

Admissions Criteria for entry September 2021

ST PATRICK'S ACADEMY

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Principal: Mr Fintan Donnelly

Chair of the Board of Governors: Mrs Fiona O'Hagan

Voluntary Grammar School

Age range: 11-18+

Admissions Number: 208*

Enrolment Number: 1320*
(*Under review)

If you have any queries regarding the School or its Admissions Criteria contact the school principal.

It will not be possible to host an **Open Day in 2021** but the school will provide a virtual experience of school life for prospective pupils and their parents. This, along with an on-line prospectus will be available in February 2021.

To Parents/Guardians naming St Patrick's Academy as a Preference on your child's online Application Form

This Admissions Criteria has been developed by the Board of Governors for admissions to Year 8 in 2021 only as a result of the cancellation of the GL Entrance Assessment which was due to take place on 30th January 2021 and 6th February 2021.
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RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO THE SCHOOL

The Board of Governors has drawn up the admissions criteria and will delegate to an Admissions Sub-Committee, which includes the Principal and a Vice Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference herein to the term Board of Governors includes a Committee or Sub-Committee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admissions Criteria set out herein.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION INTO YEAR 8

SECTION 1:

- 1.1** Priority will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission, over those who will not be so resident.
- 1.2** St Patrick's Academy will consider initially for admission only those children who have registered to take the required GL entrance assessment scheduled to be held on 30th January and 6th February 2021 and those children eligible for Special provision under section 4.1 below.
Applicants who satisfy 1.1 and 1.2 will be ranked according to criteria 2.1 - 2.5 in that order until all 208 places have been allocated.

SECTION 2:

- 2.1** A child on whose online Application Form St Patrick's Academy is listed as their first preference post-primary school
- 2.2** A child who has a sibling (another child of the family; to include half brothers and sisters, adopted and fostered children and orphaned cousins being brought up by the family) enrolled in the school at the time of application.

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- 2.3** A child who is the only child or eldest child in the family to transfer to a mainstream school (see 3.6)
- 2.4** A child who is the sibling of a pupil who previously attended St Patrick's Academy (or, before 2003 St Patrick's Boys' Academy/St Patrick's Girls' Academy)
- 2.5** If necessary, where over-subscription still exists, final selection will be on the basis of Computerised Random Selection. This will be conducted using a computerised random number generator.

SECTION 3: Explanatory Notes

Verification

- 3.1** If you had registered your child to take the GL Entrance Assessment at a centre other than St Patrick's Academy, you should include the card received from the centre confirming your registration.
- 3.2** Parents/Guardians should note that: They may be asked to produce documents verifying information pertinent to the school's admission criteria. Original documents are required. Facsimiles or photocopies are not acceptable. Documents can be uploaded with the online Application.
- 3.3** The provision of false or incorrect information or 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.
- 3.4** The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine necessary to support or verify information on any applicant's online Application form.
- 3.5** Decisions will be taken on the basis of the information included on, or appended to, the online Application Form. The school reserves the right to verify information provided.
- 3.6** Twins or other multiples will be treated as eldest.
If you indicate in your application that your child is the eldest in the family to transfer to a mainstream school or an only child, you must be able to provide verification of this.

SPECIAL PROVISION

SECTION 4:

- 4.1** Special Provision may be made by the Board of Governors for pupils who are transferring from primary schools outside Northern Ireland or who have received less than half of their primary education outside of Northern Ireland.
- 4.2** Claims for Special Provision should be made using the Special Provisions Form available from the school and the completed form should be uploaded with the online Application Form not later than 16th March 2021 at 4:00pm
- 4.3.** It is strongly emphasised that the claim of Special Provision does not, of itself, lead to automatic admission to the school. Further guidance on applying for Special Provision is provided with the Special provision form available from the school or its website.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2018/19	193	249	199*
2019/20	193	270	208*
2020/21	193	248	214*

*Includes Appeals and pupils with Statement of Special Needs and Temporary Variation

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CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION INTO YEAR 8 AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

If any places are available, the same criteria as for admission at the beginning of the school year will apply.

The school will retain the list of applicants in ranked order according to the published criteria and this list will be used as a waiting list by the school to determine which child or children can be admitted after 18 June 2021 and up to 30 June 2022 should a place or places become available after 18 June 2021. (Please refer to the school's waiting list policy).

Admissions Criteria for Years 9-12 and Sixth Form are available from the school on request