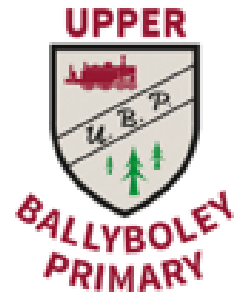
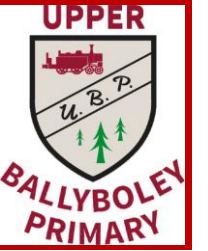


# UPPER BALLYBOLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2022



# Principals Welcome



Dear Parent/Guardian,

I take pleasure in introducing our school prospectus. It is designed to provide an insight into what we as a school can offer your child and family. There is only so much information you can get from a prospectus, so feel free to call into the school for a visit.

Upper Ballyboley Primary School is a rural school, five miles east of Ballyclare, just over seven miles west of Larne and two and half miles north of Ballynure. We are a small rural school with a true family atmosphere. The small numbers in our school ensure that your child is given the attention they deserve.

I believe that every child can do amazing things and it is our job to help make their potential a reality. With an outstanding education, every child has the freedom to choose their own future.

In Upper Ballyboley Primary School we realise that you are the most influential person in your child's life, therefore, we understand the importance of working together to ensure your child gets the best education possible.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

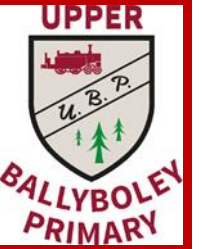
Yours sincerely,

Mr. Stringer

Principal



# Our School Vision

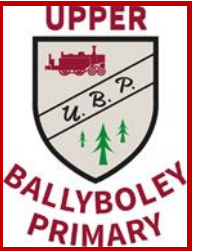


We gather together to achieve our goals and give children the tools they need to be successful in future life for themselves and their community. We endeavour to create confident, knowledgeable and caring children who believe in learning from their mistakes and the importance of trying their best. Ensuring all children have access to a creative, immersive and diverse curriculum gives them the opportunity to achieve excellence.

We aspire to make sure all children develop high standards from themselves and respect others. As staff we dedicate ourselves to providing the highest standard of teaching and learning to allow there to never be a ceiling on any child's dreams. Through all of this, our children should value the importance of learning and feel safe, happy and loved.



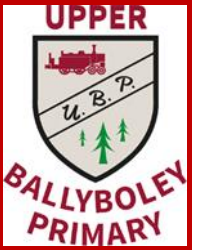
We believe our children leave Upper Ballyboley Primary School being:



- Confident
- Problem solvers
- Knowledge seekers
- Caring
- Imaginative
- Creative
- Thoughtful
- Intelligent

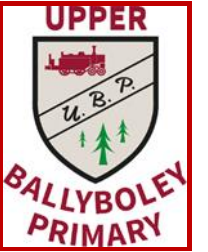


# School Aims



- To ensure children are welcomed into a caring environment where children feel valued and secure and are encouraged to learn from their mistakes.
- To inspire children to be creative and imaginative.
- Provide a rich, diverse and challenging education through excellent and innovative teaching and learning.
- To encourage children's aspirations and never put a ceiling on children's potential.
- To develop independent thinkers who are able to seek solutions creatively and co-operatively which in turn will nurture their confidence to take risks in their learning.
- To celebrate and protect rural life whilst embracing urban aspects.
- To celebrate success, promote a "can do" attitude and inspire each to achieve their best.
- To be inspirational, aspirational and creative learners who are confident in themselves.

# Pastoral Care

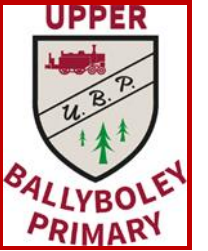


Pastoral Care in Upper Ballyboley Primary School is a priority and is acknowledged as playing a crucial role in the development of the ethos of the school. The Pastoral Care policy (which is available online or in a paper copy from the school) outlines and supports the school in promoting this ethos of a caring and supportive environment in which staff and pupils can work in an atmosphere of mutual respect. In Upper Ballyboley Primary School, we recognise that central to the success of this is the involvement of parents and other outside agencies within the community. We strive to work with them to achieve our aims.

All teachers within our school have a pastoral role and along with the principal, are responsible for the implementation of the Pastoral Care Policy. Mr Stringer has overall responsibility for pastoral care and is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection, Miss Montgomery is our Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

Any parent who wishes to obtain a copy of the school's Anti-Bullying policy, Child Protection or Positive Behaviour policies and is unable to find these on our website should contact the school.

# Board of Governors



The Board of Governors have responsibility for various aspects of life in the school including the curriculum, finance, staffing, admission of pupils and child protection. Our Governors are representatives from the local community, parents and staff. Their role is to support the work of the school and meet regularly to discuss all aspects of provision in the school.

The members of our Board of Governors are;

## Transferor Representative

Mrs Molly Martin  
Mr Emrys Mc Burney  
Mrs Anne Mundell  
Mrs Rosemary McAnally

## Parent Representative

Mrs Leslie McCausland  
Mrs Emma Critchley

## Chairperson

Mrs Molly Martin

## EA-NE Representative

Mr William Taylor  
Mr Andrew Wilson

## Teacher Representative

Miss Montgomery

## Secretary

Mr D Stringer

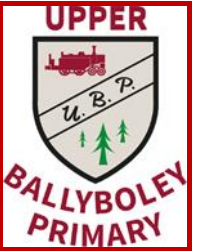
## The Classification of the school

We are a co-educational controlled non-boarding primary school.

What the inspectors think:

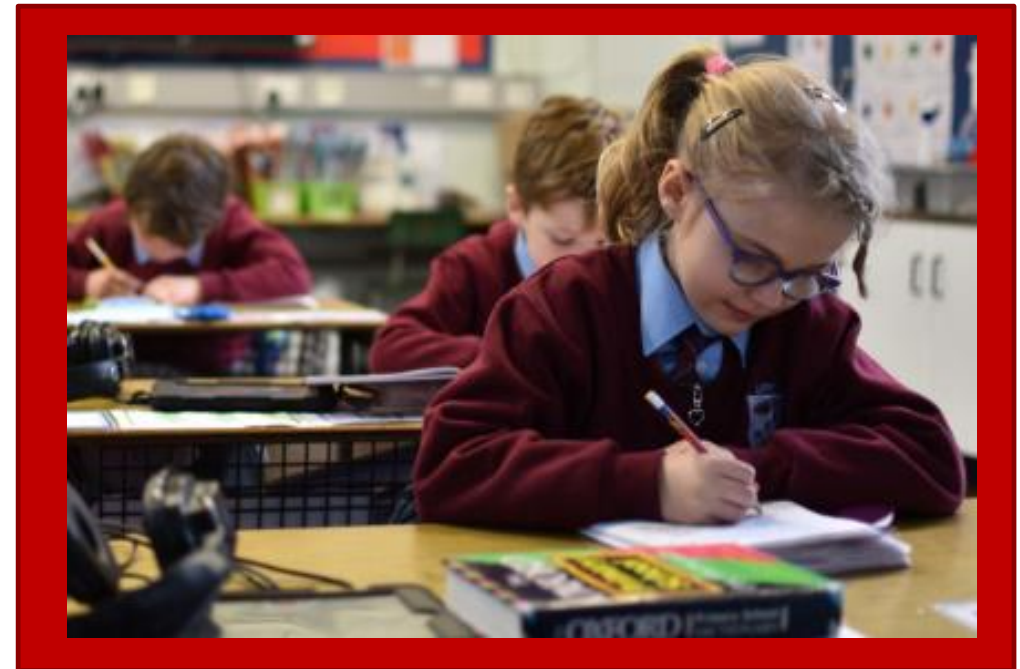
“The children engage enthusiastically with their learning; they are motivated and work productively in pairs, in groups and independently” (ETI 2018).

# Our High Standards



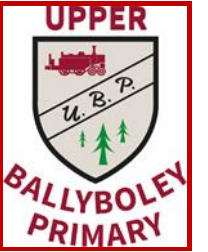
End of Key Stage data indicates that more of our children leave school at or above the expected standard the Northern Ireland average.

Not only do we have high academic standards we also have high sporting standards. Upper Ballyboley won the Ballyclare Small Schools Football Cup and the Ballyclare Small School Hockey Cup in summer 2019.





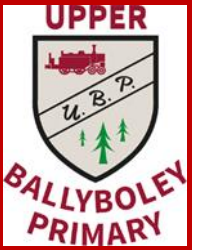
# Foundation stage



Our Foundation Stage is situated within the main building of the school. It provides a safe and secure environment in which children can develop socially, intellectually and physically at their own pace. We accept and treat each child as an individual in their own right while delivering a varied and balanced curriculum. Each day children will experience a rich variety of challenging play activities and other stimulating experiences. Due to our fantastic outdoor facilities, our children are given the opportunity too explore to the natural world.



# Arrange to Visit Our School



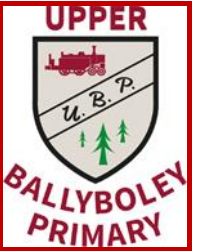
All potential parents are welcome to make a one to one meeting with the principal to discuss their child's admission to the school. Any parent wishing to visit the school may do so by contacting the school secretary to make an appointment. Copies of the Open Enrolment Admissions Information booklet will be sent to all parents who have completed a preliminary school admissions form or have contacted the school to request these documents. Further copies may be obtained by contacting the school or the Education Authority North Eastern Region on 028 25 653333.



What the inspectors think:

“There is a clear focus on developing the children’s thinking skills and personal capabilities and practical, engaging opportunities for problem solving and investigation are evident across the curriculum and in all key stages” (ETI 2018).

# School Information



## Consultations and Reports

Parents are invited to attend two Parent-Teacher Consultations each year once during the first term and a second in term two. This ensures that there is a strong bond between home and school and, if the situation warrants it, further meetings can be arranged. Additionally, an annual report written by the class teacher and issued to the parents in June. These measures are designed to ensure that a steady stream of information is sent to our parents throughout the year, keeping them involved with their child's education. Parent Teacher Association We have a thriving PTA that seeks to provide useful link between home and school by organising a wide variety of events that parents can attend. It also raises substantial sums of money to provide books and equipment for the school.

## Transport

The Education Authority provides transport for children who live further than 2 miles from our school each morning and afternoon. Please contact the school secretary if you require further information.

## Charges and Remissions

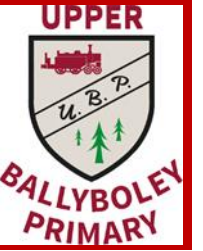
We provide a free education for all pupils at Upper Ballyboley Primary School under the Education Reform Order 1989.

There are just a few exceptions and these are detailed below;

- All board, lodging and travel costs on residential trips (except where statutory/remissions apply)
- Costs associated with optional extras, for example, visits to the theatre or extra-curricular activities.
- Tuition in a musical instrument/swimming instructions.

The school may occasionally ask for voluntary donations but it is stressed that no child will be disadvantaged in any way if the parents choose not to make a contribution. However, Governors reserve the right to cancel any event or activity if parents are reluctant to support. For full details, please visit the school website for a copy of the Charges Policy.

# Our Team



Principal - Mr Stringer

## Teaching

Miss Montgomery Foundation  
Stage & Key Stage One

Mrs Brown Key Stage Two

Mr Stringer Key Stage Two

Mr Cahill Key Stage Two

## Non-Teaching

Miss McMinn Classroom Assistant

Mrs McAuley Classroom Assistant

Mrs Carlisle Classroom Assistant

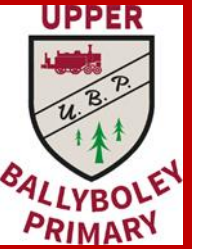
Mrs Stewart Classroom Assistant

Mrs George School Secretary

Mr Herron Caretaker

Mrs Mawhinney School Meals

# Our School Day



<b>0850</b>	<b>Children may arrive</b>
<b>0900</b>	<b>School begins</b>
<b>1045</b>	<b>Morning break</b>
<b>1230</b>	<b>Lunchtime</b>
<b>1315</b>	<b>Afternoon classes begin</b>
<b>1400</b>	<b>End of lessons for P1-2</b>
<b>1500</b>	<b>End of School Day</b>

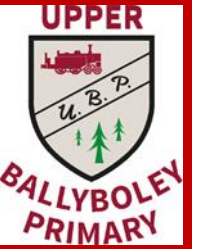
**The school day ends at 1400 for all children on Friday.**

## Holidays

A holiday list for next year will be available in school after Easter and will be sent home to all parents in June. Paper calendars are available from our school office.



# Curriculum



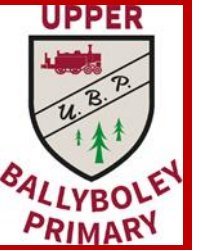
As a controlled school we follow the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Our teachers employ a range of teaching methods and differentiated teaching to facilitate the needs of every child.

All children will be taught in mixed ability classes, the composition will depend on pupil numbers and will operate as required. Your child will experience: Numeracy, Literacy, ICT, history, Geography, Science, Art, Music, PE and RE.

A copy of the Curriculum policies, statutory rules, departmental circulars and inspection reports are available upon request from the school office and the school website



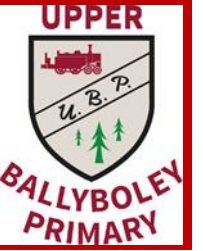
# Religious Education



We recognise that Religious Education has an important and necessary place in the overall educational task of providing a broad, balanced curriculum and we shall endeavour to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of our pupils.

The school follows the Education Authority syllabus for Religious Education. Provision can be made for pupils whose parents wish to withdraw them from R.E, collective worship or school assemblies. This provision will take the form of work on other curricular areas.

# Physical Education



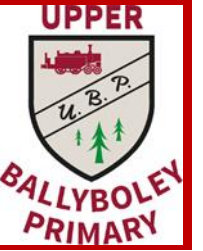
Physical education is taught as a separate area within the curriculum and through it we hope to provide Opportunities for the physical development, health and well-being of the children.

Our school's Extracurricular programme also provides opportunities for the children to extend and develop skills and interests acquired during P.E. lessons.





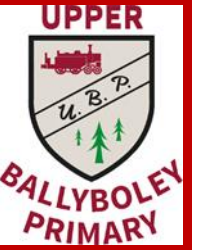
# Drugs Education



Drugs Education will be delivered within specific curricular areas such as The World Around Us, R.E., Literacy and Personal Development and Mutual Understanding.

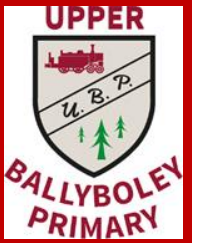
The school will also avail of appropriate external agencies to deliver a drugs awareness programme, where appropriate. The school has a policy in place and this may be obtained from the school office or school website.

# Special Educational Needs



At Upper Ballyboley Primary School our staff are committed to providing equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum including the Northern Ireland Curriculum. We recognise that some pupils during their school career may have special educational needs and/or a disability. In the interests of these children we will endeavour to make every reasonable arrangement to provide for their individual needs.

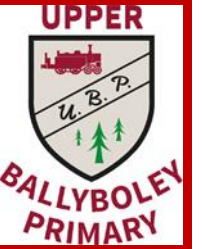
# Gifted and Talented



The school recognises that a small percentage of pupils will be gifted or talented. Any child identified with an exceptional ability will be nurtured and supported appropriately.



# School Uniform



In order to give our children a sense of pride and belonging we encourage our pupils to wear our school uniform. School Uniforms may be purchased from Woodsides Ltd (Larne) or Sport n Sound (Ballyclare).

## Formal uniform

Maroon school jumper

Light blue shirt

School tie

Grey school trousers or skirt

Black shoes

## Summer uniform

(Permitted after the easter holidays until the Halloween holiday)

Either light blue polo shirt with a pair of grey school shorts or skirt

Or a blue and white gingham dress

Black shoes

## Physical Education uniform

The following items are considered appropriate for participating in Physical Education:

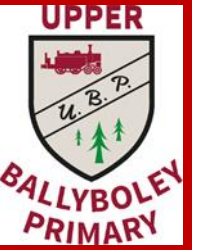
School jersey (available from Reception)

Navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms (minimal logos/stripes)

Maroon football socks



# Problems or Concerns



In Upper Ballyboley Primary School we aim to involve parents as early as possible if problems or concerns arise. Furthermore, we hope that you as parents will do the same with us. An upset at home can cause a child to behave differently at school, just as worry over school work can cause difficulties at home. If you are concerned about your child's progress or about any aspect of his or her school life, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Your first course of action should be to speak with your child's class teacher. It is important to resolve any problems as soon as possible to prevent them from developing further.

Simply send an email, write a note or make telephone the school secretary and a suitable time will be arranged when you can discuss your concerns fully without interruption. If the matter remains, then Mr Stringer will be more than happy to discuss the problem with you.

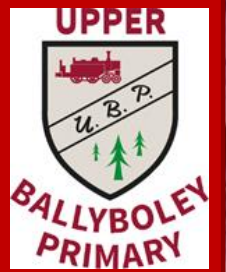
After speaking with Mr Stringer, if you are still dissatisfied with the outcome then the matter may be taken to the Board of Governors. A copy of the complaints procedure is currently available from the school office and is also available on the school's website.

## Policies

Details of our curriculum policies are available on request from the school office or online at:

<http://upperballboleyps.weebly.com/policies>

# Upper Ballyboley Primary School



Principal: Mr Daniel Stringer

Chairperson: Mrs Molly Martin

Website: <http://upperballyboleyps.weebly.com>

Address: 36 Braepark Road,  
Ballyclare,  
Co. Antrim,  
BT39 9UW.

Tel: 02893323915

