

**Strabane Academy**

61 Derry Road  
Strabane  
Co Tyrone BT82 8LD

**Controlled Grammar  
Boys and Girls**

**Age Range 11-18**

**Tel No:** 028 7188 2578

**Admissions No:** 110

**Fax No:** 028 7188 2988

**Enrolment No:** 700

**Principal:** Mr D Hampton B.Ed M.Sc AdvCertEd. PQH (NI)

**Roll:** 568

**Chair of the Board of Governors:** Mrs Mary Smyth

**Open Evening**

**This year we will be holding a Virtual Open Evening which will be posted online at the beginning of Term Two.**

**To Parents/Guardians naming Strabane Academy as a preference on your child's Transfer Application.**

Please note that due to the Covid-19 pandemic the admissions criteria have been amended.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the Transfer Application. Parents/Guardians should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Application or attached to it. Examples of such information include; whether your child has a sibling attending the school or is the eldest/only child in the family.

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

In the event of the school being oversubscribed the Board of Governors has approved the criteria described below. Decisions are taken by the Board of Governors in consultation with the Admissions Sub-Committee. Further reference, therefore, to the Board of Governors may imply the Admissions Sub-Committee.

**ADMISSIONS POLICY 2021**

The Board of Governors has determined that all children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the School will be selected for admission before any child not so resident.

The school will not use as a criterion the position of preference given to the school on the Transfer Application; for example, a child who has chosen the school as a second preference school will be considered in the same way as all first preference applicants.

**Admissions Criteria**

This year the all ability entry route will be used and all applicants will be selected with no reference to test scores. If the number of applications is greater than the Admissions Number, the following criteria shall be applied in the order set down below until the point where the admissions number is reached.

1. Children who have a sibling<sup>1</sup> currently attending the school or who are the eldest<sup>2</sup> /only child<sup>3</sup> in the family
2. Children who are transferring from Controlled Primary Schools
3. Children who are transferring from Maintained Primary Schools
4. The age of the child. This will be alternated each year between eldest child and youngest child with preference this year being given to the eldest child (established by date-of-birth on the Birth Certificate)

<sup>1</sup> Where applicable "sibling" is defined as another child of the family [Article 2(2) of the Domestic Proceedings (NI) Order 1980] to include, for example, half-brothers and sisters, together with children who are adopted or fostered.

<sup>2</sup> Applicants qualify for the eldest criterion if they are the first child of the family eligible to apply for a post primary mainstream school.

<sup>3</sup>Twins and other multiples who are eldest in the family are treated as joint eldest children.

In the event of being over-subscribed in any of the above criteria then selection for places remaining at that stage will be in accordance with the Tie-breaker criterion set out below.

### **Tie-breaker**

The age of the child. This will be alternated each year between eldest child and youngest child with preference this year being given to the eldest child (established by date-of-birth on the Birth Certificate)

### **Further tie-breaker**

In the unlikely event, in the tie-breaker criterion of two or more children having the same birthday, children will be selected by establishing a rank order determined on the basis of the alphabetical order of surnames A to Z, using the surname as entered on the Birth Certificate or Adopted Children's Register. In the event that two or more such children have identical surnames then the rank order will be determined on the basis of the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames (as entered on the birth certificate). In the event of the matter not being resolved using the above methods children will be selected by establishing a rank order determined on the basis of the order as detailed below:

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

### **Special Educational Needs**

The procedures for children in receipt of a Statement of Special Educational Needs will operate outside the normal enrolment procedures in order to ensure that such children are provided with the most appropriate school placement. Further advice may be obtained from the Education Authority as appropriate.

### **Admissions to Year 8 following completion of the Transfer Procedure**

Should the Board of Governors determine that a child who has arrived in Northern Ireland after the Transfer Process has been concluded is suitable for admission and our Admissions Number has been reached, it will seek approval from the Department of Education to admit the child through the allocation of an additional place.

Parents/Guardians who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after the beginning of the school year should write to the Principal stating this. An acknowledgement will be issued. If any place(s) become available after 1 September 2021 and there are more applicants than places available, then decisions will be made on application of the Year 8 Admissions Criteria to those children seeking admission at the time the place(s) become available. When the Board of Governors considers that the admission of the child would prejudice the efficient use of resources it may refuse admission.

**It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that all information on the above relevant factors is given on the child's Transfer Application and in documents attached thereto.**

### **THE VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION**

Those making applications should note that the information contained within an application that qualifies the child for admission will be verified. The Board of Governors therefore reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Application Form/Transfer Form. This information will be requested from those whose applications have been successful on or shortly after Saturday 19 June 2021 when they have been notified of their allocation of a place at the school. Those making applications should also note the provision of false information or incorrect information, or the failure to provide verifying documents according to the required deadline, may result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the school to offer a place.

**NUMBERS OF APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Admissions No.</b>	<b>Total Applications All Preferences</b>	<b>Total Admissions</b>
<b>2018/19</b>	110	91	87
<b>2019/20</b>	110	100	100
<b>2020/21</b>	110	129	119*

\*Temporary Variation granted

**ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR ENTRY TO YEARS 9 - 12**

Applications should be made in writing, to the school using the relevant application form obtainable from the school (AP1 form). All those seeking admission will be required to provide reports from their present school.

The admissions criteria for the above Year groups is available upon request from the school office.

Following receipt of an application, the school will advise as to the next steps to be taken and subsequently provide written notification of any decision to admit the pupil or otherwise.