

STRANGFORD COLLEGE
ABBEY ROAD
CARROWDORE
CO DOWN
BT22 2GB



**GRANT MAINTAINED
INTEGRATED COLLEGE**
AGE RANGE: 11-18
ADMISSIONS NO: 80
ENROLMENT NO: 500

Principal: Mr M W Weir BEd (Hons) D.A.S.E., PQH(NI)
Chairperson Board of Governors: Mr R Murray O.B.E

Telephone No: 028 9186 1199
Fax No: 028 9186 3900

Email: info@strangfordcollege.carrowdore.ni.sch.uk

On behalf of the Board of Governors of Strangford College the Education Authority has published a development proposal for an increase in the Year 8 admissions from 80 to 110, and from 50 to 60 in Year 13. This would occur through an annual phased increase in the College's enrolment number up to 670. If approved the increase will take effect from 1 September 2016.

OPEN EVENING INFORMATION

Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th January 2016 from 7.00pm – 9.30pm. - Parents and P6/ P7 children welcome to attend. Parents and Year 12 pupils considering transfer to the College for 'A' Level are also welcome to attend. Principal's address will be at 7.00pm and 8.00pm on both evenings.

RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS TO THE SCHOOL

The Board of Governors draws up the Admissions Criteria and delegates to an Admissions Committee, which includes the Principal and Bursar, the responsibility for applying these criteria.

STRANGFORD COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 8 for SEPTEMBER 2016

Parents naming Strangford College, as a preference on their applicant's transfer form, must include the following information in Section C of the Green Transfer Form.

1. A Statement of the preferred **religious affiliation** of the applicant, either:

- **Protestant**
- **Catholic**
- **Other**

(If religious affiliation is not stated on the Green Form, the applicant will be deemed *Protestant*, if transferring from a controlled school, *Catholic*, if transferring from a maintained school, and *Other* if transferring from an integrated school).

2. **35% of places, are available for pupils wishing to apply for the Grammar Stream. Parents of academically able pupils wishing to be considered for grammar stream entry must clearly indicate this on the Green Transfer Form.** Supporting evidence should also be attached. This may be one, or more, of the following suggested indicators: PiE/PiM scores, or any other standardised test results available from the child's primary school; a school report which reflects high academic ability; or equivalent supporting evidence.

Strangford College has been directed to select for admission, children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission before any applicant not so resident may be selected for admission.

The Criteria have been determined by the Board of Governors and will be applied by the College's Admissions Committee. Through the application of the Criteria the Board of Governors **seeks to establish an overall balance between religious affiliations and academic abilities.** These are the pre-eminent features which distinguish an integrated school from all other schools.

Our aim is to have an intake which is as close as possible to the ratio of 35% Catholic, 35% Protestant and 30% of pupils of other faiths, or none, (Other Category). The Board of Governors also seeks to affirm the all ability nature of the College, ensuring that each year group caters for all students, including the most academically able.

Grammar Stream Entry is available for a maximum of 35% of the intake. **Parents of academically able children, who wish to opt for grammar entry, should indicate this on the green transfer form.** They

should also include supporting documentation, which indicates the pupil's suitability for an academic pathway. Suggestions for suitable documentation in support of grammar entry are listed in point 2 above.

In the event that there are more applicants for admission, the Board of Governors has determined that criteria outlined below shall be applied.

The Criteria will be applied first to pupils in the 'Others' category until a maximum of 30% of the places, have been allocated. In the event that less than 30% of the places have been awarded, the balance will be equally divided between Roman Catholic and Protestant applicants. Should an odd number of places remain, the additional place will be allocated to the main tradition having the greatest number of pupils. The Criteria will then be applied separately to Roman Catholic and Protestant pupils. Should there be fewer from either tradition than there are places available for that tradition, then the balance of places will be allocated to the other tradition.

NB: The provision of inaccurate, ambiguous or misleading information provided on, or attached to, any such application, may prejudice the offer of a place and may subsequently lead to the withdrawal of a place awarded to any applicant, who shall be deemed to have gained unfair and improper advantage by submitting such information. **The College Authorities reserves the right to authenticate and seek verification of the content of any application.** In the case of a surname, the final decision will be based on the surname shown on the birth certificate, or any subsequent court order. The failure to provide verifying documents according to the required deadline, may result in the inability of the College to offer a place.

In the event that there are more pupils for admission than there are places available, **the Board of Governors has determined that the following criteria shall be applied to each pathway.**

1 The Board of Governors in seeking to affirm the all ability nature of the College, will ensure that each year group caters for students of all abilities, including the most academically able. **Grammar Stream Entry** is available for a maximum of 35% of the intake. **Parents of academically able children, may opt for grammar entry, and should indicate this on the green transfer form, including appropriate supporting evidence.** The College will strive for Religious balance, both within the Grammar Entry and the overall admissions number.

If the number of applicants for grammar entry exceeds the number of places available, the criteria listed below will be used to determine a rank order of applicants for Criterion 1.

Academic evidence is simply an indicator of the student's suitability for the grammar pathway and is not used for differentiating between, or rank ordering applicants for Grammar Stream Entry. Those applying for grammar entry, and **who are not admitted under criterion 1**, will automatically be considered for admission, with all other applicants, using the remaining criteria, 2 – 5.

2 Applicants who have a sibling* currently enrolled at the College, living at the same address, or who did attend the College until Year 12. (Names and dates of attendance should be stated on transfer form). For applicants to be considered under this criterion, **all preceding siblings** should have attended, or applied to attend, the College since it opened in 1997. If Criterion 2 is oversubscribed, Criteria 3, 4 & 5 will be applied in that order.

3 Applicants who are the eldest, or only, child of the family.** Criterion 3 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place. If Criterion 3 is oversubscribed, Criteria 4 & 5 will be applied in that order.

4 Applicants who are transferring from either, a grant maintained, or controlled integrated primary school, for whom Strangford College is the ***nearest second level integrated school. Criterion 4 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place. If Criterion 4 is oversubscribed, Criterion 5 will then be applied for the remaining places.

5 Selection for any places remaining will be on the basis of the initial letter(s) of the surname, with pupils being selected in the order set out below. The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters.

J R K O Mac Mc Y C N P W L H A T Q V M Z U D E B I S G F X
--

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the letters of the first forename appearing on the Transfer Form will be used.

* Sibling is defined as another child of the family (Article 2(2) of The Domestic Proceedings (NI) Order 1980), to include adopted/fostered children, half brothers and sisters and orphaned cousins being brought up with a family.

** Twins and other multiples who are the eldest in the family are treated a joint eldest children.

*** 'nearest second level integrated school' will be determined by the distance from College to the home address of the applicant as the crow flies.

NB. All information relevant to the above must be clearly stated by the parents according to the requirements of the Transfer Procedure conducted through the South Eastern Region.

DUTY TO VERIFY

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on the Transfer Form or appended to the Transfer Form by parents/carers. For verification purposes original documents are required and not facsimiles or photocopies.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide any requested verifying documents within the deadline set by the college will result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the College to offer a place.

It is the responsibility of the Parents/Carers to ensure that:

- **The Transfer Form and other necessary documentation are correctly completed.**
- **All relevant information is included on or attached to the Transfer Form *including the religion of the applicant, and any material relating to a grammar entry application.***
- **Any required verification documents are provided within specified deadlines.**

WAITING LIST POLICY

These admission criteria will be used for admissions up to and including the 31st August 2016 to applicants that were initially refused, new applicants, late applicants and applicants where new information has been provided. Parents/Carers who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after 1 September 2016, should write to the College Admissions Officer, Mrs A Ross, clearly stating this.

In the event of such application, the Board of Governors will only make an offer if there is a place available. Should there be more applications than places available, the procedure outlined in, the Admissions Criteria for entry to Year 8 will be followed.

If the application is made by **an applicant who arrived in Northern Ireland after the transfer process has been concluded** and the College's Admission Committee determines that the applicant is suitable to be admitted, the College will then seek Department of Education approval to admit the applicant through an additional place. If such approval is given, the applicant will be admitted.

Further information about Strangford College can be obtained from the school office or the College's Admissions Officer, Mrs A Ross, by telephoning: **02891 861199**

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications <i>ie. All preferences</i>	Total Admissions
2013	80	100	80
2014	80	179	95
2015	80	175	96

(Pupils admitted with Statements of Educational Needs under the Code of Practice are not included in the above admission numbers).