Carrickfergus Model Primary School





Open Day 2027



P1 Induction Day for pupils and parents will be on Friday 11th June 2027

Join us for 2027!

“Aspiring to learn, care and grow together”



Aspiring to LEARN

We have an excellent team of teachers and support staff in school who are highly motivated and are committed to support our pupils.



Our staff are motivated to expand their own knowledge and learn new innovative teaching techniques. Our team is bursting with talented individuals and staff members who all bring different skills to the whole staff team. Throughout the year we have an extensive programme of staff training in place. This ensures that we are knowledgeable, prepared and enthused in our teaching. Teachers work together within and across year groups to ensure pupils continue to make progress in their learning.

We are committed to supporting pupils' fundamental skills in Numeracy, Literacy and Using ICT. We are determined that our pupils can learn in many different environments inside and outside school. All staff are supported by the encouragement of parents and governors. We use up-to-date and creative resources to motivate pupils such as Seesaw, Mathletics and Accelerated Reader.

All types of learning throughout school life and at home are celebrated. Learning through sport, drama, music and art allows pupils at every age to pursue their interests, develop their skills, and socialise with their peers.





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Aspiring to CARE

We care very deeply about each child and every family in our school community. We take time to listen to pupils and adapt our teaching methods to suite learner interests and capabilities. When any pupil is facing a challenge or finding things difficult we ensure we intervene to get them back on track. We have a large number of teaching assistants who provide extra support for pupils inside and outside of the classroom. We care about our learning environment and are constantly working hard to provide the best we can for the needs of learners. We teach children to take care of the environment that has been provided for them. The word 'Caring' is the first word of our Model Values that we teach children. We want our pupils to care about themselves, one another and all of the adults in school and at home.

Aspiring to GROW

All pupils enter our school with different backgrounds and experiences but we believe that every child can grow in their learning as they journey through school. Growth is not just academic; we want to our pupils to grow in character and become good citizens in the communities and world they live in. All types of growth are celebrated in school and this will look different for every child. Our awards and certificates not only reward academic growth but the development of personal qualities too.



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TOGETHER

The best learning takes place when pupils, staff and parents work together and communicate well. As a school we value every relationship in school and work hard to build co-operation between one another for the pastoral benefit of everyone.

Our pupil teams in school work together for the benefit of everyone such as Prefects, School Council, Dream Space Ambassadors, Anti-bullying and Wellbeing ambassadors, our Eco-committee and many more.

Our staff teams work together so that expertise can be shared eg our SLT, Child Protection Team, Literacy, Numeracy and UICT teams. We use a range of methods to ensure lines of communication are always open, transparent and timely. Senior members of staff are available at the school gates as points of contact. We use the Seesaw app extensively throughout our school to send messages and share what’s going on inside the classroom. We also report to parents during our parent interviews throughout the school year.



At the Model we are proud that our pupils learn alongside other children from around the world. Children learn together at the Model no matter their skin colour, culture, country of origin or first language. We are delighted and proud of the diversity in our school and work hard to include every family in school life.

Our Values & Aims

AT CARRICKFERGUS MODEL WE AIM TO:

- Create an atmosphere of mutual respect and nurturing relationships.
- Advance and promote our learning powers.
- Raise happy and engaged learners from all cultures and backgrounds.
- Regard emotional wellbeing, self-worth and self-confidence as cornerstones for learning.
- Instil a warm, welcoming and friendly atmosphere.
- Celebrate and value all success in its different forms.
- Keep our expectations high, providing both challenge and support.
- Match the most relevant pedagogical approaches to the ages and stages of our pupils.
- Organise opportunities for pupil participation and responsibility.
- Demonstrate staff working together for the betterment of each child.
- Explicitly teach kindness and empathy.
- Lead the provision of learning opportunities in various stimulating settings to engage all Learners





OUR LEARNING POWERS:

- PERSEVERANCE
- INDEPENDENCE
- TEAMWORK
- PARTICIPATION
- CELEBRATING SELF & OTHERS
- TAKING RISKS & SOLVING PROB
- BEING CREATIVE
- BEING CURIOUS
- BEING YOUR BEST
- BEING POSITIVE



A proud past and an exciting future



Carrickfergus Model Primary School is a school with a proud history and an exciting future! After 165 years of serving Carrickfergus, the Model is a thriving example of how education can be. Our culture of achievement is fuelled by a love of learning, grounded in Christian values and driven by a dynamic creativity and a joyful sense of community.

We strive to create a warm and friendly environment where the heart is educated as well as the mind. Through the use of our wonderful school site and our creative use of space, we aim to provide as many opportunities as we can for each child to shine in their own way.

Our school has been serving the community of Carrickfergus for 165 years! It is a wonderful place to be. Students of all races, faiths and cultures are valued as individuals while learning how they are part of something bigger than themselves.



Our Facilities



Carrickfergus Model Primary School is built on a beautiful site within walking distance of Carrickfergus Marina and right next door to a council owned playpark. We have great relationships with the residents that live on the other side of the old sea wall and boast a safe setting where we often see visiting squirrels. Carrickfergus Castle is within walking distance and we make good use of our location for learning and play.

We have a main building which houses our youngest pupils and 5 purpose built mobile classrooms. We are proud of our creative use of space and our fundraising initiatives which have enabled us to provide an incredible amount for our staff and pupils both inside and outside. Staff often wonder which available space that Mrs Miller is going to develop next!

Our best kept secret at the Model is the space we have that you can't see from the Belfast Road and it is always a WOW moment for new visitors of all ages!



Our Facilities



In total we have:

- 14 well equipped classrooms, each with digital boards
- A school hall with a fantastically equipped PE store, staging and sound for performances
- A dining hall for pupils to have school dinners and also our Breakfast Club and Sleepy Hollow Wraparound Care
- A learning support room where learning magic happens
- An ICT suite including whole class sets of ipads and chromebooks
- A sensory room for calm, quiet time accessible by all who need it
- A sensory corridor for movement on those wet days when our youngest pupils need to move
- A play courtyard filled with imaginative play resources for our 4-6 year olds
- Two libraries that cater for all ages and one is also home to our therapy dog, Nando













Our Facilities



- A Garden Pod Music Room with a huge range of instruments and space to learn a new skill
- A sensory Gym for wet days and movement breaks for our youngest pupils
- An outdoor play area with sandpits / mud kitchens, digging areas, loose parts so we can learn and play in the fresh air
- A forest school area with a reading den, fire pit and den building materials
- An adventure playground for swinging, climbing and sliding
- A Trim Trail which is quite a new addition and adored by all age groups
- A large playground with play resources for all ages so everyone has plenty of room to play
- A large field which is a footballers dream!
- Our Zen Den, which is in progress and will provide a quiet alternative at playtime



...and you never know what might come next!



Some of our Staff



Mrs McDowell
Primary 1



Mrs Berry
Primary 1









Mrs Dickinson
Primary 2



Miss Hull
Primary 2



Mrs Grant
Primary 3







Mrs Buchanan
Primary 3



Mrs McCullough
Primary 4



Mrs Gardner
Primary 4







Mrs Smythe
Secretary



Mrs Kirkland
Vice-Principal



Mrs Miller
Principal





A few extras...



- Online Payment & Communication Systems
- Access to the class teacher via Class Dojo
- Staffed Morning Drop-off at the front or rear of school
- Access to the playground for safe afternoon collection
- Link gate into Legg Park
- A thriving PTA and opportunities to get involved
- A lovely Marina location
- Parking availability around the school site
- Exciting school trips to interesting places locally and beyond
- Classroom Assistants in every year group to assist both the learning and pastoral needs of pupils
- Our Banardos PATHS programme focuses on emotional learning for life
- Children come to us from approximately 12 different nurseries or playgroups every year
- Children leave us in Primary 7 to many different feeder post-primary schools in the area
- We love our pupils and the development of our school site is driven by their hopes and dreams



Wraparound Care





- ☑ **Free supervision in each classroom from 8.30am - 8.45am every morning**
- ☑ **Schools starts at 8.45am every day**
- ☑ **Breakfast club available from 8.00am every morning**
- ☑ **After-school clubs**
- ☑ **Afternoon Buses at 2pm (escorted) and 3pm**
- ☑ **Sleepy Hollow Private Daycare available in term time and during school holidays**

*Available from the summer before starting P1, from 12.15pm for the first few weeks of P1 and daily up until 6.00pm every evening. This operates out of the school canteen area but children have use of the entire school site in the afternoons including our new 'Zen Den' area (sleepyhollowgroup.com).

SLEEPY HOLLOW GROUP