

St. Michael's Primary School, Killean

Principal:
MR. CÓNÁN McATEER



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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Admissions for Primary 1 opens on Tuesday 10th January. For more information on how to apply, please visit <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

Choosing a school for your child can be a tough decision I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about St. Michael's Primary School, Killean and all the wonderful benefits we have to offer your child and family.

In our school, we put the child at the centre of everything we do, and we have the pleasure of teaching, learning, and growing with them every day. The staff in Killean are committed to ensuring that each child is nurtured educationally, spiritually and we strive to help them fulfil their potential inside and outside of the classroom.

Where are we?

We are nestled in the heart of the South Armagh countryside close to the scenic Flagstaff Viewpoint, regarded by many as one of the best views in Ireland. We are conveniently located a short drive just off the Belfast/Dublin motorway outside of Newry.

Our School

We boast a newly refurbished school with state-of-the-art indoor hall and playing facilities. All our delicious school meals are cooked onsite while also providing dinners for other schools in the locality. During playtime, the children can enjoy the use of our two playgrounds and during the spring and summer seasons, we enjoy the use of our grass playing field.

As you make your way into school, you will find spacious classrooms equipped with interactive whiteboards and even an outdoor learning area for Foundation/KS1. There is an ICT suite with over 30 laptops available, iPads for every classroom and a school library to help nurture our young readers of the future.

Curriculum

Our Foundation and Key Stage One children enjoy the opportunity to learn through play-based learning. This can be done inside or outside of the classroom with our outdoor learning area and Welly Wednesdays. Our Foundation/KS1 team help the children to begin the educational journey in a fun and nurturing environment.

High quality teaching and learning knitted into the fabric of our school. We work hard to provide fun and innovative lessons. We strive to make sure our children get the opportunity to access every part of the curriculum whether that is through languages, sport, ICT or play based learning.

Breakfast Club/Afterschool Clubs

Breakfast Club begins at 8:15am offering children a healthy and fulfilling breakfast of cereal, toast, and orange juice. We boast a variety of afterschool clubs throughout the year including:

- Football/Soccer
- Eco
- Science Club
- Art
- Glow Club (Coding, Minecraft, Computers, Lego)
- Gymnastics/Hip Hop
- Basketball
- Literacy/Numeracy Club

Nurture/Pastoral Care Team

In Killean we nurture the child academically, spiritually and through their well-being as well. We work closely with Barnardo's PATHS programme giving children the tools to look after their own well-being. Our Pastoral Care Team ensures that every child has a voice and that your child's well-being is being led by the children. We also work closely with Family Works counselling services to help every child. In Killean P.S, along with Upper Killeavy Parish, sacramental preparation is done in P4 and P7 helping children to grow spiritually through the *Grow in Love* programme.

Eco Team

You may notice our green Eco flag flying proudly at the entrance to our school. We are very honoured to be one of the very few schools in the locality to hold a green Eco Flag. We are proud to teach our children about the importance of looking after our world, promoting biodiversity, and becoming advocates for a greener world. Our Eco council strive to deliver the best possible school for their peers.

Sport

Here in St. Michael's Killean, we have a strong sporting tradition engrained into our school. We thrive to offer each child PE from specialist coaches twice a week. We participate in the daily mile, cross country and all Cumann na mBunscol events. We are also the proud holders of the Thomas Mallon Cup which takes pride of place at the front of our school.

Music

Every child from P5 to P7 is offered the chance to learn a musical instrument through our Band Programme. This is delivered by superb musicians and seeing the band in full swing really is something to behold! Our school choir offers children the opportunity to sing in school and to participate in several public performances throughout the year.

Languages

Dia duit a chara agus Hola Amigo! Every child in St. Michael's learns Spanish from P1 to P7. Being bilingual offers many advantages. It helps to increase brain power; it gives children an academic advantage and increases awareness of other cultures. Plus, learning about other languages and cultures is fun! Our Primary 7 children are in the privileged position to be part of a new local Irish Language pilot programme led by Gaeláras Mhic Ardghail. This is designed to give each child a cúpla focal and create lifelong gaeilgeoirí and we are proud to say we are the only school in Newry and Mourne to run such a programme.

Community

In our school we have a proud tradition of working closely with the community. Our hall is open to be used by the public and we work closely with the Upper Killeavy Parish, Armagh GAA, St Michael's GAA, Killeavy GAA and Killean/Edentubber Regeneration Group.

Our school website and brand-new school APP are both updated regularly (www.killeanps.com) to keep you up to date with all the comings and goings of our school. However, there is nothing that can replace seeing a school in action. I would encourage you all to arrange a visit by phoning 028 308 48522 or emailing cmcateer838@c2kni.net

I look forward to showing you around our wonderful school.

Yours faithfully,

Mr C McAteer