



'RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EXCELLENCE'

NEWRY HIGH SCHOOL

December 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

As we approach the end of this term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly successful and hardworking few months for our school community. Together, we have achieved significant progress, and I am proud of the commitment and effort demonstrated by everyone involved.

Below are the arrangements for the end of term and key dates and events for next term.

- School disco on Thursday afternoon 18 December
- School movie morning Friday 19 December
- Pupils will be able to wear **non-uniform from 18-19 December**
- The end of term / Christmas holidays begins at 12.05 noon on Friday 19 December
- The new spring term starts **on Monday 5 January 2026 for all pupils**
- Advance notice – whole school examinations taking place 19 – 23 January

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we have developed a School Development Plan that sets out our vision and priorities for the year ahead. This plan focuses on enhancing teaching and learning, supporting pupil wellbeing, and strengthening our partnership with parents and the wider community. We believe that by working together, we can create the best possible environment for every child to thrive. A two-page summary of the plan is included with this letter so you can see the key areas we are focusing on and how you can support us in achieving these goals.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for supporting the work of the school. As a school community we have achieved so much this term, and a huge amount of hard work has been done by staff, pupils and parents.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family a very happy and safe Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mr I Brown
Principal



Newry High School

School Development Plan 2024–2027 (Parent Summary)

We want to share our plans for making our school the best it can be. These plans help us focus on what matters most for your child's learning and well-being. Our goal is to work together with you to create a safe, supportive, and successful environment for every pupil.

Our vision

To provide **quality education for all** in a caring, supportive, and inclusive environment, where every pupil can thrive, discover their potential, and make a positive contribution to society.

Our two key priorities



1. Promoting Mutual Respect and Positive Behaviour

What we're doing:

We are creating a school where everyone feels valued and respected. We aim to build a community where respect, responsibility, and kindness are at the heart of everything we do.

We will:

- Support pupils and staff to promote positive behaviour and relationships.
- Embed our new school vision and ethos across all areas of school life.
- Ensure every pupil feels happy, safe, and secure.

Why this matters:

A respectful environment helps children feel safe and ready to learn.



2. Raise achievement and reduce barriers to learning

What we're doing:

We want every child to succeed. We are focusing on improving attendance, supporting literacy and numeracy, and providing extra help for pupils who need it. We will also continue to support pupils with special educational needs and promote well-being.

We will:

- Use evidence-informed teaching to raise standards.
- Strengthen the use of data to ensure assessment is rigorous and effective.
- Reduce barriers to learning so all pupils can succeed.

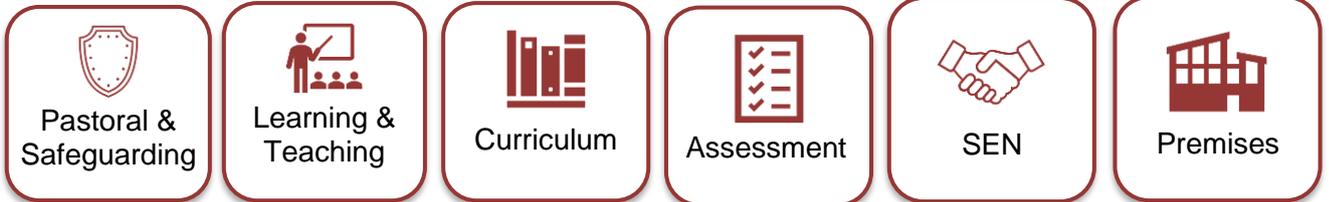
Why this matters:

Good attendance and strong skills in reading and maths give children the best start in life



How we will achieve this

Our whole-school improvement is supported by strategic plans in key areas:



Department Development plans

Each subject / department contributes to school improvement through tailored action plans:

art, business, careers, childcare, citizenship, English, drama, geography, travel & tourism, HE, health & social care, history, ICT, King's Trust, learning for life & work, literacy, maths, MVRTS, numeracy, MFL, music, PE, Psychology, RE, science, technology and uniform protective services.



We are also developing key aspects of school life that enrich our pupils' experience:

art club, athletics, badminton, basketball, charity committee, choir, cross country, cookery club, dance, eco-club, fitness training, football, geography society, golf, hockey, living lights, maths/pie club, Minecraft, music tuition, musical productions, nurture provision, netball, orienteering, PE trip (Italy), running club, school band, school magazine 'Interest', shared education events & projects, science, ski trip, table-tennis, talent show and tennis.



Leadership & Management



All of our development work supports strong leadership and management at every level ensuring continuous improvement and success for our school community.

How you can help:



- Encourage your child to attend school every day.
- Support homework and reading at home.
- Talk to us if you have any concerns about your child's learning or well-being.
- Celebrate effort and progress with your child.

The full school development plan will be published on our website – www.newryhigh.com