

Bridge Integrated Primary School
Ballygowan Road
Banbridge
BT32 3EL

Grant Maintained Integrated

Enrolment Number: 406
Admissions Number: 58

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PRINCIPAL: Mrs T Devlin, BEd Hons PQH (NI)
CHAIR OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Mrs J Hughes

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

The Board of Governors draw up and apply the criteria for admissions.

COMPLETION OF APPLICATION FORMS

It is strongly recommended that parents complete the religious affiliation section on the EA application form if a place is being sought in the school. The Board of Governors will use the information provided on this form to establish which children should be admitted against the admissions criteria.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

The school is committed to retaining a balance between the two major religious traditions in Northern Ireland. The Board of Governors is committed to ensuring that as far as possible, at least 40%, and no more than 60%, of the total pupils in the school should be drawn from each of the Roman Catholic and Protestant traditions.

- In order to achieve the appropriate balance, all applications will be categorised as Roman Catholic, Protestant or Other Religion/No Religion prior to applying the admissions criteria numbered 1-6 as set out in Paragraph 3.
- If a religious affiliation is not declared on the Education Authority application form, the Board of Governors will treat the application as being from those in the community who describe themselves as being from the Other Religion/No Religion category.

Places will be allocated as follows:

- Approx 40% (i.e. 23 places) to applications coming from the Protestant Tradition
- Approx 40% (i.e. 23 places) to applications coming from the Roman Catholic Tradition
- Approx 20% (i.e. 12 places) to applications from those who describe themselves as being from the Other Religion/No Religion category.

Should places be available in any of the three categories, the remaining places will be filled alternately from the other over-subscribed categories, starting with the category in which there were the most applications. In the event that there are more applicants than places available, the Board of Governors has determined that the following criteria shall be applied in the order set down for children of compulsory school age.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

The Board of Governors will apply the following criteria in the order indicated to identify which children should be admitted at initial admission to education.

- 1 Children who will have brothers or sisters, half-brothers/half-sisters or foster brothers/foster sisters in attendance during the 2021/22 school year.
- 2 Children whose parent(s), brother(s) or sister(s), half-brother(s) half-sister(s) previously attended the school.
- 3 Children whose parent/guardian is a permanent employee of the school or is due to take up such an appointment up to the 1st September 2021.

- 4 Children of families with exceptional circumstances (social, medical or security) that necessitate admission to Bridge Integrated Primary School rather than any other primary school. **The Board of Governors has a duty to verify any claim for Exceptional Circumstances therefore the exceptional circumstances must be made in writing at the time of application and must include written evidence for e.g. from a GP, Social Worker, Employer etc. The acceptance of Exceptional Circumstances is at the discretion of the Board of Governors.**
- 5 Children who are first born in a family (to mean the first child of the two parents named on the application).
- 6 All other children.

In the event of over-subscription in any criterion, selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of initial letter of the surname, in the order set out below.

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

The above was determined by a randomised selection of letters of the alphabet carried out by the Board of Governors on **29th September 2020**.

Where surnames begin 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 initials of the forenames will be used, and if necessary the subsequent letters of the forenames. The surname selected will be 'as per birth certificate'.

In the interests of clarity the following point is reiterated for the assistance of all applicants:

- Parents seeking admission for their children must complete the Education Authority's application form.
- If a religious affiliation is not declared on the Education Authority application form, the Board of Governors will treat the application as being from those in the community who describe themselves as being from the Other Religion/No Religion category.

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 any application form.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

WAITING LIST POLICY

Following the notification to parents of those pupils who are to be admitted to Primary One in Bridge Integrated Primary School for September 2021, the Board of Governors will hold a waiting list for Primary One for any parent who makes it known to the school that they wish to be put on said waiting list. The admissions criteria set out above will continue to apply until 31st August 2021. After this date, i.e. from 1st September 2021 – 30th June 2022, available places in Primary One will be offered in order of receipt of the request for a child to be put on the waiting list.

ADMISSION TO P2-P7

The Board of Governors holds a waiting list for admission to Bridge Integrated Primary School for pupils P2 – P7, which is held for one academic year. Available places in these year groups are offered in order of the receipt of the application for a child to be put on the waiting list.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2018/2019	57	57
2019/2020	60	60
2020/2021	65	60