

# **St Ronan's**



**Primary School, Recarson**

## **PROSPECTUS for Admission September 2026**





# St. Ronan's Primary School Recarson

Applying for a place for September 2026 at  
St. Ronan's Primary School, Recarson

All information available online at

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025** – EA publishes information on website about the Primary One Admissions Procedure

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026** – (12 noon) Primary One application procedure opens with online portal available.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026** – (12 noon) Online portal closes – (punctual applications will be considered before late applications)

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026** – (4.00pm) – Closing date to provide supporting documentation i.e. Birth Certificate, to be uploaded.

If you have any difficulties completing the online application form, please contact the school for assistance.

Many thanks,

Conor McCrystall  
PRINCIPAL

Principal: Mr Conor McCrystall

St Ronan's Primary School Recarson

68 Arvalee Road  
Omagh  
Co. Tyrone  
BT79 0NE

Telephone: 028 8224 5628    [www.recarsonps.com](http://www.recarsonps.com)    Email: [info@recarsonps.omagh.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@recarsonps.omagh.ni.sch.uk)

# Welcome

Dear parents / guardians,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for considering St. Ronan's Primary School as a suitable school for your child and extend a warm welcome to you. St. Ronan's is an outstanding school within a beautiful rural setting on the outskirts of Omagh.



The school promotes an ethos of caring and high achievement and offers a deep commitment to the children in our care with children at the heart of the school community.

We aim to develop in our pupils the values necessary to become caring and responsible citizens of the future. It is essential to have good all-round relationships and children working in a happy and secure environment. Indeed, the success of our school and the high quality of education that it provides can be attributed to good co-operation among staff, pupils, parents, governors and the local community.

In St. Ronan's we work tirelessly to ensure that our pupils receive the best educational experience possible. We set very high standards for our teaching staff, ancillary staff and pupils in a caring and supportive challenging environment.

Strong links between parents and the community in St. Ronan's are actively encouraged and are viewed as vital to the continued success of our school.

As a Catholic school, St. Ronan's is wholeheartedly committed to the spiritual, moral, personal and social development of our children and the fostering of Christian values for life in an inclusive enriching environment. Our pastoral care is inspired by Christ the Good Shepherd and his faithful love for his flock. This love is made visible by the school's approach to its caring role and permeates every aspect of school life.

We are very fortunate to have a modern school with lots of amenities for the children. Each classroom is spacious, well resourced and is equipped with the latest technology to enrich the learning experience for our children. There is a fantastic sensory room which is used by individuals and groups of children.

I trust that you will find the information in our prospectus helpful and informative and that it will give you an insight into the life and work of our school and what we have to offer your child. Of course, this booklet cannot convey the real atmosphere of our school. Your visit to our school will give you an even better appreciation of our ethos. Please view our promotional school video, 'A Day in the Life of a Pupil at St. Ronan's Recarson' on the school website: [www.recarsonps.com](http://www.recarsonps.com).

I trust that you will find the information in our prospectus helpful and informative. If there is any further information you require please contact the school and we will be happy to answer any of your queries.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries. I look forward to meeting you and your child and getting the opportunity to welcome him / her to St. Ronan's in September 2026 and look forward to working with you in an open and productive way to secure the best possible education for your child.

Many thanks,

Mr Conor McCrystall  
Principal

**Our school...  
a safe, secure,  
happy, caring  
and  
stimulating  
environment.**

**Children are  
the first  
priority of the  
school.**

**Teachers and  
staff will do  
everything  
possible to  
make school  
a happy  
place for  
your child.**



# Our School

Within the context of our distinctive Catholic ethos, we aim to create a happy, caring and stimulating environment in which all children will achieve their potential and experience success in their learning and development.



St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson is based on the principles of child-centred education. While striving for academic excellence, we also recognise each child as a unique individual with not only academic but also spiritual, moral, physical, social and emotional needs. We aim to develop each child's full potential as a member of society and believe that children learn best when they are happy.

We aim to reach into our community and to educate our children in a spirit of understanding and respect. We fully recognise that an active and meaningful partnership between school, parents and parish is essential to our school's success, as well as your child's development.

## Delivering the Curriculum

St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson provides high quality teaching and learning, delivering a curriculum for the development of the whole child in a safe, secure, happy, caring and stimulating environment. The curriculum in St Ronan's PS is provided in a way that encourages each child to develop and excel. Learning is interactive, practical and enjoyable. There is a wide use of teaching methods, balancing whole-class, group and individual activities, to engage children in effective learning.

In our most recent Inspection Report, conducted by the Education and Training Inspectorate in September 2014, the school was recognised as 'outstanding' across all areas inspected. This was endorsed by a Sustaining Improvement Inspection in October 2017.



Overall Performance Level	Outstanding
Achievements and Standards	Outstanding
Provision	Outstanding
Leadership and Management	Outstanding

You may wish to read the full Inspection Report on  
**[www.etini.gov.uk](http://www.etini.gov.uk)**  
or visit our school website  
**[www.recarsonps.com](http://www.recarsonps.com)**  
to download a copy.



**Foundation  
Stage—  
Primary 1 & 2**



## Starting School in the Foundation Stage

The 'Foundation Stage', Primary 1 and Primary 2, aims to build on children's pre-school learning experiences. It provides each child with an appropriate learning programme to develop their disposition to learn. It also aims to provide them with the skills and competencies they will need to succeed in school and future life.

The Foundation Stage endorses effective early years practice where teachers have more flexibility in terms of the topics they teach. This flexibility allows teachers to follow the interests of the children, encouraging them to see links in their learning and to appreciate that the skills they learn in one area can be applied elsewhere in their learning.



## Key Stages 1 & 2



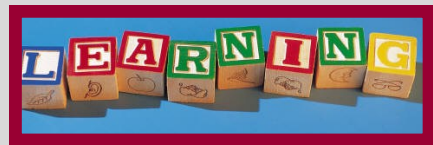
Children at Key Stages 1 and 2 build on and develop the experiences provided at the Foundation Stage.

Emphasis continues to be placed on your child's personal, social and emotional development and, of course, on academic achievement through an emphasis on the development of the cross-curricular skills of 'Communication', 'Using Mathematics', 'Using ICT' and 'Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities'.

Children are provided with opportunities to develop these skills through a range of stimulating, challenging, relevant and enjoyable learning experiences across the curriculum.

# Your Child's Areas of Learning

- **Language and Literacy**
- **Mathematics and Numeracy**
- **The World Around Us** - combining Science & Technology, History & Geography
- **The Arts** - comprising Art & Design, Music and Drama
- **Physical Education**
- **Personal Development and Mutual Understanding**
- **Religious Education**



## Language and Literacy

Literacy is key to learning. In St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson, we focus on developing your child's ability to understand and use language as an integral part of learning.

'Language and Literacy' is taught through the three main areas of talking and listening, reading and writing. Your child's knowledge, skills and understanding are developed within an integrated programme that connects language and literacy work to the broader curriculum.



We strive to ensure that each pupil can express themselves creatively, communicate confidently and interact effectively with the world around them.



## Mathematics and Numeracy

Numeracy is a key life skill, necessary for children to make informed responsible choices and decisions throughout their lives. Here in St Ronan's Recarson, mathematical ideas are developed by making use of practical materials and electronic resources and by exploring various mathematical processes.

Stimulating activities are provided for your child in the areas of 'Number', 'Measures', 'Shape and Space' and 'Handling Data'. Our children also engage in a wide range of purposeful, problem-solving activities which involve them in different modes of mathematical learning, including playing, exploring and investigating, doing and observing, talking and listening, asking questions, reflecting, drafting, reading and recording.





# The World Around Us



We believe that children are innately imaginative and curious and so these dispositions are valued and nurtured in St Ronan's Primary School by providing your child with exciting and relevant contexts for their learning.

At St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson we provide pupils with opportunities to ask questions about themselves and the nature of the world around them. Children learn about how things work and about the characteristics of the natural world, through investigation and discovery.

## The Arts



In St Ronan's PS children's creativity is developed through every area of the curriculum and is closely linked with all aspects of their learning.

Art and Design, Drama and Music - known as 'The Arts' - provide many opportunities for developing this creativity.

Children are encouraged to express their ideas and feelings in a variety of ways with the aim that their individuality, imagination and creativity develop during their years in primary school.



## Physical Education

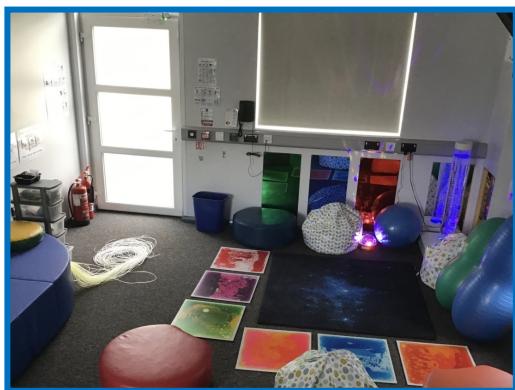
The purpose of Physical Education is to provide the opportunity for specific attention to be given to the physical development, health and well-being of your child.



Pupils in St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson experience a sense of fun, enjoyment and achievement through a variety of progressively challenging activities in P.E. Pupils develop a variety of physical skills and are encouraged to participate in many individual and team sports including Dance, Gymnastics, Athletics, Games and Swimming.



# Personal Development & Mutual Understanding



The development of self-esteem and self-confidence among pupils is very important at St Ronan's. Through a variety of learning experiences and our excellent pastoral support, pupils are encouraged to develop their self-confidence and self-esteem, to think about moral values and to develop their personal and interpersonal skills. 'Personal Development and Mutual Understanding', as a distinct Area of Learning, focuses on encouraging your child to become personally, emotionally and socially effective, to lead a healthy, safe and fulfilled life and to become a confident, independent and responsible citizen. Our newly refurbished Sensory Room

offers pupils a calm, secure environment to emotionally regulate when necessary.

## Religious Education

We aim to develop the distinctive Catholic ethos of our school, to enrich the spiritual and moral development of your child and to foster links with the Parish of Cappagh. We assist parents in preparing children for the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation, recognising that parents are key educators of their children - particularly in the areas of faith and religion. Our Grow in Love R.E. Programme reinforces the home-school link.

We endeavour to develop each child's sense of confidence in his/her own identity and an understanding and respect for other faith traditions.



## Using ICT

Throughout their time at St. Ronan's, we offer our pupils a wide range of ICT experiences. Learning with technology takes place across the curriculum and the children greatly enjoy using ICT resources in a range of creative ways. Classrooms are equipped with clevertouch screens. Pupils also enjoy using mobile devices such as chromebooks, laptops and iPads

which open up new opportunities for using ICT in school. Some of the activities pupils currently participate in are: coding with spheros and micro:bits, digital audio, making movies and animations and much more! With advances in technology happening all the time, pupils' work in ICT is always changing, but we are committed to keeping up to date so they are well equipped for whatever the future may bring.

## Assessing Your Child's Progress

Assessment is an integral part of the learning process. The school monitors your child's progress carefully through a range of assessment techniques and strategies.

As parents, you will be kept fully informed of your child's progress. You will have the opportunity to meet with the Class Teacher during Term 1 and will receive a written Annual Report on your child's progress in:

- Areas of Learning;
- Cross-Curricular Skills;
- Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities.

For children with special needs, a comprehensive programme of class-based teacher support and/or input from external agencies/professionals is available.



# General Information

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

All pupils are expected to adhere to the school rules regarding uniform. Parental co-operation and support is essential in this matter. School uniform consists of:

### GIRLS

Dark grey skirt or pinafore

White school shirt

St. Ronan's maroon v-neck school jumper

St. Ronan's school tie

White, grey or maroon socks or tights

### BOYS

Dark grey trousers

Grey school shirt

St Ronan's maroon v-neck  
school jumper

St Ronan's school tie

White, grey or maroon socks

### PE Uniform

Plain burgundy polo shirt

Navy, logo-free tracksuit bottoms

Trainers

## PE UNIFORM

As part of the school's PE policy, pupils are required to wear their PE uniform on days when they have PE. Your child's teacher will notify you of the days at the start of the school term.

## SCHOOL HOURS AND COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS



School begins at 9.10am, with a 'morning' bell ringing at 9.05am. Pupils are supervised from 8.45 am each morning. As pupils are not insured to be on the school premises before 8.30am in the morning (unless specifically attending the Breakfast Club in the School Canteen), parents are asked to make necessary childcare arrangements as supervision is not in place before this time.

School finishes at 2.00pm for pupils in P1 and P2 and at 3.00pm for pupils in P3-P7. An After School Club operates from 2.00pm-3.00pm each day for pupils in P1 and P2 - should parents wish to avail of this. A small fee is payable.

As the safety of our pupils is paramount, parents are required to adhere to the **one way traffic system** which operates at the home collection times of 2.00 and 3.00pm. All cars should approach the school to collect pupils at the gate **from the crossroads side** (and so may need to pass the school and turn at the crossroads). This system ensures traffic flows smoothly and that children do not have to cross the road. For safety reasons, it is important that parents pass this information on to other family members who routinely collect pupils from our school.

*Prompt collection of pupils at 2.00pm and 3.00pm is also very much appreciated as this allows staff to continue with planned school development work/meetings promptly.*

## VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

All visitors to the school – including parents – are required to report to Reception if needing to pass on a message or to see or collect a child during the school day. This monitoring helps the school maintain Child Protection requirements by knowing who is on the premises at any given time.

All who work in our school appreciate your co-operation with this important matter.



## ATTENDANCE

Rates of attendance at St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson are very high and contribute greatly to pupils' academic performance. Attendance during the past three school years was: 2022-2023: 97%, 2023-2024: 96%, 2024-25: 96.3%. Where pupils are absent from school for one day or more, parents are asked to send in a short note to the Class Teacher to explain the absence. The date and reason for the absence must be recorded by the Teacher on the attendance sheet and this is also recorded centrally on the school's information management system (SIMS). Assistance in this matter is appreciated as attendance patterns are closely monitored by the school and by the Education Welfare Officer, Education Authority (Western Region).



## BREAKFAST and BREAKTIME CLUBS



School Canteen staff provide a range of nutritious snacks for pupils who wish to avail of the school's Breakfast Club. This service is available to pupils who wish to purchase breakfast from 8.30am. Fruit juice, hot drinks, cereal, toast, pancakes, scones etc. are available at a subsidised cost and can be purchased daily.

The school also promotes a 'healthy break'. Pupils may bring in healthy snacks\* for break times or avail of the school's Breaktime Club, run by School Meals staff. Prices for various items, such as fresh fruit or fruit juice, are communicated to parents at the start of each school year and updated when needed.

*\*Please support the school's Health Promotion policy by avoiding sending in biscuits, sweets or other sugary snacks or drinks. Please also note, parents should not send in birthday cakes and/or treats to be given out to class members as this is not in keeping with our health promoting school policy. Additionally, a number of pupils in St Ronan's Primary School have allergies and so parents should ensure that all food sent to school is nut free.*



## SCHOOL MEALS

A varied and nutritional menu is available to pupils in St Ronan's Recarson PS. Menus are provided and give information on what is on offer. Parents are requested to send in dinner money on a Monday morning if possible or on a daily basis as and when needed. Again, prices are communicated to parents at the start of each school year and updated when needed. (From January £3.10). The school have started using ParentMail to pay for school dinners. Alternatively, pupils may bring a healthy packed lunch. All lunchboxes should be clearly labelled with the child's name and class.

## HOMEWORK CLUB

Pupils and Parents can avail for HOMEWORK CLUB which is offered daily from 3pm - 5pm Monday-Thursday. Pupils complete their homework tasks, enjoy a snack and play a variety of indoor and outdoor games in a supervised environment. A fee is payable.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

A range of After School Clubs for P3-P7 pupils are available during the course of each school year from 3.00-4.00pm. These have, in the past, included Drama, Athletics, Computers, Lego Club, Arts and Crafts, Netball, Tennis, and Gaelic Football and Soccer.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR OF DATES

The dates of school terms and holidays for the school year are published and shared with parents at the start of each academic year.





## SCHOOL TRIPS



Pupils have the opportunity to participate in events outside of school. For any external trip, the school must seek written consent from parents for each individual trip. Prompt replies are always appreciated. Parents are often required to contribute towards the cost of school trips.



## SPECIALIST MUSIC TUITION and TRADITIONAL MUSIC GROUP



The school provides a range of music development opportunities to its pupils. Beyond the delivery of the 'Music' aspect of 'The Arts' curriculum, pupils in P3-P7 also receive Tin Whistle Tuition. Pupils may avail of specialist tuition provided by the Western Region Music Service to learn instruments such as violin, viola and cello. The school's talented Traditional Music Group practises and performs at school events.

## CHILD PROTECTION and SAFEGUARDING

The school's Safeguarding Team comprises, Mr Patrick Friel (Chair of Governors), Mrs Rose Doyle (Designated Governor for Child Protection), Mr McCrystall (Principal and Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection), Ms Duffy (Designated Teacher for Child Protection).

## FIRST AID

Two members of staff are fully trained to deliver First Aid in the event of an accident or emergency.



## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHILD FEELS UNWELL IN SCHOOL

Should your child feel or present as unwell in school, the school will contact you to let you know and, if necessary, arrange for collection. It is therefore vitally important that the school has up-to-date contact details for all parents — as well as a contact number in case of Emergency.

It is the policy of our school to make contact with parents should your child receive a bump to the head. It is then left to parents' discretion whether the child stays in school or is taken home.

## SCHOOL POLICIES



The Principal, Teaching Staff and Board of Governors of St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson determine school policies in accordance with the guidance provided by the Department of Education. We have a range of policies and procedures in place which are made available to parents routinely and on request.

## STAYING INFORMED

At the start of each month, the school issues a Newsletter to keep parents up-to-date with all that is happening in school and to celebrate achievements.

Parents may also stay informed through the school website:

**[www.recarsonps.com](http://www.recarsonps.com)**, Instagram and Facebook Page, St. Ronan's Recarson.



## CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

The school prides itself on close partnership with parents. Should any concern or query arise, parents are encouraged to contact the Class Teacher or Principal at the earliest opportunity so that matters can be discussed, resolved or dealt with.

The Principal, Teaching Staff and Board of Governors of St Ronan's Recarson Primary School seek to maintain positive relationships at all times, in the best interests of each pupil. A copy of the school's Parental Complaints Policy is available on the school website and on request.

# What can St Ronan's Recarson offer your child?

## Strong Pastoral Care

St Ronan's Primary School Recarson provides a safe, caring and supportive environment in which all children can flourish.

The behaviour of our children is exemplary - a perfect environment in which to learn. Reflecting the ethos of our school, we place emphasis on positive behaviour and so help children to develop:

- responsibility and self-discipline through our positive behaviour policy;
- respect for themselves, others and property of others;
- a work ethic and ability to co-operate with others;
- a caring, polite and friendly approach to others.



## Academic Achievement through meeting Individual Needs

We believe that every child should have the opportunity to succeed. Teachers, therefore, provide a programme of work for all children which is appropriate to their age and stage of development. We promote academic excellence and, therefore, aim to identify specific learning difficulties or special talents as early as possible and cater for them. Annual screening takes place to ensure children are performing according to their ability. The school liaises closely with external agencies to support each child's individual needs and involves parents at all stages.

## Enriched Provision

Our pupils have the opportunity to experience a range of enriching activities through the specific support of specialist coaching and tuition services.

## What makes St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson unique?

St Ronan's proudly upholds an excellent reputation for achievement and standards. This is made possible thanks to the highly dedicated and professional staff who deliver teaching and support learning to ensure each pupil reaches his or her potential.

All members of staff get to know each and every child on an individual basis. There is a 'family' feel to all we do. Pupils are grouped according to their ability and needs within each class. In this way, pupils experience success in their learning and their needs are fully catered for. Our Student Council ensures every pupil has 'a voice' and is a member of the school community.

A particular strength of St Ronan's Recarson is the favourable teacher: pupil ratio of one teacher to every twenty pupils on average. More time and attention is available to support each child's learning and individual needs and our highly trained classroom assistants can support this level of attention even further.



Our rural setting, within easy reach of Omagh, Killyclogher and the surrounding areas, brings the unique atmosphere and ethos of a rural 'country' school, while remaining convenient for our parents and families.

**St Ronan's Primary School, Recarson—the right choice for your child's primary education.**



# Staff at St. Ronan's Recarson



<b>Mr McCrystall</b>	PRINCIPAL and KEY STAGE 2 TEACHER	<b>Mrs Forrest</b>	SEN CLASSROOM ASSISTANT
<b>Miss McGread</b>	FOUNDATION STAGE TEACHER	<b>Miss McAleer</b>	SEN CLASSROOM ASSISTANT
<b>Mrs McLaughlin</b>	FOUNDATION STAGE TEACHER	<b>Mrs Campbell</b>	CLASSROOM ASSISTANT and LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR
<b>Ms Duffy</b>	KEY STAGE 1 TEACHER	<b>Ms Harkness</b>	SEN CLASSROOM ASSISTANT
<b>Mrs Morgan</b>	KEY STAGE 2 TEACHER	<b>Mrs Kelly</b>	SEN CLASSROOM ASSISTANT
<b>Mrs Pancott</b>	SECRETARY	<b>Ms O'Neill</b>	SEN CLASSROOM ASSISTANT
<b>Mrs O'Neill</b>	SEN CLASSROOM ASSISTANT	<b>Mrs McAleer</b>	SCHOOL MEALS SUPERVISOR
<b>Mrs Quinn</b>	CLASSROOM ASSISTANT	<b>Mrs Kelly</b>	SCHOOL MEALS CATERING ASSISTANT
<b>Mrs Dillon</b>	CLASSROOM ASSISTANT and	<b>Miss Judge</b>	CARETAKER

## The Board of Governors

<b>Rev. Malachy Gallagher</b>	Trustee Representative
<b>Mr Patrick Friel</b>	Trustee Representative & Chairperson
<b>Mrs Leanne Kearney</b>	Trustee Representative
<b>Mr Gerald Devlin</b>	Trustee Representative
<b>Mr John McCullagh</b>	DENI Representative
<b>Mrs Michelle McClean</b>	EA Representative
<b>Mrs Rose Doyle</b>	EA Representative
<b>Mrs Karyn Birney</b>	Parent Representative
<b>Ms Karen Duffy</b>	Teacher Representative
<b>Mr Conor McCrystall</b>	Principal & Secretary to the Board of Governors

## Parental and Community Involvement

Our school encourages a partnership approach between home, school and parish for the benefit of our pupils.

The school benefits from a pro-active Board of Governors and an enthusiastic, supportive Parents' Support Group which organises fundraising events during each school year and supports the school in practical ways when requested.

It is important to us that the school is an integral and dynamic part of the community. In order to achieve this, we continue to reach out into the community, inviting individuals and groups to support the life and work of the school.



## PASTORAL CARE

St Ronan's Recarson provides a warm and caring environment where each child is made feel safe, secure and valued. Our atmosphere is one that encourages ALL children to do their best in all aspects of school life. We strive to ensure that each individual achieves his/her potential academically, socially, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Our Pastoral Care permeates all aspects of school life and is based upon the strong Catholic ethos which prevails. Class teachers promote pupils' self-esteem through praise and rewards. Each month, selected pupils from each classroom are awarded a certificate for an aspect of school life, e.g. good work, positive behaviour, teamwork, most improved, co-operation, effort in class, achievement in learning etc.

Our pastoral policies include 'Pastoral Care', 'Positive Behaviour', 'Addressing Bullying', 'Discipline', 'Child Protection', 'Intimate Care', 'First Aid', 'Internet Safety' and 'Administration of Medication'. These are made available to parents at the start of each school year and on request.



# Enrolling in St Ronan's Primary School

## Admissions Criteria



**St. Ronan's Primary School, Recarson**  
**68 Arvalee Road**  
**Omagh**  
**BT79 0NE**  
**Tel No: 028 8224 5628**  
**E-mail: [cmccrystall@recarsonps.omagh.ni.sch.uk](mailto:cmccrystall@recarsonps.omagh.ni.sch.uk)**  
**Principal: Mr Conor McCrystall**

**Catholic Maintained**  
**Co-Educational**  
**Age Range 4-11**  
**Enrolment No: 131**  
**Admissions No: 19**  
**[www.recarsonps.com](http://www.recarsonps.com)**  
**Chairperson: Mr. Patrick Friel**

### RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS.

The Board of Governors of St. Ronan's Primary School, Recarson has determined that the following criteria shall be applied, in the event of the number of pupils applying for places in Year 1 being greater than the admission number, in the order set down below.

#### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – YEAR 1

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 7 January 2026 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 21 January 2026 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 21 January 2026 and up to 4 pm on 26 January 2026 will be treated as a late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances. After 4 pm on 26 January 2026 no applications will be processed until after the close of procedure on 23 March 2026.

#### Compulsory School Age

Any child who reaches their 4th Birthday on or before 1st July 2026 is of Compulsory School Age. Under the School Age (NI) Act which became law in Northern Ireland in April 2022, 'compulsory school age' also includes those children who deferred commencing Primary 1 in September 2025 as defined by the new School Age (NI) Act (both groups to be treated equally).

#### Admission Criteria

Admissions Criteria will be applied in the order set down below:-

1. Children who reside in the Cappagh Parish (The Parish map is available from the school office)
2. Children who have brothers/sisters, half-brothers/half-sisters, child of the family presently enrolled in the school.
3. Children from other parishes.

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion which can be applied then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of their surnames as per the birth certificate, in the order set out below.

H I T N G S B R E Mac L C P D O J F W Q M A Mc K Y U V Z X

In the event of the surname beginning with the same letter the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the first names as on birth certificate will be used.

#### YEAR 1 ADMISSIONS – AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

If a place becomes available after 1 September 2026 and there are more applicants than places then the selection of pupils will be made on the application of the Year 1 Admissions Criteria to those pupils seeking admission at the time the place(s) become available.

#### DUTY TO VERIFY

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

#### WAITING LIST POLICY

The school does not operate a Waiting List Policy.



# St. Ronan's Primary School Recarson

## Procedure for Parents who wish to raise a Child Protection Concern

I have a concern about my / a child's safety



I can talk to the class/form teacher



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the  
Designated/Deputy  
Designated Teacher for Child Protection  
**Ms Duffy**  
or the Principal  
**Mr McCrystall**



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairperson of  
the Board of Governors,  
**Mr Patrick Friel**

**At any time a parent can talk to a social worker at the Gateway  
Team (Western Trust) Tel: 028 7131 4090  
or the  
PSNI at Central Referral Unit  
Tel: 999 (Emergency) or 101 (Non-Urgent)**

If you have escalated your concern as set out in the above flowchart and are of the view that it has not been addressed satisfactorily, you may revert to the school's complaint policy. This policy should culminate in the option for you to contact the **NI Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO)** who has the legislative power to investigate your complaint.

For further information regarding this process please refer to Annex B.

# What our Parents say about St Ronan's Primary School Recarson

My daughter has learnt so much within such a short period of time, it really has surprised me how much she enjoys attending her school after having spent time in the town at Pre School. She just loves independently walking in.

St Ronan's is a great school. Both Miss Mc Gread and Mr McCrystall are very approachable if you have any concerns. My daughter settled so well and so quick. She loves going to school and this is definitely a lot to do with all the staff in St Ronan's.

We were amazed at just how quickly our son settled into P1. From the beginning of September, he has loved going to school and learning every day. As our son is one of the youngest in his year, I did have concerns about how he would settle into school life, but Miss McGread and the classroom assistants have been brilliant at ensuring he settled so quickly. The school has a lovely, homely feel to it, and the wider school community has been very welcoming to all new families. There have also been plenty of opportunities already for us as parents to be more involved in school life, for example, the PSG and phonics learning evening put on for parents.

We have felt very supported with the transition of our child leaving preschool and starting primary 1. All the staff show real care for the children. Our child has learnt so much in the short space of time that she has been in P1. We believe a big part of this is down to the teaching and the teaching environment. Children respond well in a happy, learning and encouraging environment which Recarson offers.

My daughter has settled well into P1. The class teacher and classroom assistants have been amazing on helping her. She is very happy and content each morning to go to school. We have seen her becoming so confident and more independent from starting P1. The teaching and learning is amazing. We can't believe how much she has learnt in the first term and the information she shares about her learning with us at home. We are so pleased with the school and staff. Keep up the good work we appreciate everything you do for our child. Thank you for the weekly updates, the communication has been great.

**St Ronan's PS Recarson**

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