

Annual report and accounts 2023-2024

Grange Park Primary School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

NIC: 105741

This annual report and accounts applies to the 2023-2024 financial year, which ran from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

Grange Park Primary School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (usually known as Grange Park PTFA) became a registered charity on 4 October 2016. Grange Park PTFA is governed by the model constitution prepared for PTAs in Northern Ireland by Parentkind. Trustees are elected annually by the members at the AGM.

Principal address: Grange Park Primary School, Grange Park, Bangor, BT20 3QG

The trustees for the 2023-24 financial year were:

Laura Graham (Chairperson)
Jennifer Armstrong (Treasurer)

Public benefit statement

The Grange Park Primary School Parent, Teachers and Friends' Association carries out its purpose by holding social, educational and sporting events centered at the Primary School for the children, their parents and guardians and the local community to promote the work of the school and encourage advocacy for its mission. Any surplus from such events is gifted to the School in pursuit of Grange Park's academic purpose.

In carrying out their duties, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement statutory guidance. The public benefits of Grange Park PTFA are:

Purpose 1: Improved relationships between home and school

The benefit which flows from this purpose includes funding for additional resources for the school and links built with the local community. This is demonstrated through having an active PTFA that works in partnership with the school and engages parental support.

Purpose 2: Advancing the education of pupils in the school

The benefit which flows from this purpose includes increased educational progress and attainment of pupils in the school and links built with the local community. This is demonstrated through pupils having access to resources, events, activities and links with the local community which are not available through direct school funding.

These purposes do not lead to harm. The benefits are for children at Grange Park Primary School. Charity trustees (PTFA committee members) are usually also parents at the school which their children attend and hence gain benefit in the same way as all other beneficiaries. This benefit is incidental and necessary to ensure the benefits are provided to all beneficiaries.

This year's activities

Following a more 'normal' year in 2022/2023 in terms of PTFA activity (compared to Covid years), 2023/ 2024 brought more new members and the activities were largely a repeat of the previous year, building on the success of the events. Some members also left the committee, generally after a longstanding commitment.

P1 parents' coffee morning ('Tea & tissues') – this free social event helps new P1 parents get to know each other over coffee and cake, introduces them to the PTFA and encourages engagement between parents and the school. First event of the year: Friday 1st September 2023

Oktoberfest: Friday 14th October. A new event for the school which proved very popular-especially with the Dads!

Halloween disco (Thursday 26th October) – the primary purpose of this event is to provide a fun social occasion for the pupils, while also promoting parental engagement, although it is also a successful fund-raising event. Always a highlight of school year.

The PTFA helped serve refreshments at the P7 open evening on Thursday 30th November.

Santa came to Grange Park Primary on 21st December and the PTFA did a brilliant job of decorating his grotto.

After the success of the table quiz at the Bryansburn Inn last year it was arranged for Friday 8th March. We had a new quizmaster this year and new form of quizzing!

We repeated the Easter raffle and movie on Wednesday 20th March. This was facilitated by PTFA members and teachers to provide a 'big screen' movie in the assembly hall with snacks and the chance to win an Easter hamper.

In March we set up an easyfundraising 'cause' page and shared it via Seesaw and WhatsApp groups. We anticipate numbers will grow in this. It is essentially 'free money' for little effort so definitely worth continuing to promote.

The final event of the academic year was the return of the ever-popular summer fair, in its original format, a Friday evening with everyone welcome. We saw many previous Grange Park pupils return to their old school and they especially enjoyed watching some of their previous teachers getting wet sponges thrown at them!

Spending

We opened the academic year of September 2023 with a bank balance of £6,654.70

As per the report last year the PTFA did not donate any money to the school between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 but instead focused on getting the balance back up to a reasonable level with a view to making a decision on spending in September 2023.

It was decided that the PTFA would pay for the school counselling service at a cost of £4000. It was agreed that the need for this was greater than anticipated and a very valuable service to be able to offer the pupils. The money was transferred to school in January 2024.

The PTFA also supported the school garden by purchasing new supplies in January 2024.

The closing balance was £ £6,040.51

Signed off by Laura Graham (PTFA Chair for 2023-24)

Signed by:

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6/18/2025