Millennium

INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL

2024-2025 Academic Year

Our Children are, and feel, safe

Our Children feel good about school

Our Children see school as a partnership

Introduction

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to be able to present to you the Governors' Annual Report for Millennium for the academic year 2024 - 2025. This report and AGM is designed to reflect on the academic year, just past.

I appreciate that as I write the opening lines of this report a new chapter in the history of Millennium is being written jut behind us as ground was broken on our new school on July 28th 2025. It is with a growing sense of excitement that we can see the dramatic changes to the landscape and, shortly, you will start to see structures rising above the hoarding. I look forward to welcoming the Education Minister for a ceremonial cutting of the sod in the first term.

As a Grant-Maintained Integrated school, there is considerable personal responsibility, duty and liability put onto the Board of Governors. Not only are they members of the Board, they are also Directors in the company overseeing the school and, with that, comes even further responsibility. Our Board meets on a monthly basis (usually the evening of the first Thursday of the month) as well as members sitting on a range of other committees (such as admissions, recruitment, finance and policy) in between these regular full meetings. Members also commit time to fulfil recruitment duties, usually at weekends, as they seek out the best talent to the school and for your children. This level of accountability and responsibility is well above what happens in other schools. I would also highlight the close and important relationship between myself and the Chair, Mr Declan Hall. The constructive challenge that comes in the relationship with Mr Hall and the other members of the Board has improved my skills as a principal and I appreciate the time and effort that has gone into ensuring the best for the school. I would also like to highlight the diversity on the Governors and every effort is made to represent the Integrated ethos of the school. As well as that, every effort is made to ensure balance across meetings and committees.

The Governors continue to demonstrate their commitment to the life of the school by giving their time and experience feely, and they ensure that I am supported to the best of their ability in maintaining the high standards which we set for the children and staff in Millennium.



Mr Barry Corrigan
Principal and Secretary to the Board of Governors

Chairperson's Report

I am delighted to be able to report the completion of another successful academic year at Millennium Integrated Primary School in my 2024-2025 report.

Starting the new build – Felix O'Hare 28th July. Thanks for the work from them, McAdams Design and Hall, Black, Douglas for getting the project to this point. Department of Education for funding the building. We look forward to welcoming the Education Minister in the near future for the ceremonial cutting of a sod.

As I have said before, the success of the school as a whole is only achievable with the good working relationships between a child's home and school. I would like to thank you, as parents and guardians, for your continued support of the school on many different levels. It is important to recognise the importance of this relationship and the part it plays in the everyday life and success in Millennium. One of the school's Outcomes is that the children see school as a partnership and this is the key to ongoing success.

The School Development Plan was impacted by the ongoing Action Short of Strike Action (which was taking place across schools in Northern Ireland) although I worked closely with Mr Corrigan to ensure that he was continuing to implement the requirements of him at this time. I am assured that the plan being developed will be in the best interests of the school over the period of 2023 – 2026 and I look forward to bringing this through, too. School is entering its final year for SDP and a new one will be developed to take account of the coming changes in the TransformED strategy and review of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. School is partnering with a further three schools to develop joint plans in a new model of collaboration and partnership.

A new build doesn't take away from the continued challenges facing Millennium, like all schools across Northern Ireland – particularly in financial issues. Millennium continues to balance its responsibilities to sound financial management alongside its remit to provide high quality education to all pupils.

The education system continues to be under significant strain from underfunding and I would like to acknowledge the work of the Millennium team in ensuring that the school continued to be prudent while, at the same time, committing to delivering a consistent educational experience. We are kept up to date with the ongoing financial situation within the school and continue to support Mr Corrigan and Mrs Lowry as they navigate these difficult financial times. Be under no illusions of the difficulties that Millennium experiences on a financial level and the work that is needed to ensure that, as a GMI school, Millennium continues to be a stable institution. Again, across this year, our entire staff team have continued to demonstrate an unrivalled level of commitment to delivering ongoing, high quality learning experiences for all of our children and, on behalf of the Governors, I would take this opportunity to congratulate them for a job well done.

My thanks also to the Board of Governors team for the ongoing contributions at the various junctures throughout the year and also to our Parents' Council who carry out excellent work continually. The Board of Governors continued to meet monthly to support Mr Corrigan and his team throughout the school, as well as regular committee meetings.

A final thanks again to everyone who is part of the Millennium experience. I look forward to us all working together to deliver an equally exciting and successful year ahead.



Declan Hall
Chair of Governors

Composition of the Board of Governors 2024 - 2025

The Scheme of Management for the Board of Governors allows for 16 voting members, the Principal of the school and any co-opted members.

The principal and co-opted members do not have voting rights.

Of the voting members:

- 6 shall be Foundation Governors, at least one-third of whom shall, at the time of their appointment, be parents of children attending the school;
- 4 shall be appointed by the Department of Education;
- 4 shall be elected by parents of children attending the school from amongst the parents of such children; and
- 2 shall be elected by the teachers

Department of Education Representatives

Mr Rodney Dowling (Jan 2018)

Currently 3 vacancies to be filled from the Department of Education

Foundation Governors

Mr Declan Hall (Chair) [Designated Foundation Governor in September 2021]

Mr Neil McGrath (Designated as a Foundation Governor in September 2019)

Ms Tessa Curry (Designated Foundation Governor in September 2021)

Mrs Barnie Thompson (Appointed October 2024)

Parent Governors

Mr Richard Ross (Appointed September 2021)

Mrs Annie Davis (Appointed September 2021)

Mrs Victoria Parr (Appointed September 2022)

Mrs Viola Johnston (Appointed November 2024)

Teacher Representatives

Mr Alan McPherson (September 2021)

Non-voting, co-opted member

Mrs Cathy Money (Appointed October 2024)

Non-Voting Member / Secretary to the Board of Governors
Barry Corrigan (Principal)

Responsibility of the Governors
The role of the Board of Governors is to manage the school with a view to providing the best possible education and educational opportunities for all of the pupils. This involves:

- Setting the strategic direction of the school;
- Taking corporate decisions in relation to the statutory functions of the Board of Governors; and
- Promoting good governance.

Governors are responsible for the following aspects of the school:

Strategic Governance

- Setting the school's aims and visions
- Establishing and maintaining the school's ethos
- Setting the school's plans and policies
- Monitoring and evaluating the school's performance
- Promoting self-evaluation

Corporate Governance

- School performance measures
- School finances
- Curriculum planning
- Staff management – appointments, performance, welfare, etc.
- Pupil pastoral care, protection issues, health and safety, etc.
- Pupil admissions
- Publication of information regarding school and its pupils
- Managing the school premises and relations with the community

Responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school rests with the Principal, who advises the Governors on issues arising from this operational responsibility.

Arrangements for the next election of parents to the Board of Governors
The Board of Governors welcomes the opportunity to work with our parental representatives on the Governor team. Currently, the 4 places for parental representatives are filled and when places become available, this will be communicated to the parent body.

Review of the Year 2024-2025

When the vehicles rolled onto the site on July 28th, there was a real sense of relief all round. This is the 'beginning of the end' of a project that is a decade in the making. We look forward to watching the new school take shape and look forward to realising the vision of parents who established Millennium in 2000. The school is opening its doors to its 25th Anniversary with the vision taking shape.



I appreciate that this year continued to be difficult in managing the space in and around the site. We are at a premium and continue to have three beak times and three lunch times. Although they may not be ideal for cohesion across the school, there is still a continuing sense of community across the age groups.

We took steps, this year, to try to open up more opportunities for sports in Key Stage 2 by taking teams down to the Saintfield Community facilities on Wednesday afternoons. Here, we were able to run Gaelic football and soccer sessions, however, it continues to put a strain on already stretched school resources to be hiring a bus on a weekly basis to facilitate this. Back at school, there is also netball taking place as well as a range of other activities, including gardening, computing and art. We intend to continue these Wednesday afternoon activities this year and, hopefully, this will lead to opportunities for more team participation and competition. The school has begun to participate more openly in competitive sports competitions with regional schools.

Our Specialist Provision class continued to operate within the main building. Although not an ideal location, the work that goes on in the class benefits the children enormously and it continues to be a positive addition to the school life.

Integrated Education Fund (IEF) continued to help support the school with funding for our Nurture provision. This is designed to support those children who struggle with regular education and to give a 'soft landing' in the mornings. This is a significant investment of both time and money from

the school to support children and young people in Millennium and its work should not be underestimated. However, we do find that we have ongoing conversations regarding the balance between nurture and education It has been more obvious that our younger children are finding the transition into the school environment more difficult and 'school readiness' is changing. This is something that I know the Foundation team are trying to tackle, however, it remains a significant challenge in education across the system.

We continue to face significant challenges through the recognised underfunding of education in Northern Ireland. There are a plethora of reasons for this, however, it does have a daily impact in our ability to deliver the education we want your children to have. The finances of the school are scrutinised through our Finance Committee and reported on monthly to the Governors. However, the school continues to budget accordingly and thanks to the work and donations of Parents' Council, for example, we have been able to update ICT equipment and materials around the school.

The school continued to be busy, regardless of pressures on the curriculum and on space. We had our Science week, led by Brendan Donnelly, and exposed the children to a range of experiments and ideas. The Creative Arts (under the leadership of Suzanne Smyth) continues to be embedded across the school – with our scheme, Charanga, being rolled out and supported. As well as this, the recorder and the glockenspiel resources are in constant use. P7 put on their annual end of year play, under the expert guidance of Andrea Grimison and the school choir participated in a range of events in the community.

We also had a very successful Integrated Education Month with a range of visitors and activities across the school. Thank you to Rachel Bolingbroke for leading this across the school and she ensures that the integrated message continues to be a lived experience. This led to even further success in the Carson Awards for Creativity where there were a number of prizes won by the classes across the school.

In May, the school received its Impact Autism award for the work that has been going on in the school to create an inclusive environment. I would like to commend the work of Lisa McMullan and Jenny Hall in bringing this to the school. We continued to receive excellent feedback from external assessors for the annual Inclusive Quality Mark (IQM) assessment. This highlighted the work that has been undertaken in the school on many fronts and how it continues to work hard to serve the children and families that attend Millennium. I have included the report as an appendix to the Annual Report.

There continued to be a short period of industrial action within the school, however, with agreements in place it is hoped that there will be a sustained, settled period within the school and across Northern Ireland.

We continued to work with a range of outside clubs across the school, too.

Staffing remained relatively steady, we welcomed Sara Browning back as Learning Support Coordinator (SENCo) and Mark Vincent was appointed as Primary 6 teacher. As the 'pack was

shuffled' Rachel Doyle was appointed as Primary 2 teacher to replace Sarah Mathison. There was also a change of role for Zoe Heatherington who now will take one day of numeracy support as well as a day in Primary 7 to help Alan McPherson fulfil his VP duties. This led to the appointment of Natasza Rudewicz as Damian McArdle's job share partner for 2 days a week. James Kailanathan was appointed as Foundation Leader after Sarah Mathison's departure.

I would also like to, again, pay tribute to the work of the Parents' Council in supporting the school over the year. They have unlimited enthusiasm for supporting the school and it importance cannot be underestimated. I enjoy a close and positive working relationship with both Nichola and Viola, as well as the rest of the Council members. Over the year, they have supported the school in a range of activities – including Halloween and Christmas activities and treats for the children including ice-cream van for the summer. The big project for this year, was the running of the Gala Ball in May to celebrate 25 years of Millennium. Their work and effort to get it 'over the line' should not be underestimated, either, and it shows a strong level of commitment and faith in the school's values and ethos.

Staff and Class Structure
Principal: Mr Barry Corrigan
Vice Principal: Mr Alan McPherson
Literacy Leader: Mrs Sue Fitzgerald
Numeracy Leader: Mrs Catherine Kingston
World Around Us Leader: Mr Brendan Donnelly
Creative Arts Leader: Miss Suzanne Smyth
Integration Leader: Mrs Rachel Bolingbroke
Foundation Leader: Mr James Kailanathan
Key Stage 1 Leader: Mrs Sue Fitzgerald
Key Stage 2 Leader: Mr Brendan Donnelly

Classroom Teachers (Including current year)
Nursery: Mrs Jennifer Houston
Primary 1: Mrs Lisa McMullen and Mrs Ruth Salazar / Mr James Kailanathan
Primary 2: Mrs Catherine Kingston and Mrs Rachel Orderly / Miss Rachel Doyle
Primary 3: Mrs Rachel Bolingbroke / Mrs Eithne White and Mrs Hannah McKee
Primary 4: Mrs Sue Fitzgerald / Mrs Judith Taggart
Primary 5: Mr Rory Gardner / Mr Damian McArdle and Miss Natasza Rudewicz
Primary 6: Miss Suzanne Smyth / Mr Mark Vincent
Primary 7: Mr Brendan Donnelly / Mr Alan McPherson
Oak Class: Miss Amy Murphy

Learning Support Team
Learning Support Coordinator (LSC): Miss Sara Browning
Learning Support Teacher: Mrs Finn Magee
Learning Support Teacher / P7 Support: Mrs Zoe Heatherington

Classroom Assistants
Nursery: Stacey Walsh,
Primary 1: Marie Coiley / Katrina McConvey, Mary-Anne McKervey
Primary 2: Jacqui Ortiz Mojaraz / Lisa Foster

Learning Support Assistants (including current year)
Wendy Adair, Suzanne Beattie, Judith Boyle, Catherine Carson; Roisin Carson, Denise Davison, Elaine Devlin, Louise Flynn, Arlene Flynn, Jenny Hall, Evie Haughey, Jennifer Holden, Stephanie Kearney, Louise Millar; Evangeline Ravinchandran; Fiona Robinson, Chloe Shannon, Rosemarie Stevenson, Rebeckah Wadell; Nuala Trainor, Michelle Whyte

Administration Team
Financial Administrator: Frances Lowry
Secretary: Beata Mis
School Meals: Suzanne Beattie, Ellen Woods, Eunyoung Hwang

Millennium Integrated Primary School
Parents Council

Annual Report

September 2024 to June 2025

Contents

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2024/25 Committee

Chair	Nichola McSherry
Co-Chair	Viola Johnston
Secretary	Will Lucas
Co-secretary	Valerie Smyth
Treasurers	Graeme Taylor
	Abbie Branagh
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Loren Walker
PR Co-ordinator	Abbie & Viola

Our Team

In 2024/2025 we gained new members from across the school year groups.

Our active members are referred to as Class Representatives, they play a key role in disseminating messages about events, as well as feeding back information from the Millennium parent community.

In addition, our Class Representatives lead on Parent Council events, volunteer at the events and support through purchasing prizes and resources for the events.

We have 29 active members

Our objective

Our focus for this academic year was to invest some of the money that we had fundraised over the last couple of years back into the school.

We also set ourselves the target of fundraising £10,000.

And as always Parents' Council aim to build upon the sense of community within the school.

How we spent our fundraising

- 4 new iPads - £4600
- £200 for each class - £3400
- New bibles - £164
- Competition prizes (Halloween & Easter) - £207.34
- Christmas gifts for children - £167.19

In total we spent £8,538.53 supporting the school

How we spent our fundraising

- £200 for each class - £3400

Class	How they spent the money
P1Y	
P2B	
P2Y	
P2B	
P3Y	Day trip to Delamont
P3B	
P4Y	Bought games for classroom
P4B	
P5Y	
P5B	
P6Y	
P6B	
P7Y	
P7B	

Tea & Coffee

Parents Council members volunteered to provide tea & coffee at

- P1 Harvest (October)
- P1 open day (January)

- Nursey open day (January)
- Post primary information event (SPiM) (May)
- P1 induction sessions (June)
- Leavers assembly (June)

We provided a warm welcome on 6 occasions

Activities

- First day of P1 parent's survival kit
- Halloween Mask competition
- Christmas Wreath Making
- School Christmas Tree (sourced & decorated)
- Christmas nativity swap shop
- Santa visit
- Christmas hamper raffle
- Christmas card sale (Children designed the cards)
- Tuck shop at Christmas fair
- Smarties Challenge
- Pub Quiz
- Design an Easter Egg competition
- Belfast Marathon relay
- 25th Anniversary raffle
- 25th Anniversary Gala Ball (17th May)
- Ice cream van on last day of school

We organised 16 different activities

25th Anniversary Gala Ball

On Saturday 17th May we celebrated Millennium Integrated Primary 25th anniversary with a gala ball.
The gala ball took place at the Crowne Plaza, Belfast and was attended by 102 teachers, parents and friends of Millennium, we even had a couple of past pupils.
The evening began with a drinks reception and past pupil Abbie playing the harp. Dinner was a three-course set menu during which we were entertained by the singing waiter and Mr Corrigan got an extra special performance, when the singing waiter dropped his plates!
Dinner was followed by the band and dancing into the wee hours. The night was billed as huge success by everyone who attended.
I would like to thank the Parents' Council gala committee who organised the whole evening.

Fundraising

- £823.72 – Christmas wreath workshop
- £1,352 – Christmas hampers
- £534.62 – Christmas cards
- £43.88 – Truck shop at Christmas fair
- £1,571.65 – Smarties challenge
- £360 – Pub quiz
- £1,032 – Belfast marathon
- £2535.15 – 25th Anniversary raffle
- £581 – 25th Anniversary gala ball

We fundraised £8,834.02 for the school

Social Media

- During 2024/25 we had 95 social media posts

444 Facebook followers

65 Instagram followers



Draft Plan for 2025/2026

September 2025	
27th Aug	Gifts for p1 parents
23rd Sept	Parents' Council monthly meeting

October 2025	
4th Oct	Donard Walk to celebrate 25th Anniversary
7th Oct	Parents' Council AGM
TBC	P1 Harvest tea & coffee
w/c 20th Oct	Halloween disco (during school day)

November 2025	
11th Nov	Parents' Council monthly meeting
TBC	Pub quiz Carryduff
w/c 17th Nov	Nativity swap-shop in reception

December 2025	
1st Dec	Decorate school Christmas Tree
9th Dec	Parents' Council monthly meeting
Dec	Class Christmas hamper raffle
Dec	Christmas cards go on sale
TBC	Tea & Coffee at school fair
TBC	Santa visit & chocolate gift

January 2026	
13th Jan	Parents' Council monthly meeting
TBC	Tea/ coffee Open days

February 2026	
Mon 2nd Feb	Smarties challenge
17th Feb	Parents' Council monthly meeting
w/c 23 Feb	Pub quiz Saintfield

March 2026	
2nd March	Children's Easter hamper raffle
10th March	Parents' Council monthly meeting
w/c 23 March	Design an Easter egg competition

April 2026	
1st April	Marathon sponsorship promotion
21st April	Parents' Council monthly meeting

May 2026	
3rd May	Belfast Marathon
12th May	Parents' Council monthly meeting

June 2026	
TBC	Summer Fair
9th June	Parents' Council monthly meeting
TBC	Tea/ coffee at Nursery & P1 information sessions
29th June	Ice cream van

Thank You

Finally, to close, I would like to show my appreciation by saying a few thank you. Without you the events wouldn't take place or be as successful.

- Mr Corrigan and staff
- Admin staff (for the endless emails they have to read!)
- Parent volunteers
- The parents and pupils for supporting the events.
- Last, but by no means least, the core Parents Council members and volunteers who work tirelessly to organise each and every event.

Enrolment

The permitted enrolment from the Department of Education is 420 and the school continues to meet the needs of the local community. The nursery has an enrolment of 52 part-time places – which is made up of an AM and PM session.

The Curriculum

Under the Education Reform Order, the responsibility of Governors for the curriculum, i.e. what is taught in the school, has been increased. The day-to-day organisation of the curriculum remains the Principal's responsibility.

It is a joint responsibility to ensure that a broad and balanced learning experience is provided for all children through the delivery of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. All staff have participated and continue to participate in training opportunities to broaden their knowledge and expertise in delivering the skills-based curriculum.

There continued to be a reduction on formal assessments – with the Department of Education indicating that end of Key Stage assessments would not be required for 2024-2025. However, the school reported levels within Literacy and Numeracy based on internal and standardised assessments.

Entrance Tests

The new unregulated SEAG tests continued this year. The 'one test' replaced the two different tests that had been in place previously. Thanks, and recognition, should be extended to members of staff in Primaries 6 and 7 who deliver additional revision classes after school (as well additional support over the Hallowe'en break) each year.

Religious Education

As an integrated school, we teach Religious Education through the agreed Christian syllabus designed by the four main churches in Northern Ireland. From Primary 2 through to Primary 7, each class has a designated world faith which is explored during Integrated Education Week.

We ensure that we celebrate, together, religious traditions which might be perceived to belong to one side or the other of the two main traditions in Northern Ireland. We prepare our Roman Catholic children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Primary 3, First Holy Communion in P4 and the Sacrament of Confirmation in Primary 7. These are special events in the life of our school and are important aspects of our work as an integrated school. We are delighted to be able to welcome all classmates of those children making their Sacraments to be part of this special day. Traditionally, ministers from a number of local Protestant churches would visit school on a rota basis. We do offer the opportunity for members of the local Catholic Church to come into the school, too, however this has yet to be taken up.

The school engages with a wide range of organisations, Churches and other faiths and religions (especially across Integrated Education Month where there is a focus on world faiths). Part of that engagement is inviting in members of local churches and groups to speak to the children in an assembly.

We ask that their assemblies focus on the monthly themes below:
September - Kindness
October - Peace
November - Sadness
December - Happiness
January - Family
February - Love
March - Patience
April - Forgiveness
May - Justice
June – Success

We like visitors to stay within our themes and to be aware of the growing diversity within the school and their duty to be inclusive of all children attending. To reinforce our approach and continue to raise the awareness of our diversity we hope to either meet with our visitors this term (given their availability) or write to them outlining our expectations especially within the Principles of Integrated Education. We developed a new rota for assemblies this year, as well as developing a new policy on assemblies in the school. This was ratified by Governors.

Parents have the right to ask to have their children removed from religious instruction and assemblies.

Creative Arts
Miss Smyth organised instrumental music teachers for violin, lyre, piano, flute, clarinet, guitar and drums. We have approximately 50 children taking lessons in school. As well as this, there is also an external iRock band opportunity for children to attend.

As noted above, we also arranged for a range of local religious leaders and non-faith based leaders to come and speak to pupils during their assemblies. A timetable was created for wall displays around the school and for the use of the creative trees by the school office with a different theme for each month.

School choirs were set up (KS2 and fun choir for P3-P4) and performed at various events in the community including the Carryduff Community Carol Service and the Carryduff Christmas Market.

KS2 had a their Carol Service in Carryduff Baptist Church this year.

Creative Arts continues to be an important element to the school and there was also a focus on this for staff development, this year.

Arrangements for children with Special Needs

The main change, this year, was the return of Sara Browning as Learning Support Coordinator. Miss Browning took over the role just after the mid-term break in October and, very quickly, found her feet, again.

The Oak Class is a Specialist Provision which is run by the Education Authority (EA) but managed from within the school. This class has no more than 8 children and is staffed by 1 teacher and up to 2 classroom assistants.

Literacy and Spelling support continued across the school, building on previous work that was completed last year.

There have been considerable changes in the access to SEN services from the EA and a lot of the year has been spent embedding processes and procedures for the new Gradated Response framework for the school. This will show a significant change in how services are accessed as well as working within the new Local Impact Teams (LIT) of EA.

Nurtured continued in the school and is more focused at early intervention for younger children. Without support, this is a very difficult resource to maintain and is done on an annual basis according to affordability. This is run by Mrs Finn Magee with oversight from Mrs Eithne White and Miss Sara Browning.

Mrs Finn Magee continued to provide additional literacy support for children, alongside Mrs Lisa McMullan completing afternoon intervention classes. At the end of the year, the decision was also taken to offer numeracy intervention for 2025-26 through Mrs Zoe Heatherington.

Safeguarding Children

Mr McPherson is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection with Mrs Kingston Mrs Houston (nursery) and Mrs Magee as the Deputy Designated Teacher team. All teachers with Child Protection responsibilities have received training from the Education Authority which was updated in 2024 for everyone. Millennium Integrated Primary School has a confidential recording system for information about suspicion of abuse, disclosure of abuse and complaints against staff. This system has been enhanced since 2023 to enable us to track incidents clearly and ensure that there is an easy way to track incidents year on year. Child Protection training is delivered to all staff during the August training days and all staff are made aware of our Child Protection Policy and our staff Code of Conduct.

Signage around the school reflects guidance from the Education Authority.

A detailed monthly report is provided to the Board of Governors by the Designated Teacher, and this includes details of actions the school is undertaking in relation to safeguarding. An annual report on child protection is given to the Board of Governors by the Designated Governor for Child Protection. All staff and volunteers are vetted through the AccessNI in accordance with DE circulars and current legislation. Indeed, the school goes above requirements and carries out a three year rolling update process for all staff on site.

Necessary staff are trained to receive Operation Encompass calls – a PSNI/Education Authority initiative to inform school if we have child witness domestic Violence at home. The Education Authority has been working with the Designated Teacher to introduce Personal Education Plans (PEP) for our Children Looked After. All Children Looked After now have a PEP.

The safeguarding team now meets half-termly and the team has been streamlined to have a member of each Key Stage and the Nursery. The Governor rep is also invited to these meetings – where issues of a child protection matter are discussed, as well as pastoral concerns including attendance and punctuality of children.

Healthy Eating

Our focus on healthy eating practices is very important to the present and future well-being of the children. Through the curriculum, visitors to school, snacks at break time, packed lunches, school dinners and our annual Healthy Lifestyle Week we have continued to raise the profile of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The school receives its catering from an outside provider, who provides school dinners set to the nutritional standard of EA and DE. Parents are also encouraged to provide healthy food in lunches.

Our Sports Day took place in the new Lough Moss 4G facility in Carryduff.

Sport

At Millennium, we were offering the children the opportunity to experience a range of sports as part of the Physical Education curriculum as well as through the range of after-school clubs. We aim to increase the children's awareness of the benefits of sport and sporting activities in terms of healthy lifestyles, physical well-being and the value of teamwork.

Millennium welcomes in members from local sporting clubs to increase engagement with the community. As mentioned earlier, we are also taking children to Saintfield Community Pitches on Wednesday afternoons for Gaelic football and soccer training. Last year, the school also started to reengage with Ulster Hockey and NI Netball. We were delighted to be able to participate in local tournaments, again, in Hockey, Gaelic football and Soccer.

The Board of Governors recognise the importance of these offerings in school, however, it also recognises the impact of the shrinking ground space has had on the ability of the school to offer a full range of clubs.

After-school clubs

There continues to be a full rota of after-school clubs: Healthy Kidz - Multisport and Basketball on Mondays, Jujitsu on Tuesdays, Drama on Wednesdays, Football and Dragons' Den on Thursdays and Monkeynastix on Fridays (P1 and P2 only).

School funded and organised test revision club runs P6 classes (Terms 2 and 3) and P7 classes (Term 1).

School Bus

The school bus remains a very popular option for children travelling home to Saintfield and Carryduff. The bus to Carryduff usually carries around 50 children each day and the Saintfield bus isn't too far behind.

We would like to continue to recommend this means of transport for the children in the afternoon as it should ease congestion within the car park are, along with other measures.

Kids' Corner

Marie Coiley and Sue Hill continue to provide this service for the school community through their Breakfast Club (open from 7:30am) and the after-school provision which is open Monday to Friday until 6:00pm. This provision is available to families both in term time and during the school holidays.

Developing links with the local community

We had a range of links with the local community over the year. As well as highlighting the sporting links, we also took part in local Christmas celebrations in Carryduff.

We continue to maintain our links with the Carryduff churches and, as well as the Sacraments taking place in The Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel, we also held our Carol Service in Carryduff Baptist Church. The choirs also attended the opening of a new shopping complex in Carryduff (Lidl store) and visited a number of places in the run up to Christmas, including a care home and an event to celebrate carers.

The primary 2 classes continued to attend Forest Schools classes in Rowallane.

We have also started to develop links with local businesses and companies. Our new Eurospar helped sponsor the Sports Day in June whilst the local quarry donated treats to the children for Christmas, as well as providing support for enhanced trips in Primary 5 through Mr Rory Gardner. We hope to strengthen these links this year with a member of staff engaging in community liaison.

Cross-Phase links with Local Secondary Schools

Our children attended a range of local events in local post-primary schools. We also hosted post-primary schools in the school to visit pupils. As well as this, our children went to see productions in Lagan College and Wellington College as well as experiencing a 'day in the life' of a Blackwater pupil and Saintfield High.

Our children attended a range of local events in local post-primary schools. Our children went to see productions in Lagan College and Wellington College as well as experiencing a 'day in the life' of a Blackwater pupil.

We also hosted a SEN open event for a number of local post-primary schools where they were available to speak to parents of children with additional needs who might not get the same level of access in an Open Day. We feel that it was a successful event with a number of schools attending and parents from schools other than our own.

School Development Plan

The School Development Plan cycle was interrupted by a number of ongoing factors – not least the legacy of COVID and industrial action. However, this year marked the school entering the final phase and a new three-year plan will be written through 2025-26.
The current plan's outcomes remain relevant to the school.

The Three Outcomes for Millennium Integrated PS are:

Our children are, and feel, safe

Our Children feel good about school

Our Children see school as a partnership

We started assessing the impact of the SDP with the children, too. Our feedback from the children was a good insight to how they feel within the school as well as helping us set a focus for the coming SDP.
The focus for the school this year was the rewriting of the behaviour policy and overhauling the marking and feedback policy.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances we were unable to run the traditional 'Life in Millennium' survey for 2024-25.

Use of INSET and School Development Days

The school is entitled to take 5 INSET days and 5 School Development Days within the school year. Effectively, this means that there are 10 days available for school development.

The INSET days in August are used for a range of activities:

- Update to annual Child Protection training;
- Updating GDPR Training;
- Working with assessment results;
- Working on transition between classes – information sharing;

School Development Days in the year are used for:

- ICT upskilling,
- Assessment analysis;
- Parent-Teacher meetings [due to ASoSA]
- Updates to literacy (Reading); numeracy (mental maths) and Creative Arts
- SEN – line management / School management overview
- Assessment and Reporting

Assessment

Pupils are formally assessed at the end of Key Stage 1 (P4) and at the end of Key Stage 2 (P7). The assessments are normally carried out throughout the year, with a final 'Level' being reported in the end of year report.

Government targets recommend that the majority of children in P4 will reach Level 2 (and above) and that the majority of children in P7 will reach Level 4 (and above). It is the exception that children will reach Level 3 in Primary 4 and Level 5 in Primary 7.

There was no formal assessment, this year, in line with the DE direction. We carry out our internal assessment processes from P1 through to P7. There are standardised assessments for the P3 – P7 and reading, Literacy and Numeracy are reported from P4 to P7.

The school reported on Assessment Levels within Literacy and Numeracy using a combination of standardised results and teacher input.

Targets for 2024 - 2025

The Department of Education is continuing to review assessments and reporting.

Premises

The school has double enrolment throughout all classes. All available space is being used in the school with significant use throughout the day – though we are ensuring that there are spaces available for SEN support and visiting professionals. This reduction in external space, though, continues to put pressure on the space we have available for the children to play.

The school has reduced available space to facilitate the building of the new school. We have made arrangements to ensure that space within the school is optimised without putting too

much strain on resources, however, we recognise that this continues to have an impact on school cohesion (as referenced, previously).

The buildings committee of the Board of Governors inspect the building on an annual basis [with a representative of the insurance company] and highlight areas that may need attention. It is recognised that there are areas of the school building that require ongoing maintenance, however, given the proximity of the beginning of the new build, the governors are delaying any substantial works until certainty has been granted in regards to a start date.

The school has also reallocated space for the use of the Oak Class provision. This is also a further stress on what is already a shrinking footprint – but it continues to be the right thing to do for the most vulnerable children in the school. We have also lost out on library space for the past number of years due to the delays in the building.

Accessibility
The premises are generally accessible to all people. We have made and will continue to make necessary adjustments to take account of children and adults with particular needs.

Security
The school has a security camera system that monitors the front entrance to the school and the accessible area at the back gate. There is a buzzer entry system for both the pupil entrance and the main entrance. All visitors must sign in and are given a visitor's badge. They are also given a leaflet explaining some key child protection policies and procedure.

Security for the SPiM is through 'regulated access' through the outdoor play area and corridors to ensure that this is accessible as well as being secure.

Financial Statement for the year ending 31st March 2025

School's budget for 2023 - 24	
Surplus carried forward	£262,972
Department of Education Grants	£2,590,353
Other Operating Income	£13,188
Total Resources available to school	£2,603,541
Total Expenditure	£2,625,855
Reserves / Balance Carried Forward	£240,658

A full copy of the school's end-of-year audited accounts is available on request from the school.

Limited Company Accounts

Latest accounts dated year ended 31st March 2024. The balance for the financial year was £21,479

Finally, the Governors would like to express their thanks to everyone associated with Millennium in any capacity to make it a continued success.