



Together Promoting Success



Towerview Primary School





Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in Towerview Primary School.

2009 saw the official opening of a modern, state of the art Towerview Primary School – fully equipped to meet the needs of children for the 21st century. The new school is situated in pleasant landscaped grounds on the edge of the green belt and overlooks open countryside.

It is important for prospective parents to see our school, talk to our staff and our children to understand the warm and mutually supportive relationships that operate here, so please make arrangements to come and visit us.

You will find that Towerview Primary School is a place that children enjoy, where all the staff do their very best to help every child and where high standards are expected and achieved.

If you do want to visit us or if you would like further details about any aspect of school life, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

The School Board of Governors

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Vision, Mission Statement & Aims



Our vision is:

Together Promoting Success

Mission for our school

Together we promote high achievement, personal development and learning for life and work for success.

We believe that each child will succeed by working with children to:

- develop thinking and enquiring minds with a spirit of curiosity
- become highly motivated and life long learners
- be flexible, adaptable and open to the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of modern life and the world of work
- have high self-esteem – respecting themselves, others and the environment
- be able to work independently and collaboratively
- recognise their capabilities and maximise their individual potential in all areas of the curriculum
- advance and gain confidence in their technological skills
- seek to extend themselves aesthetically, culturally, intellectually, morally, physically and spiritually

Aims for our pupils

We believe that children will succeed through experiencing quality in:

- a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum, sensitive to the needs of the individual
- a secure, respectful, caring and stimulating learning environment
- an enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits
- a rich, varied and up to date range of learning resources
- innovative teaching and an investigative approach to learning
- an ethos of support, encouragement and challenge to succeed
- learning partnerships between school, home and the wider community



- We demonstrate our commitment to working as a learning community by:**
- respecting the individual but working collaboratively towards common goals with shared learning outcomes
 - constantly monitoring and evaluating our progress – endeavouring to become a self evaluating school
 - striving for continuous improvement in all that we do





At Towerview we aim to provide a rich and varied curriculum, carefully designed to benefit the whole child. Within this broad, balanced curriculum a focus on achieving appropriately high academic standards in Literacy and Numeracy will be maintained. We also actively promote the development of knowledge, understanding and skills across the full range of primary school areas of learning. The content of our areas of learning complies with the current requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

The six areas of learning laid out in the Northern Ireland Curriculum include:

- Language and Literacy
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- The Arts
- The World Around Us
- Personal Development and Mutual Understanding
- Physical Education

These will also incorporate the Cross-Curricular Skills of:

- Communication
- Using Mathematics
- Using Information and Communications Technology

Religious Education

Religious Education is a compulsory subject and, as required, includes class-based programmes of study and regular acts of corporate worship. Clergymen representing the local churches visit on a regular basis to take Assembly.

Some parents may not wish their children to receive formal Religious Education, either in the classroom or at Assembly. In such cases parents should contact the Principal.



We employ a range of strategies that keep parents and carers of Towerview Primary School fully informed of their child's progress in school. We encourage all parents and carers to contact the school with any concerns about any aspect of their child's work. In the first term of each academic year, teachers hold a curriculum meeting on the main areas of study for that particular class. The teacher highlights how parents and carers can support their children with their work.

Information is reported through:

- parental consultations twice a year in Autumn and Spring terms
- End of Key Stage Results reported to parents in June
- Annual reports to parents in June
- PTM and PTE results reported to parents in June
- Informal meetings initiated by the teacher or parent throughout the year
- IEP parental interviews
- Annual Progress Test Results reported to parents of P3-7 (June)

Our comparable results at transfer and the statutory end of Key Stage results are available on request.

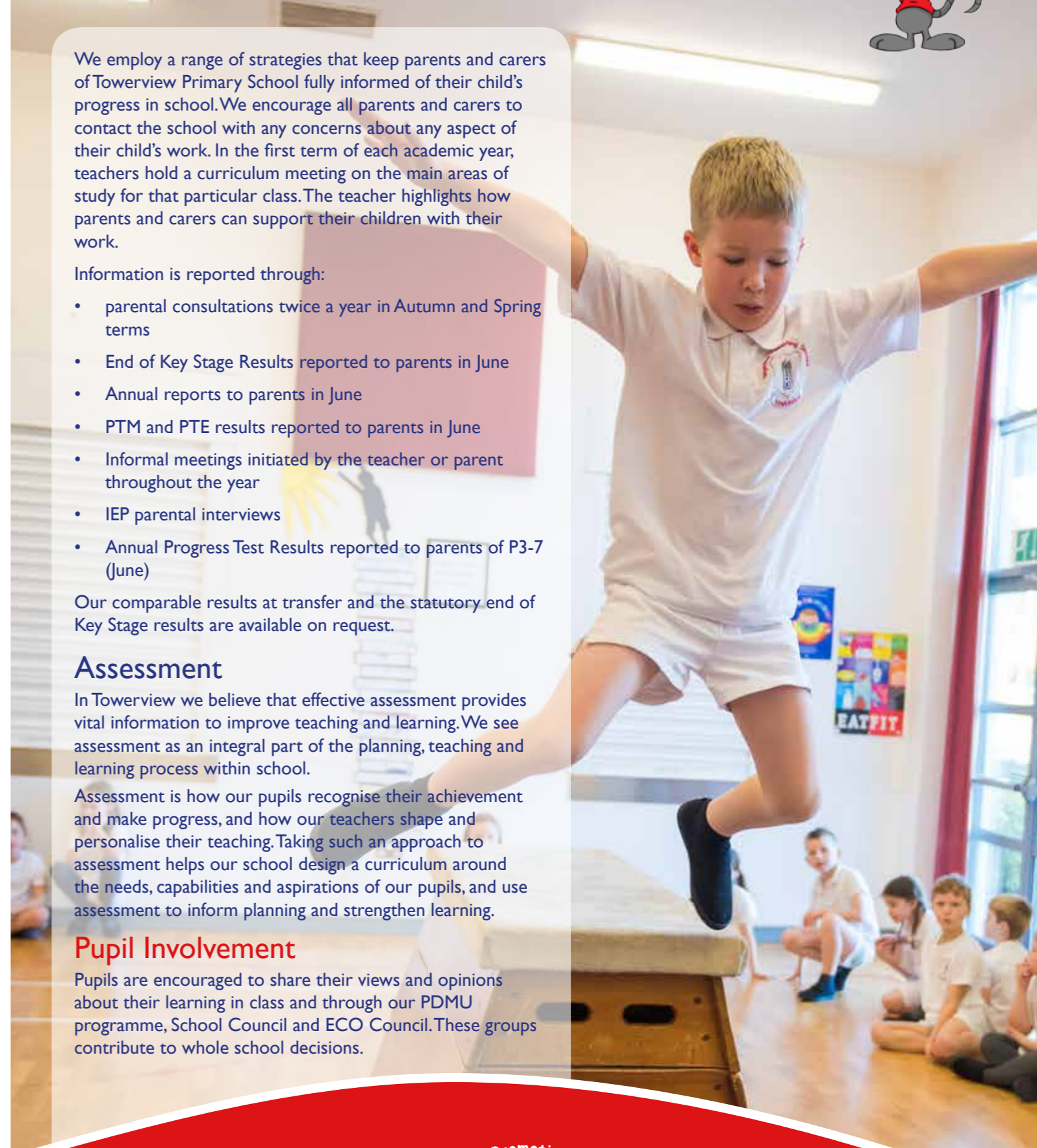
Assessment

In Towerview we believe that effective assessment provides vital information to improve teaching and learning. We see assessment as an integral part of the planning, teaching and learning process within school.

Assessment is how our pupils recognise their achievement and make progress, and how our teachers shape and personalise their teaching. Taking such an approach to assessment helps our school design a curriculum around the needs, capabilities and aspirations of our pupils, and use assessment to inform planning and strengthen learning.

Pupil Involvement

Pupils are encouraged to share their views and opinions about their learning in class and through our PDMU programme, School Council and ECO Council. These groups contribute to whole school decisions.





Extra Curricular Activities

Opportunities to participate in a wide variety of activities after school are provided each year. Sports available to pupils include football, netball, hockey, cross country, badminton, athletics and cycling.

Specialist coaching is currently provided in football, hockey, rugby, tennis and Ju-Jitsu.

Netball, football, cross country, athletics and hockey teams regularly compete in tournaments with other schools.

Other non-sporting extra-curricular activities include cookery, choir, band, art, Speech and Drama, ICT, Junior Choir, Dance and Drama, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Film and Animation, Working with Wool, Mandarin, Lego Club and Scripture Union.

Specialist music tuition is available in woodwind and brass and pupils who can demonstrate a musical ability will be considered for tuition. Tutors come from the Education Authority Music Centre from whom instruments are available on loan, if required.

The school runs a very popular and successful major drama production every year and for the last ten years we have adapted Broadway musicals. The children are involved in all aspects of the production and we incorporate their ideas and designs into the show. Some of our recent productions have included Mary Poppins, Guys and Dolls, Bugsy Malone, The Music Man, and Oklahoma.

Educational and Residential Visits

All children benefit from local educational visits as appropriate, with senior children travelling further afield. Children in every class beginning in Nursery have the opportunity to go on educational visits.

The Year 5 children enjoy a 3 day visit to Cultra. Our Year 6 children spend 3 days at Ganaway Outdoor Education Centre in Millisle, whilst the annual Year 7 educational visit is to Holland.





Towerview Nursery Unit is a purpose built facility situated within the grounds of the school. The current building opened in 2009 and is an integral and significant part of Towerview Primary School. The extensive school facilities are available to the children enrolled within the Nursery Unit, which will assist the transition from the Nursery to Primary School education.

Facilities within the Nursery Unit include a large playroom, a quiet room, a kitchen, toilets, playground and covered play area. A wide range of stimulating learning materials are available, catering for the needs of every child.

As with Towerview Primary School, the Nursery Unit encourages the emotional social, spiritual and physical development of the children. Staffing comprises of an experienced and skilled Nursery teacher along with a full-time Nursery assistant. Staff will provide a challenging and caring environment within which each child will be encouraged to acquire knowledge and skills leading to a positive attitude to learning.

The Board of Governors fully supports the work of the Nursery Unit and takes a keen interest in the progress of the children.





At Towerview, we aim to ensure that:

- relationships between pupils and staff operate on a basis of mutual respect;
- the values, attitudes, beliefs and concerns of pupils are taken seriously;
- there is a promotion of positive relationships, mutual tolerance and respect for others, both within the classroom and socially;
- pupils feel secure and happy, and understand that they can confide in staff regarding personal issues and concerns;
- children are aware of, and can recognise, those teachers in whom they can confide should they have a problem or concern. (Posters are displayed in every classroom identifying the Designated Teacher AND Deputy Designated Teacher);
- pupils will develop appropriate self-confidence, self-esteem and self-discipline during their school careers;
- parents are regularly informed about pastoral issues and arrangements, and have confidence in the systems in place;
- good communications are maintained between parents and school and between school and outside agencies;
- a balance is maintained between rewards for positive behaviour and sanctions required for negative behaviour;
- members of staff feel valued and work together as a team;
- all members of the school community work in a positive, secure and healthy environment.



Rewards and Incentives

Our children are encouraged to demonstrate good behaviour through:

- Praise and rewards
- TAPS programme
- Tappy stamps
- House System
- Assembly awards
- Class Reward System
- Pastoral Care Support

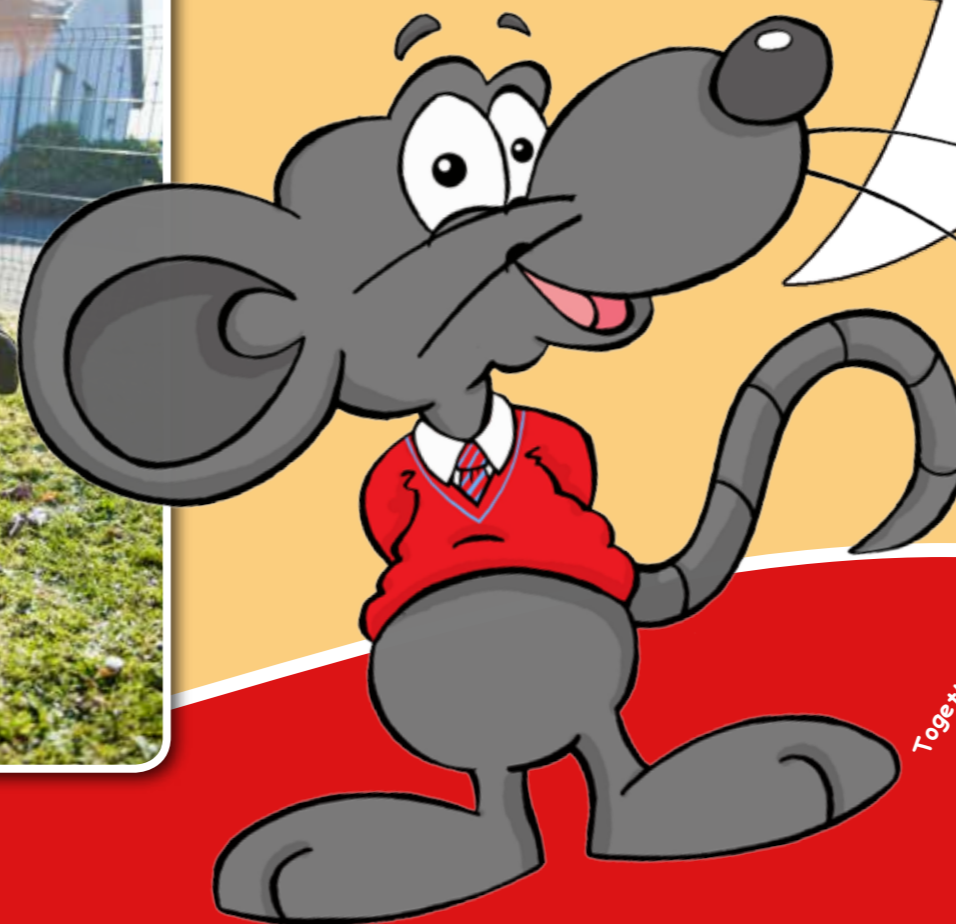
Towerview's Approach to Problem Solving (TAPS)

There is a mouse about the house, or in this case, the school! Tappy, the foot tapping mouse is a key member of Towerview Primary School along with the members of his TAPS gang, comprising of Tom, Abbie, Polly and Simon (in the form of large scale puppets) and the Primary Seven children in their blue hats. They are here to help the children to remember how to care for and to look out for each other and also how to learn more about themselves.

This programme looks at a particular character trait, such as respect, honesty and kindness and examples of good character are demonstrated through our PDMU programme and rewarded within school and assemblies.

Charities

Towerview actively encourages children to think about and to give to others. It helps the children to realise that there are those who are less fortunate than themselves in this world. Each year charities from Northern Ireland and further afield are supported.



Special Education Needs Provision (SEN)



Towerview will endeavour to identify and address the needs of all children who may require special provision during their school career. Current procedures for identifying children with SEN follow the requirements of the Code of Practice. Appropriate structures and procedures ensure that the code is implemented effectively by all members of staff.

Within our Special Needs provision, we aim:

- To ensure that children with special educational needs, including high ability, are identified as soon as possible, and their needs assessed as quickly as possible in keeping with current procedures and requirements
- To ensure that children from the MLD Special Unit are effectively integrated within year groups

Special Facilities

Towerview Primary School has an MLD unit for children from P4-P7 with moderate learning difficulties.

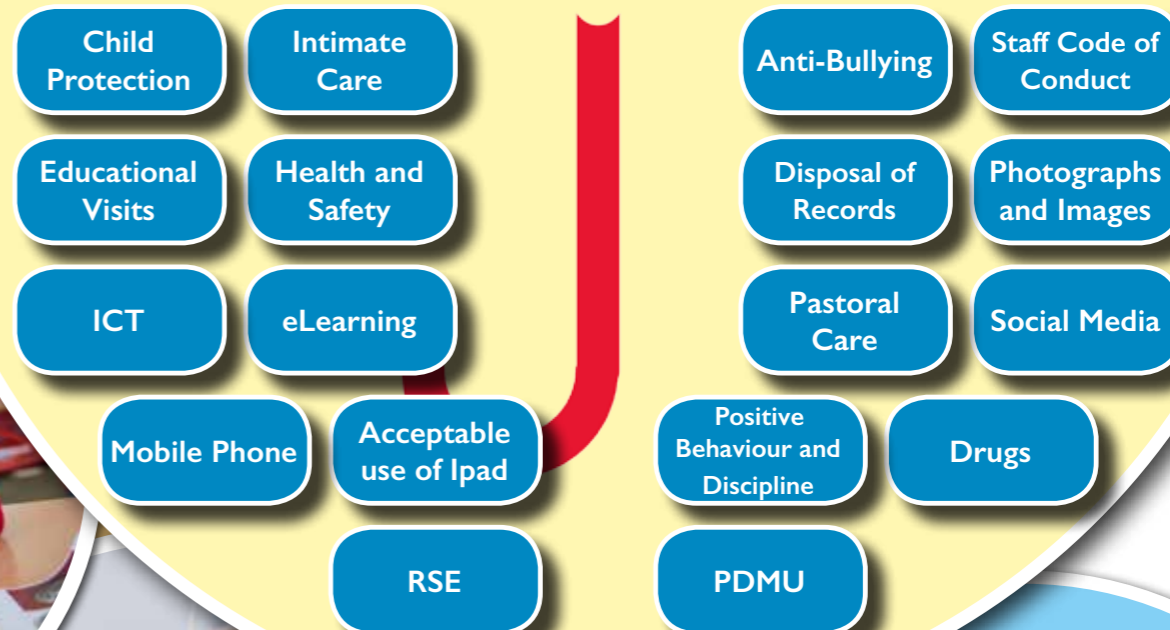
Our school has been designed around the needs of visually impaired or physically disabled pupils and we will continue to make reasonable adjustments where individual needs require us to do so.

The children in this unit integrate into school life and into their year group classes in subject areas such as art, music, drama, physical education, swimming, productions, school trips and residential trips.



SAFEGUARDING POLICIES

Our umbrella shows the policies in place to safeguard your child in Towerview Primary School. All policies are available upon request from the school office.



Homework

- Homework is set regularly for all pupils to:-
- promote children's personal development
 - promote positive attitudes and dispositions to learning
 - motivate children to develop literacy & numeracy skills
 - involve parents in their children's learning
 - reinforce classwork – to build a strong foundation for further work
 - encourage commitment to memory
 - promote good habits in private/further study



Uniform & School Day



Uniform

We are particularly proud of our school uniform and it is the policy of the school that it is worn by all pupils.

Boys

Red V neck Jumper

(with school logo)

Grey trousers

White shirt

Red school tie

Grey black socks

Black shoes

Towerview Primary School

Sports Hoodie for P.E.

Girls

Red V neck Jumper/
Cardigan

(with school logo)

Grey skirt/pinafore

White shirt

Red school tie

Grey tights or white knee
socks

Black shoes

Towerview Primary School

Sports Hoodie for P.E.



Summer Uniform

Grey shorts and white
polo shirt

(with school logo)

Red gingham cotton dress
or white polo shirt

(with school logo)

Nursery

Grey sweatshirt with School logo

Red polo shirt

Grey tracksuit bottoms

All uniform can be purchased from Baillie's, High Street,
Bangor and Roberts, Central Avenue, Bangor. P.E hoodies are
only available from school PTA.



School Day

Nursery Unit

Morning Session: 8.50am – 11.20am

Afternoon Session: 12.20pm – 2.50pm

Years 1 – 3 9.00am – 1.50pm
NB. Year 3 Tuesday
& Thursday 3.00pm

Years 4 – 7 9.00am – 3.00pm

BREAK 10.40am – 10.50am

LUNCH 12.15pm – 12.55pm

Children should not arrive at school
before 8.45am as supervision is not
provided before that time. School doors
are opened from 8.45am.

School Meals

School meals are cooked on site in our superbly
equipped kitchen. The menus are provided in
advance and all meals are prepared in line with the
Government's most recent nutritional guidelines.

Application forms for pupils entitled to free school
meals are available from the school office. Those
who bring a packed lunch will be supervised in
their classroom.

Website

Our website ensures family and friends are well
informed about all school events and important
information. It is a place where pupils can share
their work and success in school.

Visit our website to gain more of an insight into life
at Towerview:

www.towerviewps.co.uk



How you can help us



Parent/Teacher Association

There has always been a thriving and very active PTA in Towerview. The PTA fulfils a significant role within our school community. The contribution of the PTA in organising social events and raising funds for the purchase of additional books, materials or services for our children is greatly appreciated.

The Wider Community

The school maintains effective links with the wider community throughout the whole year. The school welcomes visitors from a range of organisations to help support the delivery of topic work as part of the curriculum in the classroom. The school also participates in many sporting and musical events throughout the year within our local community.



Towerview Primary School



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