of the facilities in the main school and dine in the canteen. Our staff work closely with P1 staff to ensure continuity, progression and also to enable a smooth transition. Key Stage 2 pupils also visit to read and play with them.

## **LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY OF ENNISKILLEN**

Situated within the heart of a rural suburban area the class seeks to equip the children with foundational skills and to make a smooth transition into JMPS. The school is known for its caring ethos. Serving a community where many parents and pupils are friends. We seek to establish a positive, friendly atmosphere, where everyone feels welcome, and each child is uniquely valued.

## **UNIFORM**

Navy sweatshirt with logo  
Yellow polo shirt with logo  
Navy tracksuit bottoms/leggings  
Shoes with velcro fastenings only  
No jewellery  
Wellies for outdoor play.





# PASTORAL CARE and CHILD PROTECTION

The Reception room is committed to meeting the pastoral, physical and emotional needs of the pupils. Parental and child concerns are dealt with promptly and the staff welcome information from parents and the children to resolve issues. Parents are made aware of safeguarding and child protection guidelines.

If a child becomes sick or injured our first action is to inform the parent. Should this not be possible, we will seek medical treatment for the child.

Concerns of a child protection nature should be discussed with a member of the safeguarding team. Staff may need to share this information with other professionals. If there are concerns that a child maybe at risk the school is obliged to make a referral to Social Services.

Concerns / difficult home circumstances should be shared with the teacher so that each child can be cared for sensitively.

## CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

The Reception room provides education free of charge but to further enrich the learning experiences of the children we like to get out and about. Nominal charges will be asked for these activities. A 'Blanket Consent' is signed at the start of each year. Milk is provided free of charge. Dinners and snack or Buttercup club have to be paid in advance.








## ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL/ LEARNING NEEDS

As part of ongoing observations and assessment, the teacher will make provision for any difficulties that your child might have. The teacher will liaise with the Learning Support Co-ordinator and follow the recommended stages of the Code of Practise.

The teacher will also liaise with other support services and professionals to make comprehensive provision for your child.

## POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

Reception discipline is based upon the principles of respect for self, peers, adults and property.

-  Children are challenged and active
-  Rules are shared and modelled
-  Firm boundaries are consistently applied
-  Behavioural instructions are framed
-  Gentle hands, feet and words are encouraged
-  Children are encouraged to self-manage and develop their conflict resolution skills with adult help
-  The children are encouraged to comfort a child they have hurt.

All relevant  
Reception  
Policies are  
available on  
request



# Independence Skills

When choosing your child's clothes for Reception, please remember that your child will be developing independence. They will need to cope with feeding themselves, toileting and simple dressing skills. Allow your child to have time to practise these skills. It may be quicker if you do things for them, but the achievement of doing things themselves is much more important.



# Attendance and Illness

Regular attendance is highly beneficial for your child's confidence, self-esteem, learning and social skills. By attending regularly and punctually your child will feel secure and will help to have a routine.

Children should only come to school when well. Parents should keep children at home if unwell or infectious. We understand that quite often your child 'wants' to come to see their friends but reception is busy and noisy and not the place to be if you are unwell.





# OUTDOORS AND THE FOREST SCHOOL

**At Jones Memorial Primary School, we have a commitment to quality outdoor education. The pre-school guidance requires us to access the outdoors as of part of our curriculum. We do go outside every day and explore in all types of weather.**

**We are fortunate to have an extensive outdoor ground and a forest school on the site. 'The Wee Forest' is an enclosed wild area where the children will experience a planned programme of outdoor learning opportunities to explore and investigate wildlife, growth, seasonal changes and play in their surroundings. This helps children to build self-esteem and confidence and develop strong social skills. During these sessions, where needed, the children will be wearing protective clothing to allow them to embrace the mud whilst keeping dry and warm.**





### **VISITING THE SCHOOL**

We hope that you have found this booklet informative and we look forward to meeting you and your child. Should you require further information, please contact the school to book a suitable time due to Covid restrictions on indoor visits.

Pupils will have an introductory visit in June and regular online updates and packs to welcome them as VIP guests to the school

**Jones Memorial Primary School**  
**2 Cappog Road**  
**Mullylogan**  
**Enniskillen**  
**BT74 5AJ**



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