



Lisbellaw Community Nursery School

June 2010



Lisbellaw Community Nursery School

- Welcomes children from all backgrounds.
- 26 part-time places.
- Age range: 3 to 4 years. Places for younger children may be available depending on number of applications from children in their pre-school year.
- Activities overseen by a Management Committee, made up of representatives from the Boards of Governors of both Lisbellaw and Tattygar Primary Schools, community, parent and teacher representatives.
- Fully qualified staff:
Teacher:
Mrs. Gwen Saunders, BA (Hons), PGCE
Assistant:
Mrs. Joy Friel, NVQ level 3



Mrs.Saunders



Mrs. Friel

- Opening hours: 9:00am - 12:00 noon

Welcome to Lisbellaw Community Nursery School

The Board of Governors, Management Committee and staff of Lisbellaw Community Nursery School are pleased to be able to offer pre-school education to your child and we will do our best to ensure that he/she will benefit greatly from the year (or two years) spent with us.

The Nursery is staffed by a qualified teacher and nursery assistant who will provide learning experiences suited to the individual needs of each child. It is equipped with a stimulating range of educational toys and equipment, and includes an enclosed outdoor play area. Facilities and equipment are designed to help promote all areas of a child's early learning and development.

We aim to establish close links with you, the parents, so that we can build on your child's early experiences at home, and do everything we can to ensure that your child is happy with us. Your involvement in your child's education from this early stage, right the way through the primary school years, will reap tremendous rewards for him/her and for you!

We hope that you will find the information in this booklet useful as your child prepares to start his/her time with us. If you have any queries, either now or in the future, please do not hesitate to contact the Nursery staff. We look forward to seeing you in September.

Nursery curriculum

The Nursery curriculum is designed to be stimulating and challenging, and is appropriately paced to meet the learning needs of individual children. The curriculum is delivered through a variety of play activities and other experiences including story time, drama, music/singing, snack-time and outdoor play. The learning environment promotes the development of:

- ◇ Emotional and social skills
- ◇ Language
- ◇ Early mathematical and scientific concepts
- ◇ Creativity and imagination
- ◇ Physical skills through both indoor and outdoor play
- ◇ Musical appreciation and enjoyment
- ◇ Awareness of the world around us
- ◇ Awareness of good health and hygiene

The staff will:

- ◇ Provide equipment, materials and ideas to extend learning
- ◇ Encourage the child to ask questions and seek answers
- ◇ Help the child to solve problems
- ◇ Help the child to build up self-confidence
- ◇ Help the child to form good relationships and to respect both adults and peers
- ◇ Encourage enjoyment in all activities.

All activities take place within a caring environment, where the well-being of the child is of the utmost importance.

Settling in procedure

Starting Nursery school is a major event in your child's life and it must be dealt with sensitively.

It is vitally important that good relationships are established between adult and child from the beginning. For this reason, the children are admitted to Nursery in small groups over the first two weeks of the autumn term, starting on Wednesday 1st September 2010.

All children will be admitted by the week beginning 13th September. The session time up to and including Wednesday 15th September will be either 9:00 - 10:15, or 10:30 - 11:45am.

Your child's starting date and time are given below.

Day/date

Start

Finish

One parent should stay with the child on the first day. Some children will take longer than others to settle and may need a parent to stay for a little longer. This is perfectly normal, and should not be any cause for concern. When you see that your child is happy to stay without you, it is best to leave him/her to settle and to develop a relationship with the adults and other children in the Nursery.

The two groups will come together on Thursday 16th September and the session will then be from 9:00 until 11 o'clock up to and including Monday 27th September. From Tuesday 28th September all children will stay for the full session. Please do not bring your child to Nursery before 9:00 am, and please pick him/her up between 11:45am and 12 noon as the staff need some time before and after sessions for discussion/preparation. Your co-operation in this matter is very much appreciated.

Useful information

- Children will be provided with milk (or water) and a snack each day. In order to cover the costs of the snack, we ask for a contribution of £2:00 per child per week. Please bring this on your child's first day and thereafter on Monday mornings. Please do not send any other food or drink.
- Please ensure that your child is dressed suitably to allow comfort and safety during all activities. Nursery sweatshirts are available from Schooldays in Enniskillen (next to Toytown). Jewellery and high heels are not allowed. Please clearly name Nursery sweatshirts, preferably with sewn-in name tags.
- Please provide a change of clothes, including underwear, in a named duffle-type bag, which should stay on your child's coat peg. Please remember to return/replace any items which have been worn.
- Along with this booklet, you should have received a data capture form; permission requests for various activities; a sheet requesting some more personal information about your child; details on pastoral care and child protection and possibly some vetting forms to allow you to help with Nursery outings and/or other activities. Please complete the forms and return them to a member of staff before the end of June. It is particularly important that we receive vetting forms as soon as possible as checks take some time. We would like to have checks completed for the beginning of the school year as our first trip out is usually in October.
- We have an annual outing to Rossnowlagh at the end of each school year. We like as many parents as possible to accompany us on this trip. Parents accompanying us on trips must be vetted.
- Children will not be allowed to play with their own toys in the Nursery. They are welcome to bring something to show us, provided that an adult remembers to collect it at the end of the day!
- Please park in the lay-by beside the main school entrance in Cloghcor Road, and enter the Nursery via the front path. In the interests of all children, cars should not enter the grounds of the Primary School.
- A secure door system operates in the Nursery. We will open the door at 9 am for the start of the session. Please do not let the children ring the bell or buzzer. Please press the buzzer or ring the bell when you come to collect your child or if you need to call at another time.

- In order to promote good hygiene, the children use a facecloth as their personal towel. We would be very grateful if you could supply this as it is very difficult to get 26 different cloths each year. It would be much appreciated if you attached a loop of string or similar with which to hang it. Thank you
- Please make sure that a responsible adult brings and collects your child. He/she should be handed into the care of a member of staff. **Never** let your child come in alone, or allow him/her to run off at the end of the session. If someone different from usual is collecting your child, please let us know in advance.

Parental involvement

We aim to work closely with you, the parent, and to build on the valuable learning experiences with which you have already been providing your child . Once the settling-in period has ended, there will be an information evening to give you further details about the Nursery curriculum, and how you can help your child at home. There will also be a monthly newsletter to keep you informed about life in the Nursery. We would like you to feel part of what we are doing in the Nursery and encourage you to become involved in the following ways:

- ◇ Please feel free to talk to us at arrival/home times. We won't be able to talk to everyone every day, but we hope to make you feel welcome. There will be individual parent meetings in the autumn term, but please feel free to tell us anything you feel we should know about your child in the meantime, and throughout the year.
- ◇ Talk to your child about what he/she has been doing in the Nursery.
- ◇ Reinforce themes being followed in the Nursery and help in the ways suggested on the monthly newsletter.
- ◇ Help on trips.
- ◇ Share your talents and interests with the children by volunteering as a parent helper. (Further details at October information evening).





Lisbellaw Community
Nursery School
Cloghcor Road
Lisbellaw
Co. Fermanagh
Tel: 02866 387214

Opening hours:
9:00 am-12 noon
Monday -Friday
(Term-time)