

# Friends of Holy Family Primary School

Northern Ireland · Charity number 103401

## Details

Status Received

Registered 2015-10-13

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

## Contact

Address 44 Taunton Avenue  
Belfast  
BT15 4ad  
BT15 4AD

Phone 02890774981

Email [smcquaid690@c2kni.net](mailto:smcquaid690@c2kni.net)

## Activities

**Purposes:** Purpose The Association is established to promote the education and benefit of the children and parents of Holy Family Primary School in North Belfast (hereinafter called the 'area of benefit') by associating children, parents, statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and by providing or assisting in the provision of education facilities at the School and in particular: (a) engage in activities which support the School and advance the education of pupils attending it; (b) To advance education of parents by means of providing various training courses; (c) Foster more extended relationships between the staff, parents and others who befriend the School.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of education, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

**How the charity works:** Education/training, Volunteer development, Youth development

**Who the charity helps:** Children (5-13 year olds), Interface communities, Parents, Preschool (0-5 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£15,513	£13,197	£0	0

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Ryan		
M Power		
Maria Wilson		
Mrs Bronagh Diamond		
Mrs Marissa MCGovern		
Mrs Sarah Louise Nolan		
Ms Siobhan McQuaid		

**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Accounts

---

Friends of Holy Family		103401	
<b>Receipts and payments accounts</b>			
For the period from	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>Balance C/F</b>					
Donations & legacies					
Grants				-	
Fundraising activities	10,631		-	10,631	
Interest on deposit account	-				
Dividend on investments	-		-	-	-
Members' subscriptions			-	-	
Charitable trading receipts			-	-	
Rents from land & buildings	-		-	-	-
Other charitable receipts			-	-	
<b>A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)</b>	<b>10,631</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,631</b>	<b>4,882</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).</b>					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset		-	-	-	-
Loan repayments received		-	-	-	-
<b>A2 Sub total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>10,631</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,631</b>	<b>4,882</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of fundraising events	329	-	-	329	
Gross trading payments		-	-	-	
Investment management costs		-	-	-	-
Direct charitable activity	12,784		-	12,784	
Grants & donations paid		-	-	-	
Governance costs		-	-	-	
Other costs		-	-	-	
Bank Fees	84	-	-	84	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>13,197</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,197</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)</b>					
Purchase of investments		-	-	-	-
Loans made	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13,197</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,197</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 2,566</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 2,566</b>	<b>4,882</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>					
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>4,882</b>			<b>4,882</b>	
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>2,316</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,316</b>	<b>4,882</b>

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current account	2,316	-	-	2,316	4,882
	Deposit account	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>2,316</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,316</b>	<b>4,882</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

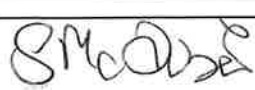
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Charitable loan receivable	-	-	-	-	-
	Tax reclaim due	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
				Total		

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
		Total		-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Unrestricted			
		Restricted			
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
			Total		-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Restricted		-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
			Total		-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> SIOBHAN MCQUAID	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> 28/1/26

**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Accounts

---

Friends of Holy Family	103401	
------------------------	--------	--

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024	
---------------------	------------	----	------------	--

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations & legacies		-		-	
Grants	-		-	-	
Fundraising activities	1,852	-	-	1,852	1,972
Interest on deposit account	-	-	-	-	
Dividend on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Members' subscriptions		-	-	-	
Charitable trading receipts		-	-	-	
Rents from land & buildings	-	-	-	-	-
Other charitable receipts		-	-	-	
<b>A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>1,972</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).</b>					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset		-	-	-	-
Loan repayments received		-	-	-	-
<b>A2 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>1,972</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of fundraising events	1,252	-	-	1,252	743
Gross trading payments		-	-	-	
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Direct charitable activity		-	-	-	
Grants & donations paid		-	-	-	
Governance costs		-	-	-	
Other costs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank fees	66	-	-	66	68
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>811</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)</b>					
Purchase of investments	-	-	-	-	-
Loans made	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,161</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>					<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>4,348</b>				<b>3,187</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>4,882</b>				<b>4,348</b>

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current account	4,882		-	4,882	4,348
	Deposit account	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>4,882</b>			<b>4,882</b>	<b>4,348</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			-	-		
			-	-		
			-	-		
			-	-		
			-	-		
				Total		

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total			

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Unrestricted	-	-	150,000
		Restricted	-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			Total		

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Restricted		-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
			Total		

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

[Signature box]

*Siobhan McQuaid*

Print Name

[Print Name box]

SIOBHAN MCQUAID

Date of approval

[Date of approval box]

24/1/25

**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Annual report

---

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2024**

The trustees of Friends of Holy Family Primary School Belfast submit their report and accounts for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

Our aims were to:

- Provide programmes and events for members of our school and local community.
- Promote family events and projects.
- Collaborate with local schools, charities and businesses to provide educational workshops and training courses for children, parents and members of the local community.
- Organise fundraising events to help support local charities and the purchasing of school resources and equipment.

Outlined below are the various activities and strategies Friends of Holy Family was involved in to help develop our aims.

## **Programmes and services in the local and wider community**

Our social media and communication platforms including Facebook, School Website, Seesaw, newsletter, telephone and email are highly effective means for communicating with our children, parents and family members. We continued to provide guidance and online links/ workshops to local community services and online learning tools / resources such as Parenting NI, Wee Chicks, Oxford Reading Owl, NESSY, Doodle, Topmarks etc. This helped strengthen family connections and improve communication, as well as, extending learning at home.

## **Parent Support Services**

Our team continued to promote and advertise links to relevant services, webinars and posters on our social media from our local support services such as Ashton, Primary Behaviour Support, ParentingNI, British Dyslexia Association, Barnardos, Grace Family Centre, Holy Family Youth Centre, Autism Advisory Intervention Service, PIPs Suicide Prevention Service etc. Our parents and families were very grateful for the additional support services made available to them.

## **School Uniform Swap**

Throughout the year FOHF promotes and organises a school uniform swap shop in partnership with Holy Family Primary School. Volunteers helped gather up the uniforms and organised them into sizes for the new school year. Families were welcome to come into school on various dates to avail of free school uniform items.

## **Community Events**

Our team worked closely with Newlodge Arts and Duncairn Community Partnership to promote the return of their fabulous community events in Term1 and 2 – Spring Awakening,

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2024**

Ardoyné Youth Enterprise also provided a wonderful Multicultural Community Fun Day. We have built up a strong connection with Bryson Charitable Group and Pathway Adventure. This year the children took part in a complimentary Christmas event in the school hall. All events were a huge success with a wonderful turn out from our children and their families, as well as members of the local community.

## **Art Projects**

Our children enjoyed working with local artists from the community and experiencing a wealth of art activities using a variety of media. Art Projects were provided by –

Young at Art

Arts for All

Sinead – The Art and Design Factory

For Arts Sake – GiGI Training

## **ECO**

Staff, children, parents and members of the local community worked hard to maintain the school's Green Flag status. Together they improved the variety of minibeasts, plants and wildlife in and around the school grounds. The team worked with the Lord Mayor during the community BIG Spring Clean alongside Currie Primary School to help tackle the issue of litter. The Eco council members thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Green Fingers Project to develop our outdoor space.

## **RSPB**

The ECO team also worked closely with RSPB to help encourage the migration of Swifts to nest in our school grounds.

## **Local Sports and clubs**

FOHF actively promote sports clubs in the North Belfast area. The Ulster GAA, IFA, Creative Coaching Belfast and Gaelfast have in turn provided our children and staff with a wealth of locally funded sporting programmes and experiences such as Gaelic, Hurling, Soccer and Netball throughout the year. Some of our children were experiencing these sporting activities for the first time, whilst others were extending their love for the sport by joining their local club.

We continue to build on our relationships with our local sports clubs. Many children and their families are active members of McCormick Academy of Irish Dancing, MR Sports, Newington FC, NM Sports, Ardoyné Kickhams, St Malachy's OBY FC etc. The clubs offer activities for all ages and often provide free sessions to learn new sporting skills.

## **Sustrans Active Travel**

Our children and families continue to get involved in our active travel events such as Cycle to School and Walking Bus on a termly basis throughout the year. FOHF support these events.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2024**

## **Northern Ireland Fire Service and Police Service**

P2 and P5 children enjoyed a visit from the local Fire Service and Police Service to learn about the importance of Fire Safety and keeping safe at home and in the local community.

## **Local Businesses and gifting**

Our members continued to work with businesses in the local community to support our school events. Throughout the year Morelli's Ice-Cream provided ice-creams to our children during Sports Day, Sacraments and Fun Days. Bryson provided a complimentary Christmas event to all the children in our school and nursery. Pizza Works provided our Primary 7 children with complimentary pizzas for their leavers party. Tesco sponsored our nursery and school Sports Day with complimentary fruit and water.

## **Local Art Competitions**

Throughout the year our children joined in fabulous art competitions provided by local businesses including –

### **Newington Credit Union**

### **Texaco**

The competitions were a huge success and children were delighted with their wins and prizes.

## **School and parent events**

### **Shared education**

Our children, staff and parents continue to work in partnership with Currie Primary School. Together they got involved in art, music, eco and sporting events together.

## **Home - school projects**

We continued to build relationships with parents and families by involving them in the learning at home. Many year groups completed home learning projects which were showcased at year group assemblies i.e. Projects included – P7 Belfast, P6 Rainforest, P5 Pyramids, P4 Volcanoes and P3 Space and Safari.

## **Additional family events**

Our team has thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with our parents and welcoming them back into school. Some successful events included Parent Curriculum events, PJ Parties, Stay and Plays, Christmas concerts, sacramental events, Sports Days, Book Fair, Shared education projects etc.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2024**

## **Cultural events /Catholic Schools Week**

We held various cultural events to celebrate diversity and inclusion within our school community. During Catholic Schools Week we celebrated the theme 'Living Life to the Full' and celebrated a special Grandparents Day service in the local church. Grandparents and families were invited and songs, stories and poems about their grandparents were shared and enjoyed.

Other special cultural events celebrated in school included -

Black History Month

Festival of Diwali

Eid Mubarak

New Lunar Year

European Day of Languages

## **Sacraments**

Children, parents and their families together joined in the sacrament celebrations It was a happy day for all and the events were promoted on our social platforms. FOHF provided refreshments at the Confirmation and First Communion celebrations.

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

We continued to promote the counselling service 'Time for Me' provided by Barnardos for our children and advertised support services available to parents and families such as AWARE, Women's Aid. Parents and families had access to free online meditation sessions.

We promoted Mental Health Awareness Week by continuing to use our Nurture in Five practices. The children enjoyed an assembly delivered by The Animal in Amy and P6 and P7 children enjoyed participating in games with TAMHI to raise awareness of mental health. Children thoroughly enjoyed wearing odd socks on Odd Socks Day to mark the occasion.

## **Fundraising and Charity Events**

Our members continued to work together to organise and promote a variety of fundraising events at school.

Many members of the school community got involved in the Belfast Marathon, raising funds for the local GAA Cumann an Phiarsaigh.

The school held a Halloween and Christmas Fun Day. The children dressed up and enjoyed a visit to the school tuck shop.

The P7 children kindly donated food items to make up Food Hampers for our Christmas Hamper Appeal. All Christmas Hampers were donated to the Morning Star Hostel.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2024**

## **Fare Share Initiative**

The Fare Share initiative continues to grow and support our children and their families by offering food items at an extremely low cost. FOHF members support the FareShare Hub, ordering and setting up food items and serving parents and grandparents on Friday evenings. The success of the initiative has enabled us to increase the quantity of fresh and frozen food available.

We have had a very successful year of projects and events for our children, parents and members of our local community. We continue to build strong links with local businesses and groups and look forward to building upon these successful partnerships in the future.

## **Accounts**

Our previous year's closing balance for April 2022- March 2023 was £4,347.93

Our closing balance for April 2023 - March 2024 is £4882.19



**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Annual return

---

# Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of 'Friends of Holy Family PS' Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, which are set out on pages attached.

## Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

## Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: GREGORY MC GUIGAN KC

Relevant professional qualification or body: BAR OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Address: THE BAR LIBRARY

91, CHICHESTER STREET

BELFAST BT1 3JQ

Date: 27/11/25

**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Accounts

---

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	31/03/2022	To	31/03/2023	
---------------------	------------	----	------------	--

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>Balance C/F</b>	3,187	-	-	3,187	3,187
Donations and legacies		-	-	-	
Fundraising activities	1,972	-	-	1,972	
Interest on deposit account	-	-	-	-	
Dividend on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Members' subscriptions		-	-		
Charitable trading receipts		-	-		
Rents from land & buildings	-	-	-	-	-
Other charitable receipts		-	-		
<b>A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)</b>	<b>5,159</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,159</b>	<b>3,187</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).</b>					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset		-	-	-	-
Loan repayments received		-	-	-	-
<b>A2 Sub total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>5,159</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,159</b>	<b>3,187</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of fundraising events	743	-	-	743	
Gross trading payments		-	-		
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Direct charitable activity		-	-		
Grants & donations paid	-	-	-	-	-
Governance costs		-	-		
Other costs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank fees	68	-	-	68	
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)</b>					
Purchase of investments	-	-	-	-	-
Loans made	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>3,187</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>		-	-		-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>					
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>3,187</b>

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current account	4,348		-	4,348	3,187
	Deposit account	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>4,348</b>			<b>4,348</b>	<b>3,187</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Charitable loan receivable		-	-		
	Tax reclaim due		-	-		
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
			Total			
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
		Total				
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
			Total			
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
					-	-
					-	-
					-	-
			Total			

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Siobhan McQuaid

*Siobhan McQuaid*  
24/01/24

Print Name

Siobhan McQuaid

SIOBHAN MCQUAID  
24/01/24

Date of approval

24/01/2024

**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Annual report

---

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2023**

The trustees of Friends of Holy Family Primary School Belfast submit their report and accounts for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

Our aims were to:

- Promote a range of school events to bring children and families together
- Promote fun outdoor community events and projects for all families
- Promote links with the local community by collaborating with schools and local; businesses, services and agencies
- Continue to promote and provide educational courses and workshops for parents and families online
- Organise fundraising events to help raise funds and support various charities and events

Outlined below are the various activities and strategies Friends of Holy Family was involved in to help develop our aims.

## **Programmes and services in the local and wider community**

Our social media and communication platforms have proven to be highly effective with parents and families, and so, we continued to use Facebook, website, Seesaw, newsletter, telephone service and email etc. We continued to provide guidance and online links to local community services and online learning tools / resources such as Oxford Reading Owl, NESSY, Doodle, Topmarks etc. This helped strengthen family connections and improve communication, as well as, extending learning at home.

## **Parent Support Services**

Our team continued to promote and advertise links to relevant services, webinars and posters on our social media from our local support services such as Ashton, Primary Behaviour Support, ParentingNI, British Dyslexia Association, Barnardos, Grace Family Centre, Eden Consultancy NI, Holy Family Youth Centre, Autism Advisory Intervention Service, PIPs Suicide Prevention Service etc. Our parents and families were very grateful for the additional support services made available to them.

## **Community Programmes and Projects**

### **McCorry Centre and Ashton**

Throughout the year our team promotes and organises a school uniform swap shop in school. We also work in partnership with McCorry Centre, Duncairn Gardens and Ashton Centre Belfast. Volunteers helped gather up the uniforms and organised them into sizes for the new school year. Ashton also helped donate to families in the North Belfast area.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2023**

## **Newlodge Arts and Duncairn Community Partnership**

Our team worked closely with Newlodge Arts and Duncairn Community Partnership to promote the return of their fabulous community events in Term1 and 2 – Spring Awakening, North Belfast Lantern Festival and Halloween Pumpkin Patch, all of which were outdoors at Alexandra Park. This year we also welcomed two new events; Peace in the Park and Multicultural Family Fun Day. All the events were a huge success with a wonderful turn out from our children and their families, as well as members of the local community.

Newlodge Arts continued to offer fabulous Parent and Child art classes to our children and families and Duncairn welcomed our P7 children to a performance of Mohand and Peter.

## **Young at Art and Arts for All**

Young at Art continued to welcome our children to the Mac Theatre to learn about local artists and visit the art gallery. Arts for All offered free after school art classes for children.

## **Ulster Scot Agency**

This year we worked in partnership with Ulster Scots Agency and got involved in some exciting new Eco projects. Children created mini micro forests which were displayed around school and our children and families were invited to take part in an Eco Day at Alexandra Park. Together they planted flowers and cuddled furry friends. These events had an extremely positive impact on our local environment both in school and in our local park.

## **Limestone United**

Limestone United provided our P6 children with a cross community football project in the local community club. The children worked alongside Currie Primary School and together they developed their football skills.

## **Eco Schools**

Staff, children, parents, and members of the local community worked hard to gain Green Flag status. Together they improved the variety of minibeasts, plants and wildlife in and around the school grounds. The team were invited to the City Hall to meet with the Lord Mayor and in return the Lord Mayor visited school to see the fabulous work done by all.

## **Belfast City Council**

Staff, children, parents and FOHF worked in partnership with Belfast City Council to tackle the issue of waste. The team thoroughly enjoyed a visit to Belfast City Hall to talk and learn more about this topic.

## **RSPB & Mens Shed**

The team also worked closely with RSPB and Mens Shed to help encourage the migration of Swifts to nest in our school grounds.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2023**

## **Big Spring Clean**

The Eco Council and parent volunteers had a successful day participating in the Big Spring Clean alongside Currie Primary School. Children, parents and staff all worked together to tackle the issue of litter.

## **Belfast Hills Partnership**

The Eco Council worked in partnership with Belfast Hills Partnership to receive the Wild Challenge bronze Award. They kindly donated Cherry Blossom trees which were planted in the school grounds.

## **Local Sports**

The Ulster GAA, IFA, Creative Coaching Belfast and Gaelfast have provided our children and staff with a wealth of locally funded sporting programmes and experiences such as Gaelic, Hurling, Soccer and Netball throughout the year. Some of our children were experiencing these sporting activities for the first time, whilst others were extending their love for the sport by joining their local club. Children have gone on to represent their teams in the Official GAA competitions. Some parents and children have now joined local GAA clubs.

The children enjoyed a very special visit from the Antrim Hurlers. They came into school to showcase the Joe McDonagh cup which the senior men recently won. They held a Q&A session and overall, inspired so many of our children to get involved in Hurling.

## **NMSports**

NMSports and Irish FA provided a range of sporting activities throughout the year. Our members helped promote their seasonal sports camps on Facebook to help extend the children's PE skills.

## **Sustrans Active Travel**

Our children and families continue to get involved in our active travel events such as Cycle to School and Walking Bus. FOHF continue to promote these Active Travel events through social media and by word of mouth.

## **Northern Ireland Fire Service and Police Service**

P2 and P5 children enjoyed a visit from the local Fire Service and Police Service to learn about the importance of Fire Safety and keeping safe at home and in the local community.

## **Local Businesses**

FOHF have worked hard to involve and seek support from local businesses in our community. Freak Treats provided free ice cream vouchers for pupil rewards in school. Throughout the year Morelli's Ice-Cream provided ice-creams to our children during school events i.e. Sports Day, Sacraments and Fun Days. North Belfast Food Bank provided a complimentary BBQ during KS2 Sports Day and Summer Scheme. Bryson provided a complimentary Christmas event to all the children in our school and nursery. Pizza Works provided our Primary 7 leavers with complimentary pizzas for their leavers party. Tesco sponsored our nursery and school Sports Day with complimentary fruit and water. FOHF are grateful for this support.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2023**

## **Local Art Competitions**

Throughout the year our children joined in fabulous art competitions provided by local businesses including Newington Credit Union, Property People, Texaco and Cityside. The competitions were a huge success with a large number of participants and winners.

## **School and parent events**

### **Nessy**

We continue to grow our fabulous partnership with NESSY to support children with their reading in school and at home. Each child in the school now has their own online learning account. We hosted our very first Nessy Fair and welcomed P1 parents and children to get involved in a fabulous interactive workshop.

### **Shared education**

Our children, staff and parents continue to work in partnership with Currie Primary School. Together they got involved in art, music, eco and sporting events.

### **Home - school projects**

We continued to build relationships with parents and families by involving them in the learning at home. Many year groups completed home learning projects which were showcased at year group assemblies. Projects included – P7 Belfast, P6 Rainforest, P5 Pyramids, P4 Volcanoes and P3 Space and Safari.

### **Additional family events**

Our team has thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with our parents and welcoming them back into school. Some successful events included Parent Curriculum events, PJ Parties, Play and Stays, Christmas concerts, Nessy fair, sacramental events, Sports Days, Book Fair, Play and Stays, Shared education projects etc. We thank all the parents and FOHF who supported the running of these events.

### **Clubs**

Children thoroughly enjoyed being able to attend afterschool clubs again. Many children availed of clubs such as Art, Drama, Netball, Gaelic, Soccer, Hurling, Homework, Multisports and Irish Dancing.

### **Cultural events**

#### **Catholic Schools Week**

We held various cultural events to celebrate diversity and inclusion within our school community. During Catholic Schools Week we celebrated the theme 'Living Life to the Full' and ended the week with a lovely tribute to Grandparents in the local church. Grandparents were invited and songs, stories and poems about their grandparents were enjoyed.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2023**

## **Black History Month**

During this month the children learned about inspirational black figures who have made global history such as Bob Marley, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King. The children enjoyed listening to music, reading stories and watching dramas to mark the event. Our members used social media to mark this historic month.

## **Festival of Diwali**

The children celebrated this special festival by making lanterns as a symbol of triumph of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance and good over evil. The event was welcomed by all and shared on our social platforms.

## **European Day of Languages**

We had a wonderful day celebrating the diversity in our school with fun activities in class as well as a lovely continental breakfast at the Breakfast Club. Children, staff and parents enjoyed learning words in a new language. The event was extremely positive and welcomed by everyone.

## **Sacraments**

Children, parents and their families together joined in the sacrament celebrations with the easing of COVID restrictions. It was a happy day for all, and the events were promoted on our social platforms.

## **Mental Health and Well Being**

We continued to promote the counselling service 'Time for Me' provided by Barnardos for our children and advertised support services available to parents and families such as AWARE, Women's Aid. Parents and families had access to free online mediation sessions.

We promoted Mental Health Awareness Week and together we took part in the Let's Connect programme in school and at home. In addition to this, our children enjoyed a variety of activities provided by EA and Action Mental Health. The children have a deeper understanding of their feelings and emotions and use strategies such as Nurture in 5 to help them to feel calm, positive, and ready to learn.

The Nurture club has been extremely successful for children with additional emotional needs availing of the service each day. The children enjoy breakfast or snacks together, play games and join in circle time activities. The nurture room provides a calming and stimulating environment with mood lighting and sensory objects on display.

We continued to promote the health and wellbeing of our children by offering sporting activities such as Jump, Jiggle and Jive sessions, active travel and sporting events.

## **Questionnaires**

Parents and staff completed an online survey to give their views and offer ideas and suggestions on school affairs. The children completed a PASS survey to indicate their feelings about school and learning. These surveys are extremely valuable in helping us to support and provide for members of our school community.

# **Trustees of Friends of Holy Family PS Annual Report March 2023**

## **Fundraising and Charity Events**

Our members worked hard to organise and promote a variety of fundraising events at school.

Many members of the school community got involved in the Lisburn 10k and 3k run. We fundraised for the event and school staff, FOHF, parents and children came along to cheer on our wonderful runners.

The school held a Halloween and Christmas Fun Day. FOHF organised a Tuck Shop. The children dressed up and enjoyed a visit to the school tuck shop.

During Christmas our families kindly made cash donations in replace of teacher Christmas gifts. Donations were made to two chosen charities – North Belfast Food Bank and St Vincent de Paul Society. FOHF supported this school venture.

The P7 children kindly donated food items to make up Food Hampers for our Christmas Hamper Appeal. All Christmas Hampers were donated to the Morning Star Hostel.

During Lent the school held a non-uniform day and children brought in sweet treats for a class party. Donations were in aid of the Trocaire campaign. FOHF supported these fundraising events.

## **Fare Share Charity**

We continue to benefit from The FareShare charity. We support our children and their families by offering some food items at low cost on a weekly basis. FOHF benefited from a grant to buy new freezers and a fridge last year. This has enabled us to increase the quantity of fresh and frozen food available. The FareShare Hub is well supported by parents and FOHF volunteer their help to run the Hub on Fridays.

We have had a very successful year of projects and events for our children, parents and members of our local community. We have built strong links with local businesses and groups and look forward to building upon these wonderful partnerships in the future.

## **Accounts**

Our previous year's closing balance for April 2021- March 2022 was £3,186.63

Our closing balance for April 2022 - March 202 is £4,347.93

**Friends of Holy Family Primary School**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103401

---

# Annual return

---

## Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of 'Friends of Holy Family PS' Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, which are set out on pages attached.

### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: GREGORY MCGUIGAN KC

Relevant professional qualification or body: BARRISTER AT LAW KC.

Address: The Bar Library  
91 Chichester Street.  
BT1 3JQ.

Date: 30-1-24

## Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of 'Friends of Holy Family PS' Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, which are set out on pages attached.

### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: GREGORY MCGUIGAN KC

Relevant professional qualification or body: BARRISTER AT LAW KC.

Address: The Bar Library  
91 Chester Street.  
BT1 3JQ.

Date: 30-1-24