



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. Due to current restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic our second Nursery session begins at 12noon and ends at 2.30pm to allow time for additional cleaning.

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 afterschool care?

'Stay and Play' operates within our school but is managed privately from 1.30pm-4.30pm and costs £4 per hour. Additional wraparound care is available from Young Ones and The Learning tree who operate on either side of our school site. Other day care facilities such as Wee Care, Bumbles, Buttercups, Country Bumpkins, The Den and Rascals operate pick-ups from the school.

What extra-curricular activities do you offer?

This year our extra-curricular activities have been affected by the Covid pandemic. In a normal year we offer a wide variety of clubs from Year 1 up including Judo, French, Junior Dragons, Miniversity, Football, Rugby, Basketball, Gaelic, 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, woodwind or guitar 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. 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 religion?

By law all schools in Northern Ireland must demonstrate a Christian Ethos. We do this by teaching our children about morality. We observe and celebrate the main Christian festivals. Every year group learns about a different world religion 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. We are fortunate to have a strong link with St. Anthony's Parish, who regularly visit our sacramental classes in school to assist with preparation. 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 as a first preference 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. Applications are made through the Education Authority online portal and can be accessed via the Education Authority website.

www.eani.org.uk/admissions

Details of our admissions criteria can be accessed online and the application process opens on January 7 and runs until January 29.