

Lurgan College
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Headmaster: Mr T D Robinson BA (Hons), PGCE, MEd, PQH (NI)
Chairman of the Board of Governors: Mr S A H Abraham JP

Controlled Senior High School (Grammar)
Age Range 14 -19
Approved Admissions Number for 2017: 115
Approved Enrolment Number for 2017: 440

Open Night for Year 10 Pupils – Thursday 26 January 2017: 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm

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, the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference herein to the term Board of Governors includes any Committee or Subcommittee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admissions Criteria set out herein.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The lodging of an application for a place at the College is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school, including the discipline policy and the code of conduct of the school. Information in relation to this may be obtained from the school.

Lurgan College will give consideration to accepting all children who have the ability to follow the academic courses offered by the school.

The Admissions Committee of the Board of Governors will apply these criteria on behalf of the Board of Governors.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that they may be required to produce documents verifying their address or the age of the child concerned. One of the following three documents may be requested: a birth certificate, medical card or utility bill.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

ADMISSION TO YEAR 11 (2017-2018)

The lodging of an application for a place at Lurgan College (the School) is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the pupil concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school, including the School's Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy. Information in relation to this may be obtained from the School.

In the event of more applications being received for admission to Year 11 in September 2017 than there are places available, the following criteria for admission will be applied until the School's admissions number is met. The application of the criteria below is subject to the rules on Special Circumstances and Special Provisions set out below.

In accordance with statutory requirements, in applying the criteria and sub-criteria set out below, any child resident in Northern Ireland at the time of the proposed admission to the School will be selected for admission to the School before any child not so resident.

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form/Transfer Form. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide verifying documents by the required deadline may result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the school to offer a place.

Criterion 1

The Admissions Committee of the Board of Governors (the 'Admissions Committee') will select children on the basis of rank order, with higher scores preceding lower ones; those children with a better academic achievement will achieve a higher place in the rank order than children with a lesser academic achievement. Selection will be based on the following evidence:

- a. For children attending Lurgan Junior High School (LJHS): academic evidence from the March/April 2017 examinations taken whilst attending LJHS. Such evidence is to be provided to the School **no later than 5 May 2017**;

It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure that the School is provided with the necessary information about their child's academic performance in the said examinations (as will be available from LJHS). This information/report must be provided to the School **no later than 5 May 2017**.

- b. For children who do not attend LJHS and do not meet the criteria for 'Special Provisions': the Admissions Committee will consider all available evidence about the level of academic ability of each of those children. Such evidence must be of sufficient detail and quality to allow the Admissions Committee to place her/him in the rank order as referred to in this criterion. The evidence must always include the most recent report provided by the child's transferring school (if such a report exists) and may include an assessment of the child's academic ability provided by the head teacher of the child's transferring school.

If it is deemed necessary, the Admissions Committee may also request an assessment of the child's abilities to be carried out by a qualified educational psychologist [or other suitably qualified person or body] approved by the School. If such an assessment is carried out, the child will be considered on the basis of this assessment as well as the academic evidence, as set out in the preceding paragraph, made available to the School. The admissions criteria will then be applied to that child in the same manner as to all other children seeking admission to the School.

By way of example only, the Admissions Committee may request such an assessment in the following circumstances:

- Where the available academic evidence is not of sufficient detail and quality to allow the Admissions Committee to place the child in the rank order;
- Where the child does not meet the criteria for 'Special Provisions' but is currently attending a school outside Northern Ireland.

It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure that the School is provided with the necessary information about their child's performance as referred to above. This information/report must be provided to the School no later than 5 May 2017.

If, on the application of this criterion, two or more children tie for the last available place, the following admissions sub-criteria will be applied to the children in the order given below. The Admissions Committee will apply these criteria on behalf of the Board of Governors:

Sub-criterion 1

Preference will be given to a child who, at the time of application, attends Lurgan Junior High School.

Sub-criterion 2

Preference will be given to a child who, at the time of application, has a brother or sister (including adopted brothers/sisters, half-brothers/sisters, step-brothers/sisters, and/or foster brothers/sisters, whether or not they are living in the same home as the child who is applying for a place in Lurgan College) enrolled at the School OR who, at the time of application, is the eldest child in his/her family eligible to apply for admission to the School.

Sub-criterion 3

Preference will be given to a child for whom the School is the nearest suitable, non-denominational grammar school.

Sub-criterion 4

A child will be selected for admission on the basis of the initial letter of his/her surname (as entered on his/her birth certificate) in the order set out below:

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

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames, the alphabetical order of the initial letter of the first of the forenames (as entered on his/her birth certificate) will be used.

Sub-criterion 5

Preference will be given to an older child, as established by the date of birth entered on his/her birth certificate.

Sub-criterion 6

A child who is selected through the use of a computerised random selection programme will be selected for admission to the School.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If:

A child's place in the rank order referred to in Criterion 1 has been adversely affected by medical or other problems which have impacted on his/her academic performance, documentary evidence of these special circumstances must be provided to the School by the child's parents/guardians **no later than 8 May 2017**.

This evidence must include:

- i. Precise details of this problem, with independent evidence to corroborate its existence and its effect on the child's academic performance;

- ii. If the problem is of a medical nature, appropriate medical certificate(s). In particular, where a medical problem was one of short duration which affected the child during examinations, the School will require the production of evidence that the child was examined by a medical practitioner in relation to the illness at the time of the examination;
- iii. If it exists, evidence of the child's academic performance in Years 8, 9 and 10;
- iv. If appropriate, accredited assessments, including assessments by qualified educational psychologists.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Special Provisions apply to:

- (a) Children whose parents/guardians wish them to transfer from schools outside Northern Ireland; parents/guardians may wish to include educational evidence such as the child's academic performance in Years 8, 9 and 10.
- (b) Children who have received more than half of their education to date outside Northern Ireland; parents/guardians may wish to include educational evidence such as the child's academic performance in Years 8, 9 and 10.
- (c) Children, who because of a serious medical or other issue, were unable to participate in any educational assessment. Parents must indicate to the School the precise reason why the pupil did not participate in any educational assessment. This must be supported by appropriate independent verifiable documentary evidence such as required at i, ii and iv above.

Parents/guardians who wish their child to apply to the School under Special Provisions must provide the appropriate documentary evidence to the School **no later than 8 May 2017**.

NOTES ON SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES / SPECIAL PROVISIONS

On the basis of the evidence provided by the parents/guardians, the Admissions Committee will, in its absolute discretion, decide if a child has been affected by Special Circumstances or is one to whom Special Provisions apply. The Admission Committee will assess children in either of these categories based on the medical and academic evidence made available to the School. It is, therefore, important that those seeking such qualification make sure that the relevant material and evidence is submitted, setting out clearly the reason for these Special Circumstances or Special Provisions to apply. The onus is on parents/guardians to ensure that the above information is provided to the School by the relevant date. Failure to provide such information by the relevant date may result in the School being unable to consider the application for Special Circumstances or Special Provisions.

If it is decided that a child has been affected by Special Circumstances or is subject to Special Provisions, the Admissions Committee will determine, on the basis of all available evidence, the level of academic ability of that child and place her/him in the rank order referred to in Criterion 1. The Admissions Committee may also request an assessment of the child's abilities to be carried out by a qualified educational psychologist [or other suitably qualified person or body] approved by the School. If such an assessment is carried out, the child will be judged on the basis of this assessment as well as the medical and academic evidence made available to the School. The admissions criteria will then be applied to that child in the same manner as to all other children seeking admission to the School.

Please note that judgement of the importance of the documentation forwarded in support of Special Circumstances or Special Provisions will be at the discretion of the Admissions Committee. The existence of Special Circumstances or Special Provisions does not in itself lead to automatic admission to the School. Each case is considered on its own merits by the Admissions Committee.

WAITING LIST POLICY

The school does not operate a waiting list policy.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 11			
Year	Admissions No	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2014/2015	105	265	105
2015/2016	115	267	115
2016/2017	115	263	115

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION AFTER GCSE (16+)

Admission will be based on:

- (a) Evidence of educational attainment based on externally validated examinations. A minimum of 3 Grade B and 5 Grade C GCSE passes (or 11 points – A* = 4 points; A = 3 points; B = 2 points; C= 1 point) are required. It is preferable to have GCSE grades A*, A or B in those subjects to be taken at Advanced Level;
- (b) The availability of places in chosen subjects or courses;
- (c) The availability of places in Year 13;
- (d) The overall enrolment number of the College.

In the event of there being more applicants than places, applicants will be ranked according to their total points score in GCSE, worked out on the basis of A* = 4 points; A = 3 points; B = 2 points; C= 1 point. Short Course GCSE grades will be awarded half the above points. Places will be offered in descending order subject to the above criteria.

All pupils 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.

Criteria for allocating the final place where point scores are tied are as follows:

1. Brother or sister in attendance at Lurgan College;
2. Eldest child in the family;
3. Initial letter of surname (as entered on birth certificate) in the order set out below:
C W M O K T Z S J Q U X N F E L I B A V D G Y P R H;
4. In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames, the alphabetical order of the letters of the forenames (as entered on birth certificate) will be used;
5. If applicants are still tied, then priority will be determined amongst them by a method of computerised random selection leaving a clear audit trail.

All applications for places must include full details of results obtained at GCSE and be received by the school office staff by **1.00 pm on Thursday 24 August 2017**.

The Department of Education may, on request, increase the number of pupils that the school can admit to its Year 13. Places that become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the basic eligibility criteria for sixth form study and shall be allocated in the order determined by the criteria to be applied in the order set down below:

1. Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in Lurgan College;
2. Pupils from other schools where admission to an extra place at Lurgan College has been agreed by the Department of Education*.

*Parents should note how the Department of Education will, in response to a school's request, increase the school's enrolment number in order to allow an extra post-16 pupil to enrol. DE will first check whether there is another school or schools of a type suitable for that pupil within an hour's journey of where the pupil lives. If there is, DE will then check whether this other school or schools may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue. If these checks find that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue - then DE will agree a school's request for an extra place.

What is a school of a type that is suitable for a pupil? To determine this, DE first considers all schools to be one of 4 types: (i) denominational (ii) non-denominational (iii) Integrated and (iv) Irish-Medium. A school requesting an extra place for a post-16 pupil will belong to one of these 4 types and DE will consider any other school from this same type as suitable for the pupil. DE will also consider as suitable for the pupil any school of the same type as that attended by the child in Year 12.

