



Primary 1

Induction Booklet

2025





Dear Parent,

Welcome to Roan St. Patrick's Primary School.

This booklet is intended to provide you with some practical information which you may require for your child starting school in September.

It also includes some suggested activities which you might undertake with your child which will help develop essential skills and lead to enjoyable learning experiences.

Contents

1. Introduction
2. School times
3. Break and lunch
4. Uniform
5. Correspondence
6. Homework / High 5 Friday
7. Preparing your child for Primary 1 / Suggested activities with your child

School Times



Breakfast Club: 8.00am

Children must arrive to breakfast club before 8.30 am to avail of breakfast.
£1.50 per child per day.

School begins: 9.05am

Supervision of pupils begins at 8.45am each morning and children must not be on the school premises before this time unless attending Breakfast Club.

Break: 10.45 – 11.00am (P1-3)

Lunch: 12.30 – 1.15pm (P1-3)

School ends: 1.50pm (P1). *P1 children have a 12.15 finish up to and including Wednesday 10th September, 1.50 finish from Thursday 11th September.*

2.00pm (P2)

2.50pm (P3-5) P3 have a 2.00pm finish on Fridays

2.55pm (P6-P7)

All children should be collected from school at the designated times unless engaged in school organised activities.

We would ask that all parents using cars to transport their children to and from school take extra care as they approach the school grounds.



Break and Lunch



Snack

Roan St. Patrick's School operates a Healthy Break Policy and each child is asked to bring in their own healthy snack.

Canteen Dinners

Primary 1 Children can avail of the school canteen dinners from Thursday 11th September, when they start to stay full days. Dinners cost **£2.70** per child per day.

We use contactless payment.

Dinners are paid for via the **School Gateway** app and should preferably be booked at the start of the week. (See separate handout for information on the School Gateway app).

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs each morning from 8am and costs **£1.50** per day per child.



Milk

Milk will be provided at a cost of **21p** per day and this is paid for on a termly basis.

Water will be provided for any child who does not wish to take milk. Children are welcome to bring their own water bottle each day.



Uniform

School Uniform:

- School sweatshirt with crest
- Striped tie
- Pale blue shirt
- Girls - Grey skirt/pinafore
- Boys - Grey trousers or grey dress shorts
- Black Shoes

Available from Kelly's Drapery, Irish Street, Dungannon.



P.E. Uniform:

- White polo shirt or School PE Jersey
- School sweatshirt or School PE quarter zip
- Black or navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers



School PE Jersey and Quarter Zip are available from Rolo Sports website. The link will be live on the school website homepage.

Children should only wear PE gear to school on PE days or days when staying for sports after schools.

Other items needed for school

We ask parents to provide a set of twistables for their P1 child in a pencil case that is kept in school for the year.



Children do not need school bags. Children will have a homework pouch provided. A small lunch bag is all they need.



Correspondence



It is vitally important that good channels of communication are kept open at all times.



School App

Our school sends out regular updates via the school app which will keep you up to date with all that is currently going on within the school and also extra-curricular activities.

Schoolgateway



School Gateway

New online payment app can also be used to receive school messages and updates.



Website

We also run a school website www.roanstpatricks.org which is regularly updated to keep you informed of school affairs. Parents can subscribe to the school site for free to receive letters via email.



Email

Staff emails are available on the school website.



Seesaw

We mainly use the seesaw platform to administer and collect homework, but you can correspond with your child's class teacher through messages on this app. Teachers may also send class announcements using SeeSaw.



Phone

Parents may contact the school at any time to arrange an appointment with the Principal or any member of staff. Please leave a message on the answering machine if a member of staff is not available.

Parent teacher meetings

The school will hold formal meetings in the first term to discuss your child's progress.

Homework

Primary 1 homework consists of a weekly set of activities from across the curriculum given on a Monday in their homework pouch.

We request that parents take photos of their child's homework and upload this to our SeeSaw online platform. This is where teachers look at and provide feedback on homework. More information will be given on this with their first homework.

It is important that homework folders are returned to school at the end of the week so that folders can be prepared for the following week and reading books can be readied for other reading groups.

Homework is an important extension to classroom learning. It helps to solidify and extend upon the skills they have been learning in school. It also helps you see what your child is currently learning in school.

Homework has been designed to be as practical and fun as possible.

Parental involvement is paramount to making homework a success.



High-5 Friday

We celebrate High-5 Fridays throughout the year. These are non-uniform days. We use these days to promote the mental health and well-being of our children. Parents will be informed of upcoming High-5 Fridays throughout the year.



Preparing Your Child for Primary 1



You can help your child prepare in many ways:

Help them to become more independent.

Let them try putting on, fastening and taking off their coat.

Let them practise with a packed lunch – opening and closing their lunch bag, sandwich packets or boxes.

Children should be able to look after themselves at the toilet.

If they are anxious about something, reassure them that the teacher is always there to listen and help.



Suggested Activities

We have listed these suggestions under six headings:

Play, Listening, Talking, Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Play

Play is children's 'work'. Play helps children to gain confidence, to share with others, to talk, to discover what they can do in an informal and enjoyable way.

Children should have the opportunity to:

- Participate in number rhymes and jingles.
- Experience imaginative play and role play, where they dress up and play the part of Mummy, Daddy, doctor, nurse, teacher etc (a selection of old clothes is useful).



Listening



Encourage your children to listen to you and to carry-out tasks regularly (daily if possible). Such tasks might be tidying toys; fetching things for you; completing activities suggested in this booklet; listening to or responding to a simple story, message or instruction. The development of listening skills is very important for your child. When it is possible, always insist on them completing these tasks and activities. In this way you can help them develop his/her concentration and gain confidence, both of which will be of great benefit to them later in school.

Talking

Encourage your child to talk and let them see how carefully you listen when he/she is talking. Encourage your child to talk about themselves; others in the family; what they see around them; in the home; at the shops; on journeys etc.



Listen to your child as they talk about the pictures in their storybook, their drawings, about what they make at play etc. Always answer their questions no matter how trivial they may be.

Reading

Reading is for enjoyment. So...

- Read them stories, which are repetitive and in which he/she can take part.
- Say rhymes and jingles for them. Make it fun!
- Show them how to handle books with care, how to hold a book and how to turn over pages.
- Allow them to search for similarities in pictures. Let them follow stories through pictures. Discuss and predict with them what might happen next.



If you can provide a variety of interests, stimulating materials and the opportunity for your child to talk, listen, explore and investigate, then you will have gone a long way to laying sound foundations for your child's future learning.

Writing

To be able to write clearly a child must have good control of hand/eye movements. These activities will help to develop this control:



- Scribbling and drawing with crayons and thick pencils.
- Painting with a thick brush and water paint.
- Cutting pictures from old magazines or papers and sticking these on a page (provide round-end scissors).
- Building jig-saw pictures.
- Modelling with plasticine or playdough.

Mathematics



Your child can learn a lot about number, weight, shape, height etc, even before coming to school.

- Sorting, for colour, shape or size (in the clothes basket, in the kitchen cupboard, in the toy-box etc).
- Matching – things that go together (lids to saucepans, shoes in pairs, cups and saucers, knives and forks etc).
- Counting the stairs going to bed, the pegs as the washing is being hung out, the chairs around the table, the places set for tea.
- Introduce words such as – big/little, long/short, more/less, heavy/light etc.

You will be able to think of lots more activities, which will help your child to understand number better.

We hope that both you and your child find these activities both enjoyable and worthwhile and we are looking forward to welcoming all our new entrants!