

Gorran School



Prospectus 2023 - 2024

Head Teacher: Jonathan Sleep

Chair of Governors: Pete Kirby

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A Message from the Head

Thank you for thinking of sending your child to Gorrán School.

Gorrán is a vibrant, active and happy primary school which fosters high individual standards in a family, caring atmosphere. We work hard to ensure that all our children are guided towards their potential in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.

An important part of this process is the relationship that we have with our parents. We have an open door policy for all parents and prospective parents or guardians, to come in and discuss anything that concerns you about your child. We have found that good communication in both directions is the key to a successful relationship.

Our caring ethos is also reflected in the activities that we take part in: for example we place a strong emphasis on our environment and try to do our part to care for it. We take part in the National Trust Guardianship scheme which involves the children in a very practical way of looking after our countryside.

We are fortunate to have the local Pre-School group on our grounds. This is an ideal situation as the pre-schoolers have plenty of opportunity to mix with the older children and meet the teachers before starting school. At the other end of the school, there are good transition arrangements with the Roseland Community College, our feeder secondary school.

We feel that we have a very special school at Gorrán, and would be pleased to welcome you and your family to our community.

Jonathan Sleep

The school...

Gorran School is situated on the higher land midway between the beautiful villages of Gorran Churchtown and Gorran Haven. It is set within walking distance of both, in picturesque countryside, with excellent views to all sides, including to the coast. There has been a school on this site for many years, although the original "Schoolhouse in the Wind" was burnt down in 1967.

The school has three classrooms in the main building, situated around a central hall. The classrooms are large, bright areas that are well resourced. Our fourth classroom is in an Elliott building which is shared by the independent Pre-school.

The school is fortunate enough to have its own kitchen on site with the children eating their freshly prepared meals in the hall.

Externally, we have two playgrounds, a large playing field with pond area and sensory garden, and an outdoor swimming pool - a tremendous resource that is used daily in the warmer months. We also have a raised garden area and areas that provide shelter from the elements and allow the children to be outside as much as possible.



A message from the Chair of Governors...

Dear Parents

It is with great pleasure that I write to commend our school at Gorran. Like many of Gorran's Governors, all of my children began their education here and have benefited from the happy atmosphere of this small, village school.

As well as a good start to full time education Gorran children benefit from a school that makes the most of its fabulous location. This means that Gorran kids are often to be found outside getting muddy and getting wet on some of the many school trips and activities. These events are not only memorable, they help to ensure that the children who leave Gorran have a well-rounded view of the world, are adept at dealing with many different situations and move onto secondary school with confidence and lots of happy memories.

Gorran has a full team of committed school Governors who meet termly to ensure that the school consistently meets the high targets it has set itself. We are answerable to the parents and local community and will happily answer questions or take suggestions from parents.

Inevitably this prospectus can only convey some of the ethos and spirit of Gorran. Please visit the school and meet the staff and pupils before you make a decision about where to send your child.

Jackie Enos

School structure for year 2023/2024

Number on Roll	
2022	105
2023	97

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) is 15.

Headteacher	Mr Sleep
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Class		Teacher	TA	
Lion Class	YR 5 & 6	Mrs Oakley	Mrs Seaber	34 Pupils
Zebra Class	YR 3 & 4	Mr Murray	Mrs Douglas	33 Pupils
Elephant Class	YR 1 & 2	Mrs Sampson	Mrs Crowe	28 Pupils
Giraffe Class	YR R	Mr Jones	Mrs Matthews	15 Pupils

Support Staff	Areas of Responsibility	Support Staff	Areas of Responsibility
Sally Dowling	Administrator	Pam Warren-Nicholls	Mid-Day Supervisor
Lesley Potheary	Financial Administrator	Rosanna Ross-Michaelides	Mid-Day Supervisor
Scovia Crowe	HiTeaching Assistant	Sandra Bye	SENDCo
Melinda Douglas	Teaching Assistant	Sandy Banks	Kitchen Manager
Richard Jones	Higher Level Teaching Assistant	Lesley Potheary	Catering Assistant
Lucy Seaber	Teaching Assistant	Wendy Pitcher	Site Supervisor
Lucy Matthews	Teaching Assistant	Alex Giles	PPA cover - Music
Scovia Crowe	Mid-Day Supervisor	Jo Williams	PPA cover – Primary Languages (French)



The School day...

Reception & Key Stage 1	9.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. 1.15 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
Key Stage 2	9.00 a.m. - 12.15 p.m. 1.15 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.

The school is open for 32.5 hours a week, but has a breakfast club that is open from 8am and we run a number of after school clubs.

The school day starts at 9.00 a.m. so please try to get your children to us by then as the Government now wants us to make a record of unauthorised late arrivals. Please take your children into their classrooms, where a member of the teaching staff will be on duty from 8.45 a.m. each morning. After school, please collect your children from the school gates, where they will be brought by a member of staff. Parents and carers of Reception children may wait in the infant playground for their child to come out from Giraffes class.

This year's dates...

Autumn Term (72 days)

- 4 September - 19 December 2023
- (Half term 23-27 October 2023)

Spring Term (56 days)

- 4 January - 28 March 2024
- (Half term 12-16 February 2024)

Summer Term (67 days)

- 15 April - 24 July 2024
- (Half term 27-31 May 2024)

Next year's proposed dates...

Autumn term (74 days)

- 3 September - 20 December 2024
- (Half term 28 October - 1 November 2024)

Spring Term (60 days)

- 6 January - 4 April 2025
- (Half term 17-21 February 2025)

Summer term (61 days)

- 22 April - 23 July 2025

The school will also be closed for five additional staff training days during the year. You will be informed of these dates nearer the time.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2023/2024

Christmas Day 25 December 2023

Boxing Day 26 December 2023

New Years Day 01 January 2024

Good Friday 29 March 2024

Easter Monday 01 April 2024

May Bank Holiday 06 May 2024

Spring Bank Holiday 27 May 2024

Summer Bank Holiday 26 August 2024

School Uniform...



We do have a school uniform at Gorrán School; Grey or black trousers or skirt; white polo shirt and a royal blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan. Socks or tights should be white, grey or black and shoes should be black (not trainers; shoes are healthier for young feet).

The only jewellery that children may wear are studs if they have pierced ears and a small gold signet ring. For health and safety reasons **all** jewellery must be removed for **all** PE activities.

School uniform with our school logo, including polo shirts, PE T-shirts, sweatshirts, fleeces and cardigans are available from

<https://www.fostersschoolwear.co.uk>

Enter 'Gorrán Primary School' in the search box

If you do not have internet access, then please see Mrs Dowling or Mrs Harris in the school office, who will be happy to help.

Please help us by making sure that every item of clothing is named. It is a nightmare trying to sort out thirty identical School sweatshirts etc!!

Un-named clothing will be collected in lost property boxes.

PE Kit

The children take part in regular P.E. activities and so need an appropriate change of clothing. Your child will need plain shorts, a royal blue T-shirt, a change of socks, plimsolls or training shoes and a bag to keep them in. Gorrán T-shirts are available from the website mentioned above. In colder weather it would be sensible to provide your child with leggings and sweatshirt for when they do outside games. For health and safety reasons **all** jewellery must be removed for **all** PE activities.



The Curriculum...

The 1998 Education Act brought in a compulsory National Curriculum. In primary schools, the subjects that all pupils must study are art and design, design and technology, English, geography, history, information and communication technology, mathematics, music, physical education and science. Religious education must also be provided.

At Gorran we try to deliver the requirements of the National Curriculum in an exciting and innovative way. Each term topics are planned that integrate the National Curriculum subjects, the five outcomes of the government's Every Child Matters initiative (Be healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy & achieve, Make a positive contribution, and Achieve economic well-being), and the eight sustainable schools doorways (Food & Drink, Energy & Water, Travel & Traffic, Purchasing and Waste, Buildings and Grounds, Inclusion & Participation, Local Well-being and Global Dimension)

We feel that offering an integrated curriculum in this ways teaches the links between subject areas and makes learning more effective.



Special Educational Needs

It is our policy to support every child in our school, from those experiencing learning difficulties to those who need a more challenging curriculum. We aim to identify special learning needs as early as possible and all staff contribute to this process. The school follows the agreed Code of Practice for SEN. Children are given Individual Education Plans from the early stages and regular meetings are held to review progress and learning needs. We work closely with various external agencies, which provide advice, resources and expertise. Parents of children with special needs are kept fully informed of progress at all stages. Our SEN School Information Report is available for inspection on the school website.

We also keep a record of higher achieving pupils, and track their progress. Some will be identified as being gifted or talented. We will try to provide activities that will encourage these children's abilities.

The school is accessible to wheelchair users, with ramps to at least one doorway on both buildings. The school uses a range of teaching techniques and resources to allow access to the curriculum. In 2020 we were re-awarded the Inclusive, Dyslexia Friendly Schools Mark.

Religious Education

Religious Education taught in the school reflects the fact that Christianity is the main religious tradition of Britain but takes into account the teaching practices of other religions represented in our country. Our collective worship is a daily act of a broadly Christian character which is non-denominational. All pupils take part in Religious Education and Collective Worship, however parents have the right to withdraw their children if they so wish by putting this in writing to the head teacher.

Supporting Your Child At Home...

The school does set homework. Children will arrive home regularly with various tasks and requests. Your support in completing these is really valuable. When the children are learning to read they will bring home tasks or books appropriate to their needs for you to read with them. As they become independent readers they should bring home books from the Library on a regular basis.

Each teacher will set tasks for the children. At first these will be quite simple requests on an irregular basis. As the children reach the later years at the school they will be set more regular tasks. These are likely to be related to Topic work and/or work in English and Maths. You should ask your children what tasks, if any, they have been set each week.

We do recognise that homework is not a life or death issue! Sometimes other issues crop up that mean that homework is not done, relatives visiting, clubs, beach visits, family time etc. As a school we recognise that there must be a balance in work and life. Whilst we would prefer that the children would complete any work set, we would not belittle any child that had not completed the task. Nor would we want homework to become a battle at home - if you find that is the case, then we would urge you to speak to your child's teacher.



Keeping you informed...

Gorran School values its place in the community. The school has a successful open door policy and aims to keep parents informed in various ways: we use ClassDojo as a messaging tool; we send out newsletters and put information on the parents' notice board outside the gate; the website always has copies of letters, and any news flashes; we use email and text or voice messaging when appropriate; we hold consultation evenings when you can discuss your child's progress with their teacher; we also send out a written report at the end of the school year.

If you have a message or a quick question, then please pop in either before or after school. If you feel you may need a longer discussion, then please make an appointment. Staff are willing to talk to you, but please don't disturb them whilst they are teaching!

Admissions and transferring...



Since September 2010, the law has changed and all admissions are administered by your own Local Authority - in our case Cornwall Council, but you should only apply via Cornwall Council if you live in Cornwall. The protocols and procedures are too long to include in this prospectus, but can be found here:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/>

This page also gives links to the LA's online admission facility for transfers into Reception or Secondary.

If you have any questions, or do not have internet access, please contact:

School Admissions Team,
3 West,
County Hall,
Truro TR1 3AY
Telephone: 01872 322032

Transfer from Primary to Secondary

Pre-school

The school is very fortunate to have a professional pre-school group on the premises, which provides a good academic and pastoral environment for our children.

The pre-school group and the school work closely together provide an excellent start for your child's education. We greatly value all the pre-school group's input and commitment and together we believe that we provide a comprehensive service that is of a very high quality and is delivered in an exceptionally caring and professional way.

For more information please go to:
<http://www.gorranspreschool.co.uk/>

Children whose 11th birthday falls before 31st August (that is Year 6) have an important decision to make. The move to the Secondary school of your choice. Whilst most of our children transfer to The Roseland Community College, we do our best to work as a team with the Secondary schools in St Austell to help you make this choice. There will be opportunities for you to read the Prospectuses and visit the Secondary schools and talk to staff. During the summer term the children will visit the school you choose to familiarise themselves with their new environment. Over the course of the year, tutors from the schools visit us to meet the children and discuss their needs and answer questions, for like us they see each child as an individual who should be treated as such in the transfer period.

Extra-curricular Activities...

For a small school, we offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities for our children: for example the sports clubs include; football, netball, cricket, athletics, rackets, rounders and cross country. Our aim with these clubs is to get as many children involved in sport as possible and to let them enjoy taking part. We try to reward those who turn up to practices with places in the school teams if at all possible.

We also run a range of non-sporting clubs when we can - subject to staff expertise! These activities are run on a voluntary basis either after school or during lunch times. They may vary according to the time of year or the expertise of the current members of staff.



School meals...

We are also lucky to have a kitchen on the premises. The staff cook varied and healthy meals to provide the children with a balanced diet. These are obtainable at a price of £2.41 and we would be grateful if the money could be sent to school on Monday of each week in a purse or envelope.

If you wish to apply for free meals please ask the School Secretary for an application form.

Children are able to bring a packed lunch which may also be eaten in the dining room under the supervision of the staff employed to care for all the children from 12.15 until 1.15 p.m.

The PTA

We have a very active and supportive Parents and Teachers Association at Gorran School. Over the last few years, we have helped raise funds to support many school projects, including the maintenance of our swimming pool and the purchase of our new minibus. We also organise purely social events, which are a nice way of meeting and getting to know one another better.

Pupil health, welfare and guidance...

School Discipline plan

The staff, with the support of the Governors at Gorran School, have the goal of maintaining an atmosphere in which the children will feel safe, secure and happy. This will mean they will have the maximum opportunity to learn. In order to accomplish this goal we have developed a school wide discipline plan which specifies rules that cover the behaviour we expect from our pupils. The plan also states that those who follow the rules will be praised and receive positive rewards but there will be consequences for those who choose to break the rules.

Our school wide rules are:

Respect - This would include respect for other people, their views, faiths, for the fabric of the school, for the environment, to name but a few areas

Ready - This would include being ready to learn: having the right attitude, equipment, etc. It would also include getting enough sleep and a good breakfast. It could include knowing what to do in certain situations, such as fire drills.

Safe - This would include physical safety, online safety, mental safety and the safety to express opinions

As previously stated those children who keep the rules will be rewarded by praise and encouragement whenever possible. There will also be stickers and certificates awarded for special effort for the children to take home.

Children who choose to break the rules know that they have chosen a negative consequence and will know in advance what these consequences are. They will differ slightly from class to class depending on the age of the children, but are based around an increasing system: a warning, 5 minutes in, missing a break, parents told, for example.

The rules and consequences apply to all children and they are designed to make them think more carefully about their everyday behaviour in school. For more serious offences such as vandalism, abusive behaviour or violence the children understand that they are immediately choosing a more severe consequence. For example a child who deliberately destroys another's property will find that his or her parents are immediately informed.

We are sure that the children will benefit in an atmosphere where they know the rules and understand the consequences. For parents it will mean that you are fully informed and involved in knowing that should your child be in trouble we can work together to solve the situation.





We have tried to provide useful information for new parents to the school in this prospectus, without making it too lengthy. There are also a number of policies that provide more information on specific areas. These include:

Target setting and monitoring;

Community cohesion;

Special Educational Needs;

Gifted and Talented children;

Attendance;

Disability, race and sex discrimination;

Looked after children;

Copies of these policies are available from the office

Complaints about the Curriculum or Religious Worship...

We expect all our pupils, staff and parents to listen carefully and respectfully to each other. In this way we hope that matters can be dealt with sympathetically on both sides and speedily to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Minor complaints should be dealt with by the class teacher. If you are not satisfied contact the Head teacher.

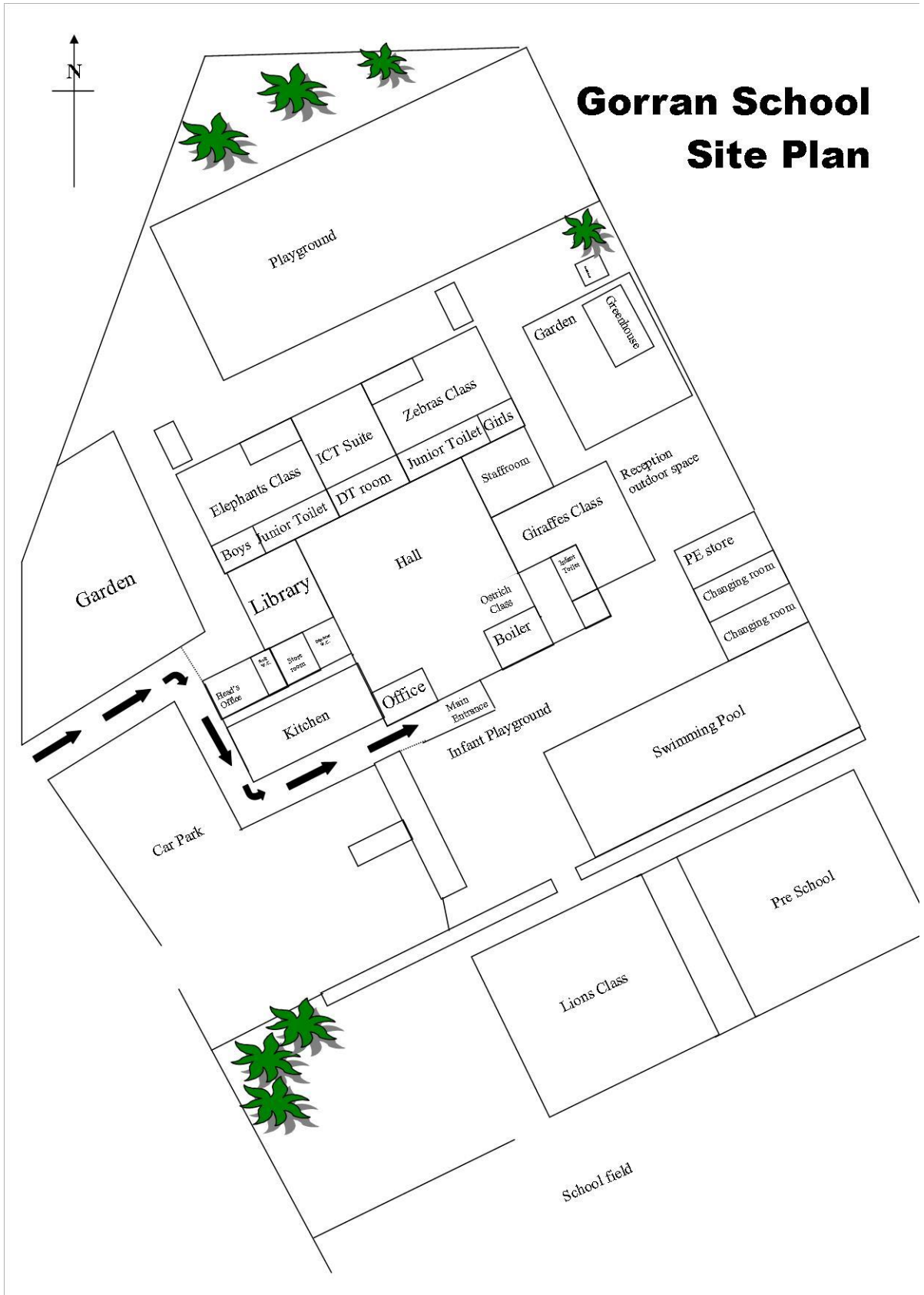
All serious complaints must be explained to the Head teacher so that an investigation can take place. Parents who are unhappy about something should contact us at once. The Head teacher will always meet concerned parents in order to resolve difficulties.

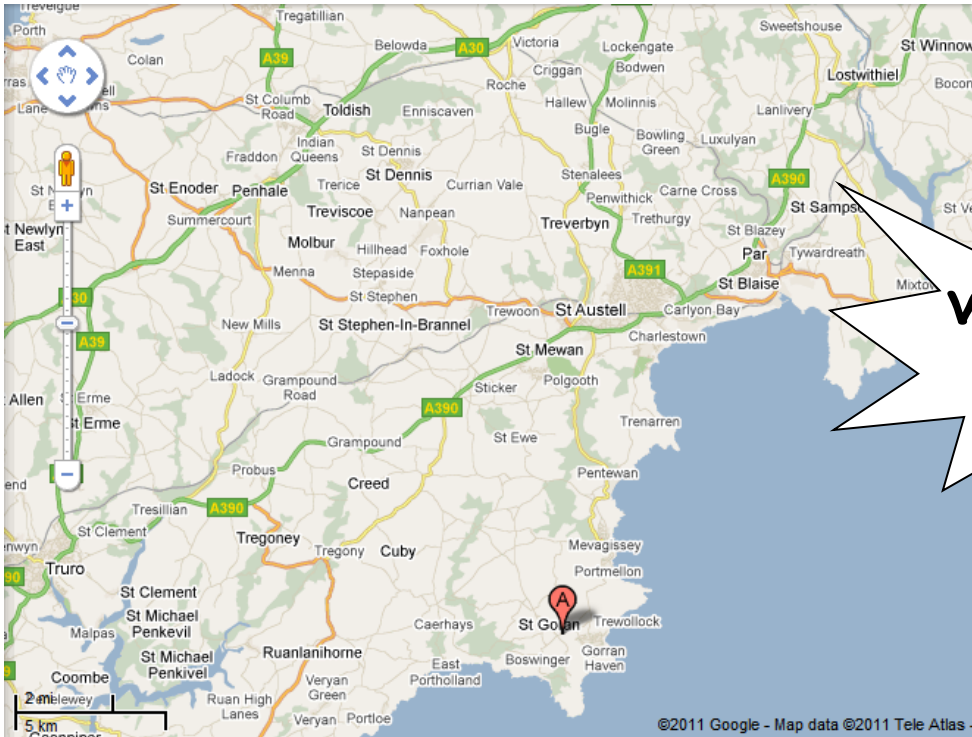
A parent who is still not satisfied should contact the Chair of Governors (or another member of the Governing Body) The parent should set out this complaint in writing and forward it either direct to the Governors or to the Clerk to the Governors.

A complaint can also be made directly to the LA if the parent is not satisfied with the outcome or if the complaint relates to something which is the responsibility of the LA.

It should be emphasised that this is a structured opportunity to resolve a perceived problem in the best interests of a sound education of the pupils and not a trial with innocent and guilty parties.

Gorran School Site Plan





Where we are...

