



[www.rosettaps.co.uk](http://www.rosettaps.co.uk)



**"You welcomed us  
as part of the Rosetta  
family from the first  
day that we walked  
into the school."**

Rosetta Parent



**Welcome Bienvenue Bienvenido Witamy**  
**Willkommen Welkom Merhaba Shalom Labas**  
**Fáilte 歡迎光臨 Üdvözlet Bine ai venit Hoş geldiniz**  
**Everyone's invited. Everyone's included. Everyone's encouraged.**

## **Dear Parent/Guardian,**

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. Whether you are new to Rosetta Primary or have visited us before, we want you and your family to feel warmly welcomed into our school community.

Choosing the right school for your child is an important decision and we are here to support you every step of the way. This prospectus offers a glimpse into the vibrant, nurturing and inclusive environment we are proud to provide—a place where every child is valued, supported and cared for.

Our mission is simple: to nurture, inspire and guide every pupil, helping them reach their full potential in a safe and encouraging setting.

Our motto, "Everyone's invited. Everyone's included. Everyone's encouraged," reflects our inclusive ethos. Rosetta Primary is a community built on mutual respect, where children learn to value themselves, others and the world around them.

We believe education is a partnership between home and school. By working closely with parents, we aim to make your child's time with us one of joy, discovery and personal growth—filled with experiences they will remember fondly for years to come.

We hope you choose Rosetta Primary School as the start of your child's exciting educational journey. We look forward to welcoming you to our community and working together to help your child flourish academically, socially and emotionally unlocking their full potential and nurturing a lifelong love for learning and personal growth.

## **Donal McGarrigle,** **Principal**







## About Our School

Rosetta Primary School is a controlled, co-educational primary school, situated just off the Ormeau Road; close to its junction with the Ravenhill Road. The school population is as diverse as the community it serves, with a mix of ethnicities and religions. 'Controlled' refers to the management of the school, controlled schools are managed by the Education Authority through individual Boards of Governors, they are non-denominational and open to all faiths and none.

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the running of the school, although the day-to-day management is delegated to the Principal. The Principal works closely with an experienced Senior Leadership Team. The governors are committed to ensuring that Rosetta PS effectively meets the needs of the children and the diverse community it serves. The governors are representatives appointed, or elected, by the Education Authority, local churches, parents and teachers. They set the criteria for admission to the Primary School and Nursery Unit (see separate insert.)

The Principal acts as Secretary to the Board of Governors.





The school is set in surprisingly extensive, well-maintained grounds. There are two large playgrounds, a large grass playing field and the Nursery Unit has a soft surface play area. There is an internal courtyard with a beautiful sensory garden and the school has sought to improve bio diversity with raised beds at the front and the planting of native species along the back entrance.

The school was opened in 1896 as Rosetta Academy. The beautiful red brick facade dates from then, and the Assembly Hall was the original school. The school has been extended over the years and has excellent facilities. There currently are thirteen teaching bases in the primary school, and three rooms are used to provide Wrap Around Care before and after school, providing additional space for music lessons and support services during the day. There has been a lot of investment recently in ICT, the school has a well equipped ICT room and each classroom has a touchscreen Smartboard. The Nursery Unit is teacher led and has excellent indoor and outdoor facilities.

The school has a large hall which is used for Assembly, PE and whole school events such as Harvest, Nativities and the School Show. It also has its own school meals kitchen which provides high quality, freshly prepared lunches.

The current enrolment is 310 pupils and there are thirteen full-time and three part-time teachers plus the Principal.

The Principal, Vice-Principal and the caring and dedicated teaching staff work closely with the classroom assistants and ancillary staff to provide a happy and secure learning environment, in which all children are included and encouraged to succeed.

All staff encourage the children to develop their self-respect and self-confidence. Every child has a unique set of skills and abilities which are valued and built upon. The children's ability to evaluate their learning and improve their work is expanded in an age appropriate way; the teachers set the example by continuously evaluating and improving their practice.

Rosetta Primary School has a strong tradition of good relationships with parents and the wider community and is always striving to further develop these partnerships. School is embedded in our local community and the relationships formed benefit us all. We are supported by organisations such as the local churches and Family Support Hub, in turn we support the foodbank and publicise activities such as sports clubs and community events.



**"The children  
show very  
good levels of  
perseverance  
with activities,  
including those  
that involve  
problem solving."**

ETI (Education  
Training Inspectorate)







## Nursery Unit

Rosetta Nursery is an integral part of our school and is located within the main school building. The Nursery class has an experienced, fully qualified teacher and nursery assistant; and offers full time places for 26 children, from 8.45 a.m. to 1.15 p.m. Snack time and lunch time are important learning experiences within the Nursery day. The Nursery provides a happy, secure environment where children can develop at their own pace through challenging and progressive play. ETI praised the nursery unit for, 'Providing rich learning opportunities for children in all areas of the pre-school curriculum.' Children and their families are welcomed into the life of Rosetta Primary School, there are close relationships between Nursery and P1 making the transition from Nursery to Primary education a seamless experience.

The Nursery class also provides opportunities for the children to grow in self-confidence, develop social skills and to communicate effectively.

**"The  
children are  
imaginative  
in their  
play."**

ETI (Education Training  
Inspectorate)



# Curriculum

Our aim is to provide a rich and well balanced curriculum, which develops the whole child. Teachers ensure that there is continuity and progression between each year group in line with the NI Curriculum.

There are three key stages in school:

**Foundation Stage: Nursery, P1 & 2      Key Stage 1: P3 & 4      Key Stage 2: P5, 6 & 7**

Play is fundamental to learning in Foundation Stage, and progresses into Activity Based Learning in Key Stage One. ETI noted the, *‘very good quality of provision for activity based learning which effectively develops the children’s skills across the curriculum.’*

**Each key stage has an age appropriate curriculum in these areas of learning:**

Language & Literacy	Mathematics and Numeracy	The Arts	The World Around Us	Personal Development and Mutual Understanding	R.E	P.E
Talking and Listening Reading Writing	Processes Number Handling Data Shape and Space Measure	Art & Design Music Drama	Focusing on the skills and knowledge in Geography, History and Science	Including social skills, understanding and regulating emotions, learning to learn, understanding in the local & global community	Focuses on encouraging children to become informed and inquisitive about their own and others’ religious beliefs and practices.	Includes: Athletics Dance Games and Gymnastics

Our dedicated teachers employ a range of different teaching approaches (whole class, group and individual), depending on the needs of the children and the subject being covered. Activities are carefully matched to pupils’ individual needs and abilities, to ensure effective learning. There is an emphasis on practical activities which promote life skills.

The progress being made by your child will be carefully monitored by continuous observation and assessment throughout the year. Standardised tests are used from P3-P7 to assess the progress of each child and each class. Timetabled Parent and Teacher meetings take place in both the Autumn and Spring terms and a detailed written report is issued in June. Parents are always encouraged to share information which impacts upon their child’s wellbeing or ability to learn.

**“Rosetta is like part of our extended family. The staff care so much about our girls and are always available to help out, no matter what the issue or need.”** Rosetta Parent







## ICT

We recognise that our children are growing up in a digital age and ICT skills are essential for them to succeed. Each classroom has an touchscreen Smartboard and school has a set of iPads which each class use to enhance the pupils' learning.

We have a well-resourced computer suite, where children from P1 to P7 have the opportunity to develop their ICT skills. Some P7 pupils act as Digital Leaders and this is of benefit to each class as well as developing skills of leadership and digital competency for the children.



# Music and Drama

Rosetta has a long tradition of producing excellent musicians. Tutors from the City of Belfast School of Music provide weekly lessons for children in P4-7 in both strings and brass instruments. All children are offered a part in Nativities and School Shows, reflecting our motto, 'Everyone's included.'

**"If you cannot teach me to fly, teach me to sing."** J.M. Barrie, Peter Pan









## Physical Education

The PE curriculum includes athletics, dance, gymnastics and team games. P5, 6 and P7 pupils also have the opportunity to participate in weekly swimming lessons. We are delighted to offer extra-curricular sporting activities from Nursery to P7. We encourage a healthy lifestyle by partnering with outside agencies and coaches.

## Religious Education

Religious Education is non-denominational and is based on the NI Core Syllabus which is common to all schools in NI. We are involved in many projects which promote good relationships in our community and are delighted that our school has children from different faith communities. We are especially pleased to offer preparation classes for the Holy Sacraments in Rosetta and we work in partnership with St Bernard's Primary School and St Bernadette's Parish.

We learn how different cultures and faiths celebrate the major festivals of Diwali, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Easter and Eid.

Children are educated in accordance with parents' wishes, and a parent may withdraw their child from Religious Education if they choose.

## Newcomer Support

Dedicated support from an experienced teacher is provided for newcomer pupils to help them learn English and settle into a new culture. We also have an English Language class for parents.

**Our daughters did not speak English when they joined the school. We were astonished at their quick, confident progress, the teachers really helped them communicate.”** Rosetta Parent



## Global Learning



Rosetta Primary is part of the Global Learning Programme NI.

This promotes the children's thinking skills and problem solving abilities, encouraging them to see themselves as global citizens. Rosetta PS sponsors a child in India through the charity Action Aid.

Global learning is especially relevant in Rosetta PS as we have many children from different nationalities. It is a pleasure to see how quickly newcomer children develop, with support from staff and pupils. Having children from all parts of the world greatly enhances the educational experience of all children and adults in the Rosetta community.

A recent ETI report said, 'The development of children's thinking skills and personal capabilities in KS2 is a real strength.'

## Extra Curricular Activities

Currently, a wide range of after school activities are offered from Nursery – P7. They are so popular that they are over subscribed! Activities include sport, languages, coding and drama.

Each class has at least one educational day trip, and pupils in P6 and P7 have the invaluable experience of residential trips; P6 for one night and P7 for two.

**"A wide range of visitors to the school and educational trips are used well to extend the children's understanding of the world around them."**

ETI (Education Training Inspectorate)







# Eco School

Rosetta Primary was first awarded the Green Flag (the highest achievement) in 2015. The children elect an Eco Committee who carry out an environmental review, set targets to improve the environment and monitor and evaluate their action plans. We were very proud when Rosetta was again awarded the Green Flag in 2023. The sensory garden in the courtyard was redeveloped in 2021 and is well used by everyone, a green haven right in the centre of school.





# Pastoral Care

We recognise that happy children are the best learners and so we provide a comfortable and safe learning environment. Good relationships are fostered between children and their class teacher and the close home-school partnership means parents can inform the school of any circumstances which may impact upon their child. The children are taught to recognise and manage their emotions and learn how to stay safe through programmes such as NSPCC 'Keeping Safe'. Rosetta PS was a pilot school for this project which teaches Personal Development and underpins our Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy. Pupils are involved at all levels, and are encouraged to take responsibility through the Eco Council, School Council and P7/PI buddy system.

**"I'd recommend Rosetta to anyone who would like a supportive, inclusive and fun environment for their kids."** Rosetta Parent

# Safeguarding

All schools have an obligation to ensure the safety of the children in their care. In Rosetta the Safeguarding Team is Miss Gibson (Designated Teacher), Mr Jordan (Deputy Designated Teacher) and Mrs. Crawford (Principal). If a child makes a disclosure to an adult, or if an adult has concerns about a child, these will be reported to the school's Designated Teacher, Miss Gibson. The school has a Safeguarding Policy (available on the school website [www.rosettaps.co.uk](http://www.rosettaps.co.uk)) which details the procedures to be followed should concerns arise.

# Homework

Homework plays an important role in school, it is used to consolidate and extend the work done in class. It also provides parents with the opportunity to be involved in their child's education and can be a starting point for conversation about what the child is learning. Homeworks are in a variety of forms including practical, written, research, digital and learning.





# Special Educational Needs

By carefully monitoring progress in basic numeracy and literacy from an early age, we can identify children having difficulties as soon as possible, and cater for their needs accordingly. Teacher judgment and standardised tests are used to identify underachievement or lack of progress. Some teachers in school are qualified to use diagnostic tests which form the basis for carefully tailored extra support when appropriate.

Children with Special Educational Needs are provided with individual learning plans, drawn up by the class teacher, in conjunction with the Special Needs Co-ordinator. Additional small group teaching in literacy and numeracy is provided, and some children also receive specialist teaching from a range of outside agencies supporting literacy, speech and language development and social and emotional skills.

Parents will be fully involved at all stages as parental support is a key element in helping all children make appropriate progress.

## Positive Behaviour

We have a positive approach to discipline. We expect children to behave responsibly; and to show respect for themselves, others and their environment at all times. We have a system of positive rewards and encouragement for desirable behaviour and have developed a system of consequences for unacceptable behaviour.

Parental support is essential to maintain high standards of behaviour, punctuality and good attendance. We expect parents to give their full support.

Children are encouraged to share in the decision making process in school through the School Council and Eco Council, elections are held annually. P7 children learn to take responsibility by being playground buddies and digital leaders.

**"The children are well behaved, welcoming to visitors and respectful to their peers and the adults within the school."**

ETI (Education Training Inspectorate)





# Uniform

We take pride in our uniform and expect children to wear it every day.

- **Green sweatshirt/ cardigan with school logo**
- **White shirt and school tie (P5-7)**
- **Yellow polo shirt with school logo (Nursery – P4)**
- **Grey trousers/ skirt/ pinafore**
- **Grey or dark green socks/ tights**
- **Black shoes**

Nursery children wear the school sweatshirt, green jogging bottoms and a yellow polo shirt. All children may wear polo shirts in Term 3.



# The School Day

- 8.45a.m. Children arrive for playtime
- 8.55a.m. School begins
- 10.30 -  
10.45a.m. Break
- 12.10 -  
1.00p.m. Lunch
- 1.55p.m. School ends for P1-3 children
- 2.55p.m. School ends for P4-7 children



# Wrap Around Care

Bumbles Day Nursery provides high quality care before and after school on our school premises. They run a Breakfast Club run from 8.00 - 8.45 a.m., and after school provision from 2.00 - 6.00 p.m. Other local child care providers also collect children from Rosetta.







**"The children engage  
in purposeful play."**

ETI (Education Training  
Inspectorate)



# Friends Of Rosetta

Friends of Rosetta is our very active Parent Teacher Association, which organises events for parents and children, enhancing the school community. Many of these events are low cost, fun events ensuring everyone can attend, they also are actively involved in much needed fundraising. In recent years Friends of Rosetta has provided computers for the ICT room and new touchscreen interactive whiteboards for every classroom, including the Nursery. They have been successful in gaining grants which have been used to provide low cost after school activities and improve biodiversity. Like our school, every parent is invited to attend the meetings and help out at events.

**"The school has an enthusiastic Parent Teacher Association that raises valuable funds which are used to enhance the children's learning."**

ETI (Education Training Inspectorate)



# Healthy School

Developing good eating habits starts in Nursery, where the children enjoy a healthy snack each morning, and share a two course meal at lunch time. Children are taught what types of food are good for them, and all children from P1-P7 are encouraged to bring a healthy break and lunch. Our school canteen serves meals cooked on site and there is always a fruit option for dessert. Making good food choices, combined with opportunities for exercise in PE lessons and after school activities, help to lay the foundations for a healthy lifestyle.







**Come and join us.  
Everyone's invited.  
Everyone's included.  
Everyone's encouraged.**

Thank you for taking time to read our prospectus. We invite you to attend our Open Day Event or to make an appointment to visit Rosetta Primary School so that you may experience our happy school.



# Rosetta

## Primary School & Nursery Unit

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Instagram: [@rosetta.primary.belfast](https://www.instagram.com/@rosetta.primary.belfast)

Principal: Mr Donal McGarrigle

**"My daughter said  
Rosetta feels like  
home. That for me  
sums up Rosetta. If  
you're there you're  
home and you  
belong."**

Rosetta Parent



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