



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **When does school begin and end?**

Our nursery has 2 sessions; normal operating hours are 8.30am-11am and 11.30am-2pm.

Children from Y1-Y7 can be dropped off in the playground from 8.15am and school begins at 8.30am. The register is taken at 8.45am. Years 1-3 finish at 1.30pm and Years 4-7 finish at 2.30pm.

### **Do you provide wraparound care?**

'Stay and Play' operates within our school but is managed privately from 1.30pm-5.00pm and costs £4 per hour. Other day care facilities such as Young Ones, Wee Care, Bumbles, Buttercups and Rascals operate pick-ups from the school.

### **What extra-curricular activities do you offer?**

We offer a wide variety of clubs from Year 1 up including Judo, French, Junior Dragons, Miniversity, Football, Hockey, Sportstopia, Basketball, Clayrazy, Cross-Country, Choir, Gymnastics, Ensemble, Nature Detectives and Irish. Clubs vary according to the term and timetabling. Children who wish to do so can attend music lessons for violin, flute or clarinet in school.

### **What does 'Integrated' mean?**

Being an integrated school does not just mean that we accept children from all faiths and none. It is an ethos of respect and understanding which pervades all areas of school life. Everything we do here is intentional. We endeavour to teach our pupils not only to tolerate, but to explore and celebrate differences in other people be it their religion, race, ethnicity, gender or ability. This is not something which is just taught, but is modelled by all of our staff. Because we want the children to be respectful and understanding, we treat them with respect and understanding. Being integrated means not just teaching pupils to pass exams, but teaching them to be responsible citizens who participate in the community and care for other people and the environment.

### **Do you teach Religious Education?**

We have a holistic approach to Religious Education and educate children about a wide range of world faiths and belief systems. We observe and celebrate the main Christian festivals, alongside those of other world faiths throughout the year. Every year group learns about a different world religion or belief system as well as key stories from the bible. All religion is taught in the context of being what some people believe, but not as a 'Fact'. Children are encouraged to share their own family's beliefs or ideologies. We have frequent visitors to school from different religious and non-religious organisations who talk to the children about their belief system.

Children of the Catholic faith are offered the opportunity to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation, however there is no obligation to do so. The preparation for this is done separately from the rest of the children in the class.

### **Which schools do pupils move on to?**

The majority of our pupils move to Lagan College, with whom we enjoy a close working relationship. As our catchment area is wide, our pupils move to a wide variety of schools including Grosvenor, Wellington College, Aquinas, Our Lady and St Patrick's College Knock, RBAI, Victoria and Methody.

### **Is my child likely to get in?**

Yes. We have 52 places available in our nursery and 58 places in Year 1. The vast majority of parents who choose Lough View are successful in gaining a place.

### **Why do I need to specify my child's religion on the form?**

In order to maintain a balance, integrated schools aim to select 40% Catholic applicants, 40% Protestant applicants and 20% from other or none. This ensures the necessary diversity that allows our schools to be such special places.

### **My child has parents from 2 different faiths. Which should I select on the form?**

This is a personal choice for your family, we will not advise you which faith to select as it is your choice. Once your child has been admitted to the school this will have no bearing on their education, unless you opt for them to receive the Catholic Sacraments.

**I would like my child to use the school bus service. Does it go past my house?**

Our school bus service begins from Woodstock Link and work its way towards Lough View taking in the majority of main arterial routes in south and east Belfast. An outline of the route is available on our school website with other admissions information.

**How do I apply to Lough View Integrated Primary and Nursery School?**

For children intending to apply for a Nursery or Year 1 place the application process has changed. Forms will now be completed online and can be accessed via the Education Authority website.

[www.eani.org.uk/admissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/admissions)

Details of our admissions criteria can be accessed online and the application process opens on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon and runs until January 26<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.