



Admissions to Year 1 and Nursery

Following two hugely successful open events, we are delighted to share this information about the admissions procedure.

www.eani.org.uk/admissions

**CLOSES AT
12 NOON
21 JAN 2026**

Pre-School & Primary 1
Online Applications for
September 2026 are
now open via
eacconnect

<https://connect.eani.org.uk/parent/>

ea Education Authority

preschooladmissions@eani.org.uk
primaryadmissions@eani.org.uk

Online applications for a Pre-School or Primary 1 place for September 2026 are now open via EA Connect.

Applications close at 12 noon on Wednesday 21 January 2026. It is important to note that applications are not considered on a first come, first served basis.

To apply visit EA Connect or see EA's website for more information on the admissions process. You can also find these links in our Instagram bio.

Rowandale Integrated Primary School

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Enrolment for Nursery and Primary in September

2026/2027



Private Tours with the school Principal available every Friday from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

Open House visits available from:
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

Email: amorrow193@c2kni.net



Rowandale
Integrated Primary School



Rowandale
Integrated Nursery



Rowandale
Community Playground



We understand that not everyone is available to attend our Open Events, so make sure to tell friends and family about this unique opportunity to visit the school and meet the Principal.

Rowandale Integrated Primary School

Newsletter December 2025



Our December Open Morning was so much fun. As well as meeting lots of new potential parents, we also got to meet the most amazing boys and girls who are very excited about starting Year 1 in September.

The highlight for the children, as always, was being able to play games, take part in activities and then go outside to play in our fantastic big sand pit.

A great morning was had by all!

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Christingle 2025

Our annual Christingle service was held on Thursday evening. Over 200 parents and family members gathered in the Morrow Hall in our new school for the service which featured songs by the Senior Choir, beautiful solos and the story of Christmas. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening and there was even a spontaneous singalong at the end!



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Christingle 2025



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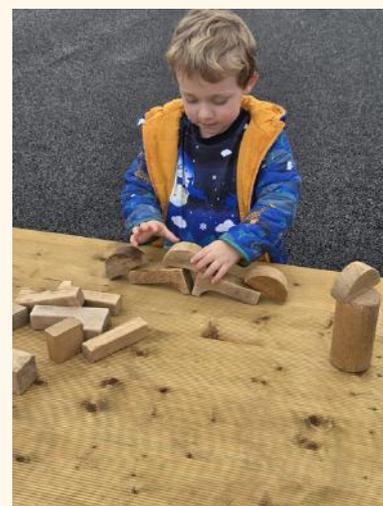
Newsletter December 2025

Rowandale Community Playgroup

As always, the children in playgroup have been having lots of fun. They have enjoyed making Christmas cards and doing lots of Christmas crafts.

Singing Christmas songs was a big favourite, especially as the video was sent to parents.

To round off the year, the children had their Christmas party - there were lots of treats and plenty of dancing!



Rowandale Integrated Primary School

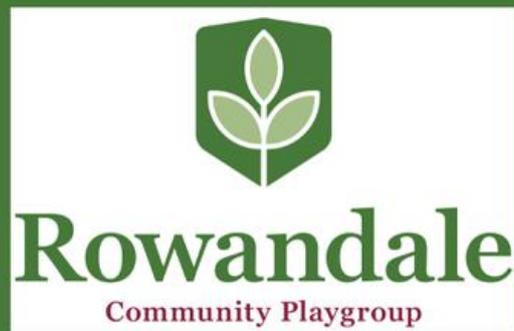
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Rowandale Community Playgroup

Rowandale Community Playgroup is always a hive of activity - the children follow a full and comprehensive programme of lessons, activities and outings.

Caoimhe and Alex are also looking forward to the busy months ahead, moving into their own premises on the school grounds, meeting lots of new children and continuing to provide an excellent pre-school experience for the children of Moira and the surrounding areas. Each year, Playgroup receives exemplary reports in their inspection.

Contact us on 028 9261 3946 for information about pre-school and pre-pre-school places.



To Do List

- Call Rowandale Playgroup
- Arrange a visit
- Relax

**Call us on
028 9261 3946**

18 Clarehill Road, Moira, BT67 0PB



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Year 1 Role Play

Role play in the Northern Ireland Foundation Stage curriculum, supports a child's holistic development and is recognised as a key activity and a vehicle for achieving the broader aims of the curriculum. In short, role play is not just "playtime", it is a purposeful and structured learning experience designed to lay the foundations for future academic and social success



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Year 1 Christmas Festivities

Year 1 performed their Nativity 'Shine, Star, Shine!' for their grown ups. They were absolute superstars and delivered their lines beautifully and sang their songs brilliantly! We're all so proud of the work they put into this wonderful show!



Year 1 enjoyed eating their Christmas lunch together. They celebrated by adding personalised placemats and Christmas crowns. They listened to christmas carols in the background, adding a touch of cheer to the festivities



Year 2 Learning Through Play

Play in Year 2 was filled with excitement as our young explorers dived into the wonderful world of water play. Far from just "getting wet," the children were busy acting as "fluid scientists," using our outdoor water station to investigate the world around us. Through collaborative play, the children were busy working in small teams to build intricate canal systems and dams. It was fantastic to witness their problem-solving skills.

A particular highlight was our bubble exploration session. From giant wands to tiny straws, the children experimented with how air and water create magic.

There was plenty of laughter as we discovered that blowing gently creates a steady stream of bubbles, while a big puff might pop them instantly! These activities are a vital part of our Foundation Stage curriculum, helping to develop fine motor skills and scientific curiosity while building those all-important friendships.



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Year 2 Learning Through Play



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Year 2 Festive Fun



Year 2 were so excited to get a visit from none other than Santa! He arrived just in time to help serve Christmas dinner to the children. He handed out some treats before dashing off back to the North Pole to get ready for Christmas Eve!



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Year 2 Festive Fun



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Year 3 visit to Moongelato

Year 3E headed up to Moon Gelato for a fantastic tasting session. Charlotte N and Olivia's winning flavour of Blueberry and Strawberry gelato was created for the whole class to enjoy. Thank you to Aaron for hosting us and organising a lovely morning.



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Smartphones and our Children

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>



Children and Smartphones

The five schools in the Moira and Magheralin area have grouped together to start a discussion on children's use of smartphones. We believe this is a very important topic, particularly given recent items in the news on the potential dangers children can face online despite the best efforts of parents to keep them safe.

We are keen to understand parents' views on the use of smartphones and will be circulating a short parent survey across the five schools in the coming weeks. This is to help determine what information and support we can provide, with a view to potentially holding an information session for parents.

In the meantime we wanted to share an initiative and some media on the topic that has been highlighted to the schools by some parents. Please note that some of the media linked below does contain some difficult and sensitive themes.



Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement of parents who believe childhood is too short to be spent on a smartphone. The aim is to bring parents together, empower parents to wait to give their children a smartphone and demonstrate that parents are demanding change. <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>



Assignment - Ireland's first smartphone free town. This podcast follows the story of the 8 primary schools in the Greystones area of County Wicklow, which made headlines in recent years due to a pact made by parents to delay the introduction of smartphones until the age of 12. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct5mss> (can also be found on usual podcast platforms)



Swiped - the School that Banned Smartphones - Two-part documentary series that see Emma and Matt Willis explore the use of smartphones by children and the dangers they can face. The program also focuses on a group of year 8 students who give up their smartphones for 21 days and the impact this had on their well-being and mental health. **Available on demand on the Channel 4 On demand player.**

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Year 4 Stop-Motion

Year 4 was transformed into miniature movie studios as students created a stop motion animation of the sinking of the Titanic. Our young directors began by meticulously painting their own sets and drawing miniature Titanics, ensuring every detail—from the towering funnels to the icy Atlantic waters—was just right. Once the sets were built, the real challenge began. Using iPads and stop-motion software, students learned the art of patience and precision.



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Year 4R Stop-Motion

They discovered that to make the ship appear to glide (or sink!) smoothly, they had to move their models just a tiny fraction of an inch between every single photo. The level of enthusiasm was truly "unsinkable!" It was wonderful to see the students collaborating as camera operators, set designers, and directors. We are incredibly proud of their creativity and the hard work they poured into every frame. Bravo, Year 4!



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Year 5F - meeting Albie



Year 5 were delighted to have Erin bring Albie in for Show and Tell. We heard all about Albie's likes and dislikes, how long they have had him and his full name!

Of course we had to say hello too. Thank you to Erin's mum, Jade, for bringing him in to see us!

Year 5F Roots of Empathy



Year 5F were delighted to welcome Sonny in for another Roots of Empathy visit.

This week's theme was all about crying - we learnt why Sonny might cry and how his mummy helps him to settle.



Thank you to Miss Whiteway for facilitating this wonderful programme, and to Sonny's mummy Leah for bringing him in to see us.



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Year 6 Christmas Art

Year 6 enjoyed assembling Christingles ahead of the Christingle Service and discovering the meaning behind each element.

Year 6 showcased their creativity, using AI to design their own Christmas cards on Adobe Express.



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Year 7 Grinch Art

Year 7 displayed some amazing talent with their Grinch paintings. The artwork provided a fun and colourful display in the weeks before the Christmas holidays.



Parents Council



Hi my name is **Aidan** Malone I am the **Chair** this year on the parents council. I have two daughters at the school Nora (p6) & Erin (p5) I'm a director in Malone Accounting and I'm looking forward to helping the committee & the school as best I can this year.



Hi, I'm **Kerri**. I'm mummy to two boys – one in P2 and one who's counting down the days until he can join his big brother at Rowandale. I'm really looking forward to participating as **secretary** on the parent's council. I'm a science teacher, so it's great to get more involved in the other side of school life!



Hi, my name is **Tracy** Price. I have two girls, Isabella who is in P4 and Rosa, who has just started P1. For work, I'm a Quantity Surveyor and I am taking on the role of **treasurer** for the Parents Council. I'm looking forward to lots of fun and fundraising as much as possible for school.



MEET THE TEAM!



Hi! I'm **Cat Barter**! My daughter Orla is in P5. I'm stepping into the role of **Vice Chair** on the Parents' Council this year. This year I will continue to focus on delivering arts experiences and theatre adventures to the pupils, staff and families of our Rowandale community, whilst supporting the committee to host social and fundraising events.



Hi I am **Aimee** I have two sons at the school Alexander (Yr3) and Sebastian (Yr2). I do stock control and social media for M&S and this year I will be helping with **PR** for the Parents Council. Looking forward to some lovely events throughout the year.



Hi, I'm **Ruth** and my sons Abel (Y3) and Hugh (Y2) are at Rowandale. You'll usually find me throwing horrendous moves at Kiss & Go! As **Volunteer Coordinator** I'll be encouraging lots of parents to volunteer at events to support the work of Parents Council!

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Wedding Bells



Congratulations to Mr Mackay who is now engaged to Lois.



Miss Magilton and Kyle also got engaged over the Christmas break.



Past pupil Ewan Gracey and Emiline were married over Christmas. The ceremony took place in St George's Church in Belfast, followed by a reception in the Merchant Hotel. Ewan is the first Rowandale past pupil to get married! Congratulations to the happy couple.

A Big Thank You!



In a corner of Mrs Duffy's Year 2 classroom is a wonderful place where imaginations are fired and friendships are formed. A handmade kitchen is often a labour of love and this is no exception. We would like to sincerely thank Gary Alexander who crafted this amazing resource for our school, pictured here with Gary's daughter, Peggy.



Extra Curricular Activities & Achievements



Sophie in Year 1S has achieved her level 8 in gymnastics. Well done, Sophie.



Eva (Year 2D) completed The Running Bubble Santa Dash with her Uncle Jonny. That's amazing, Eva!



Mya in Year 6 has landed a role in an international TV show. She's flying off to Europe in January to film. Good luck, Mya!



Bobby & his team won the Shield Finals at Knockramer Arena, with an amazing 5-0 win.. Well done Hillsborough Boys Colts 2014 !

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Can You Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for Kiss & Go, Reading Partnership or any aspect of school life, please send a WhatsApp to Fiona on
07725 355 899



Facilities for Hire

Our state-of-the-art facilities are available to hire. If you are a group looking for a place to hold your meeting, sports practice, event or other gathering, call us on 028 9261 3946 or email lrichards962@c2ken.net



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Kiss and Go - Meet the Team

Our Kiss and Go Volunteers are a vital part of the daily routine at Rowandale. In all weathers, you will see a group of smiling faces ready to greet your child/ren and bring them safely from your car to the school gate.

This helps to keep traffic flowing, reduces congestion on the road and allows you to continue your journey to work without delays.

It also fosters independence in children, allowing them to start their day with confidence. The music is an added bonus and puts us all in a good mood, ready to face anything!



Mrs Hughes



Fiona



Suzi



Ursula



Lesley



Fiona



Kerri



Christina



Ruth



Lorna



Ellen



Fiona

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Kiss and Go - Meet the Team



Beverly



Sarah



Laura



Maria



Christine



Laura



Emma



Cassandra



Kseniia



Leanne



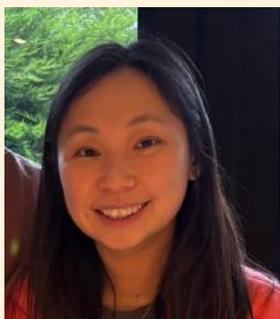
Akie



Catherine



Maria



Lai-Ping



Femi



Bronagh