



Millisle
Nursery Unit



Equality



Co-operation



Respect



Quality

Let's Play and Learn

2 Welcomes you and your child to the Nursery year!

Thank you for considering Millisle Nursery Unit as the right school for your child. This prospectus is intended to help you know more about the life and work of our wonderful Nursery Unit.



Learning begins in the home and throughout a child's schooling the environment of the home continues to influence his/her educational development profoundly.

In school we are dedicated to encouraging your child's learning by offering a stimulating and varied curriculum, a secure environment where he/she will be

encouraged to fulfil his/her academic potential, respect other children, co-operate with other boys and girls and communicate openly with his/her peers and the teacher. Our goal is to promote enjoyment in education.

We believe that parents should feel welcome in our Nursery and take a positive interest in their child's education.



Teachers are linked to parents by the children for whom they are responsible. Let us therefore work as a team to make your child's Nursery days as pleasant and enriching as possible. Mrs. Gillespie, Mrs. MacCormack, or I will be only too pleased to discuss any matter pertaining to your child's wellbeing at the school and look forward to your support.

However, no prospectus can convey the real atmosphere of the Millisle Nursery Unit. We would therefore like to invite you to pay us a visit and see for yourself.

We know that your son or daughter will

develop socially, emotionally and intellectually through play.

L. Patterson (Principal)

Nursery Unit Facilities

Purpose-built building in the grounds of Millisle Primary School.

- Bright recreation area
- Playroom with adjoining toilets
- Quiet room
- Kitchen
- Staff/Parent room
- Soft play surface
- Secure outdoor play area

4 Getting Ready for Nursery The First Steps



The first school a child ever attends is at home, and the first teachers a child ever has are their parents. The education which a child receives at home remains with them for the rest of their life.

The most important time in a child's life is the first four or five years. During this time he/she learns at the fastest rate and is influenced most by his/her home environment. What and how he/she learns during this time prepares him/her for the more formal atmosphere of his first school. Attitudes and ideas formed in the comfort of his home are the foundations on which the school can build.



Settling In

The settling in period is a very important time in nursery school for your child. We endeavour to make the transfer from home to nursery a happy experience. As it is vital that we establish a good

relationship with each individual child, children are introduced to the nursery gradually in small groups. We ask parents to stay with the child initially. We do not put a time scale on this as children take varying amounts of time to feel happy about being left.

Bringing and collecting

- All children must be accompanied to and from school by a responsible adult
- Please inform us in advance if there is going to be someone new collecting your child
- Please ensure that you always say 'goodbye' to one of the staff before leaving
- Do be punctual when collecting your child to avoid him/her being upset

6 What happens at Nursery?

We hope to extend your child's development socially, emotionally, and intellectually through play.

The Child

The nursery offers a full-time session to 26 children each year. The Nursery provides an environment where children feel safe, secure, valued and respected. We believe that inspiring children at an early age is paramount in their life-long learning.

The Staff

The success of Millisle Nursery Unit is down to the excellent staff and parent relationships. From the Principal to the nursery staff, an enormous emphasis is placed on ensuring that the highly trained staff offer more than just the relevant qualifications.

In our programmes



- Role play is a key part of our programme
- Children take part in a variety of situations
- For example a shop, house, hospital, café and a jungle are amongst their favourites



- The Quiet Room allows the children to relax
- Our story time takes place here
- A wide range of books relating to monthly topics
- We learn lots of new nursery rhymes too



- Inside there are lots of activities for the children:
- Sand, water, blocks, dough, paints, constructional toys and also games
- Learning through play



- Our raised garden also allows the children to learn about where food comes from and how things grow
- The minibeasts area develops the little explorer in every child

Play

Inside and out, the nursery is full of different things to inspire the children to learn. We regularly engage in activities such as outdoor sports, indoor role play games, and story times to extend the childrens development socially, emotionally, and intellectually.



Safe, secure, outdoor play area with ride-on toys



The children explore their creative side with arts and crafts

The Daily Programme

The children enjoy discovery play during the morning, followed by a healthy snack, then they love helping with the tidying-up routine. After this they spend time in the quiet room before they help set the tables for lunch. This is eaten together in a family style setting. Before home time the children have more opportunities for outdoor fun, table-top activities or circle time.

Daily Programme

Everything at Millisle Nursery Unit is carefully planned to inspire children to enjoy learning.

9.00 - 11.00	Discovery Play
11.00 - 11.20	Snack
11.20 - 11.30	Tidy Up Routine
11.30 - 11.50	Story/Song Time
11.50 - 12.45	Lunch Time
12.45 - 13.30	Discovery Play
13.30	Home Time *

* After School Club runs in the main Primary School from 13.30 - 16.45

8 How can I help my child at home?

The most important influence on your child's learning throughout the nursery year is actually what you do together at home.

Each month the Nursery Newsletter will be placed in your child's box at nursery. This will keep you up to date with what is happening at nursery and let you know about any important dates for your diary.

The 'Parent's Page' at the end of the newsletter provides lots of ideas about how you can build on what your child has been doing throughout the month at nursery.



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- Talk about nursery in a positive manner
- Talk with your child about each nursery topic
- Encourage your child to talk about their day

2

- Encourage interest in books
- Share stories together and discuss the pictures
- Sing nursery rhymes together

3

- Teach them to put on and take off their coat
- Encourage your child to look after their toys
- Ensure independent toileting and hand washing



Clothing

The comfortable, practical and easily managed uniform is available from School Days, High Street, Newtownards.

Snack Time

A healthy snack is provided daily for the children. Snacks consist of a drink of milk, toast, fruit, cheese and crackers, pancakes etc. The charge for this is £2 per week.

The money also covers: gardening materials, dough ingredients, art & craft materials, books, toiletries etc.

Health & Hygiene

- Please inform us if your child has any allergies
- Children should attend regularly unless they are ill
- Children who are ill should be kept at home until they are well enough to enter into all activities
- All children must be fully toilet trained
- We keep spare clothes in school in case of accidents

We hope you and your children will regard Millisle Nursery as 'your' school and will always feel welcome. By working together we hope to make this year a happy, exciting and rewarding experience for your child. We will keep you fully informed of all aspects of school life via letters and newsletters throughout the year. Please feel free to discuss any worries or queries with us at any time. If you would like to help with story telling or any other activities, do tell us.

We Commit to Build Character

At Millisle Nursery Unit we aim to provide a stable, secure and challenging environment so that each child will be enabled to move towards maximum all round development – emotional, social, physical and cognitive.

Our aims:

- To foster positive attitudes and dispositions for learning.
- To provide a broad, challenging curriculum so that each child has the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills, values and attitudes.
- To foster a bond of mutual trust and respect between parents and staff.
- To provide children with a wider experience of the world.
- To serve as an extension of the home – extending the known and introducing new experiences – so that home and school complement each other.
- To help young children become familiar with rules and routines.
- To recognise and develop the uniqueness and individuality of each child.
- To provide opportunities for young children to learn through solitary, parallel and co-operative play.
- To develop children's self-esteem, self-confidence and independence.
- To help children develop the skills, knowledge, values and attitudes needed for lifelong learning.





Millisle

Nursery Unit

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