

LAGAN COLLEGE

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Principal: Mrs A McNamee, MBE, BA, PGCE, MEd, PQH(NI)

Chairman Board of Governors: Mr Francis Martin, CBE, FCA BSSc. Dip Acc. MBA FIMC

GRANT MAINTAINED INTEGRATED SCHOOL

AGE RANGE: 11-18

ADMISSIONS NO: 200*

ENROLMENT NO: 1300*

* Will be updated when confirmed

Lagan College is an integrated, all-ability, co-educational school. It has a grammar stream entry and an all-ability entry.

OPEN DAY INFORMATION

Saturday 21st January 2023 from 9.00am to 12.30pm - The Principal, Mrs McNamee, will address parents at 9.00am, 10.00am and 11.00am, and 12 noon in the Hall. Further details will be shared on social media.

To Parents/Carers naming Lagan College as a preference on your child's Transfer Form for the Stage I Grammar Stream entry (35% of total Year 8 intake).

Entrance Assessment Results

Lagan College will consider the outcome of a pupil's performance in either the GL Assessment or the AQE Assessment for entry into the Stage I Grammar stream entrance route.

Please ensure that you upload the following information with your child's EA Application Form:

The results issued by AQE or GLA (or both where an applicant has sat both assessments).

Special Circumstances and/or Special Provision

If you are making a claim for your child to be considered under Special Circumstances or Special Provision you are required to upload the documentation requested.

Further details can be found in Section C 'Special Circumstances and Special Provision'

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

Lagan College's Board of Governors has drawn up the Admissions Criteria and Policy and delegates to an Admissions Sub-Committee, which includes the Principal and at least two Governors and Administration Staff, the responsibility for applying the Admissions criteria to any Transfer applications received. Any reference herein to the term the Board of Governors includes any Committee or Sub-Committee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admissions criteria set out herein, which is finally ratified by the full Board of Governors.

Admissions Policy

In the event of the College receiving more applications than can be accommodated within the admissions number, determined by the Department of Education, the following policy and admissions criteria will be applied.

The aim of the Admissions Policy is to achieve as even a balance as possible in the all ability intake with regard to religious denomination.

Lagan College is a grant maintained, integrated school as defined by the Education Reform (NI) Order 1989 and the Board of Governors is required to ensure that 'the management, control and ethos of the school are such as are likely to attract reasonable numbers of both Protestant and Roman Catholic students'. The Board of Governors of Lagan College considers that this is the pre-eminent feature which distinguishes an integrated school from all other schools and will operate the criteria as outlined below in such a way as to effect an intake which is as close as possible to a ratio of 50% Catholic and 50% Protestant. The College will also admit a proportion of students from other or no religious backgrounds. **The proportion of such students will not exceed 20% of the total enrolment in any year.**

Therefore, in the application of the criteria set out below, the Board of Governors will seek to reflect in the total number admitted an overall balance between religious affiliations. The criteria for the All Ability Entry of the admissions procedure set out below will be applied first to 'Other' or no religious affiliations in the order set down and a maximum of 20% of the available places will be awarded to this group. The meaning of 'Other' below includes both those whose religious affiliation is to a religious group which is other than Roman Catholic or Protestant and also those who have no religious affiliation.

The remaining places will be divided equally between Protestant and Roman Catholic applicants. In the event of less than 20% of places being awarded to applicants of 'Other' religious affiliations or none, the balance will be divided equally between Protestant and Roman Catholic applicants. In the event of an odd number of places remaining in this division, an additional place will be allocated to either the Protestant or Roman Catholic group, whichever having the greater number of applicants.

The criteria set out below will then be applied separately to the Protestant group and Roman Catholic group of applicants. In the event of there being fewer applicants from either group than there are places available for it, then the balance of places will be allocated to the other (Protestant or Roman Catholic) group.

Religious affiliation will be determined by information supplied by the parent/carer on the Official EA Transfer Application. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to designate students using the wording 'Catholic', 'Protestant' or 'Other' to categorise their child's religion.

Religious Affiliation is Required on the Transfer Application

The onus is on a parent or carer to make clear under which religious category they wish their child's application to be considered. This will be determined by the following in the order given:

- A. (1) Religious affiliation stated on the transfer form, by the parent(s)/carer(s).
- (2) In the absence of (1 above) the type of primary school which the student attended (i.e. controlled or maintained) will be used to determine the religious affiliation; The Board of Governors will regard pupils attending a Catholic Maintained School as '**Catholic**' pupils and pupils attending a Controlled school as '**Protestant**'.
- (3) In the absence of (1 and 2 above) in the case of students transferring from a controlled integrated primary school, grant maintained integrated primary school, Irish Medium School and/or the preparatory department of a voluntary grammar school, the school will be asked to supply such information concerning the religious affiliation of the pupil. If the school is unable to or unwilling to supply the information, the Board of Governors will consider the pupil's religious affiliation category to be '**Other**'.
- B. The College seeks to preserve its co-educational nature. To that end, applications are welcomed equally from girls and boys.
- C. The College will also apply its admissions criteria in such a way as to preserve its all-ability nature and achieve a distribution of academic ability as close as possible to that in the population at large as measured by AQE and GL Assessment. To that end, applications will be considered in two stages:
- (i) Stage I, Grammar Stream Entry (35% of the intake, selected by reference to the GL Assessment result or AQE Assessment result);
- (ii) Stage II, All-Ability Entry (65% of the intake, selected with **no** reference to the GL Assessment or AQE Assessment).

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Section A

STAGE I GRAMMAR STREAM ENTRY

(Selection by GL Assessment Result or AQE Assessment Result)

(Selection with no reference to Religious Affiliation)

Criterion 1. Band Order

For the Academic Year 2023/2024 Lagan College will use academic criteria to select pupils for our Stage I Grammar Stream Entry.

The Board of Governors will consider applications from Primary 7 girls and boys who have taken the Entrance Assessments anywhere in Northern Ireland provided by the Association for Quality Education (AQE) or the GL Assessment.

Applicants will be allocated to a Band in the order stated below – all applicants allocated to Bands will be admitted in priority order of Band I, Band II, Band III, Band IV, Band V, Band VI and Band VII.

There is no requirement that an applicant should sit both the AQE and GL Entrance Assessments, however, in the case where an applicant has sat both Assessments, the Board of Governors will consider whichever outcome places the applicant in the higher Band.

AQE will provide parents with an age-adjusted standardised score for each applicant that has taken that Assessment in Northern Ireland in 2022. The College will use this standardised score as set out in the table below, and allocate pupils to a band accordingly.

Band Level	AQE Standardised Score
Band I	113 or above
Band II	106 – 112
Band III	103 – 105
Band IV	99 – 102
Band V	94 – 98
Band VI	88 – 93
Band VII	87 or below

GLA will provide the results to the entrance assessment to parents as a Standardised Aged Score, a Grade and a Cohort Percentile. The College will use the Cohort Percentile to allocate pupils to a Band as outlined in the table below:

Band Level	GLA Cohort Percentile
Band I	80 or above
Band II	60 – 79
Band III	50 – 59
Band IV	40 – 49
Band V	30 – 39
Band VI	20 – 29
Band VII	19 or below

or,

who, having been considered under the Section on Special Circumstances/Special Provisions are deemed by the admissions Sub-Committee on the basis of documentation provided by parents to have achieved an appropriate band equivalent.

Parent(s)/Carer(s) should upload the original AQE Assessment Result form and/or the original GLA Result form to the Transfer Form.

Selection within a Band Level

If there are more applicants holding the appropriate Band level than places available for Stage I Grammar Stream Entry (maximum of 35% of the intake), preference will be given at that Band level according to the following criteria in the order listed:

- 1 (a) applicants who have a brother(s) or sister(s) or half-brother or half-sister enrolled in the College by 1st February 2023, or formerly enrolled in the College;
- (b) applicants who are the only or eldest child in their family to transfer to a mainstream Post-Primary School. This must be verified by an accompanying Primary School letter.

In the case of multiple births, if one child meets the criteria sufficiently to be allocated a place, the other child/children will be considered as having a sibling at the College, i.e. criterion 1A. In the event of one child being displaced and the other child/children being admitted the Board of Governors reserve the right to apply the 1A category to all children of multiple birth in that family to ensure that all are admitted.

In the case of a newly formed integrated primary school, the Admissions Sub-Committee will also consider under this category the first child in the family to have been able to reach P7 since the school opened i.e. the eldest eligible child; (if this is not clearly stated on the transfer application, Lagan College's Board of Governors will presume that your child is "not the only child or eldest child in their family").

- (c) applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 1st February 2023;
- (d) all other applicants.

NB All information relevant to the above must be clearly stated by parents on the transfer application.

In the event of a tie occurring at any of the Stages 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, in the order set down, priority will be determined according to the following sub-criteria in the order set down:-

- I. Applicants who have placed Lagan College first on the transfer application.
- II. Applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 1st February 2023.
- III. Applicants enrolled at the closest grant maintained integrated primary school or closest controlled integrated primary school to Lagan College on 1st February 2023. The distance between the applicant's grant maintained integrated or controlled integrated primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- IV. Applicants with a parent or older brother or sister in the permanent employment of the Board of Governors of Lagan College, i.e. not less than ten hours per week, on 1st February 2023, or an applicant whose parent is a member of the Board of Governors on 1st February 2023.
- V. Applicants enrolled at the closest primary school to Lagan College on 1st February 2023. The distance between the applicant's primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- VI. If, after applying the previous criteria, in the order set down, there are more applications than spaces available, the unique random computerised number* (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order.

*Any reference in the criteria to the unique random computerised number refers to a list of unique random computerised numbers in the range of 1-1000, which is generated by a computerised programme "Randomizer.org" and verified by the College's Board of Governors by 31 October 2022, before the Transfer 2023 Process begins. A unique random computerised number will be added to each transfer application in the order of P7 applications received from the EA on their spreadsheet, from top to bottom.

*In the event that applications considered at Stage I Grammar Stream entry exceed the number of places available (35% of the intake), all applications which are not admitted at Stage I Grammar Stream entry will automatically be considered at Stage II All Ability entry.

Please refer to Special Circumstances and Special Provision Section (Section C)

Section B

STAGE II ALL-ABILITY ENTRY

(Selection with reference to Religious Affiliation)

(Selection with no reference to the GL Assessment or AQE Assessment)

The onus is on a parent or carer to make clear under which religious category they wish their child's application to be considered.

Applications will be considered at Stage II All-Ability entry **regardless** of whether the applicant did or did not sit the GL Assessment and/or the AQE Assessment.

Applicants will be given priority within the three perceived religious affiliation groups (Catholic, Protestant and Other religious affiliation or none) and considered in the order listed:

- 1 (a)** applicants who have a brother(s) or sister(s) or half-brother or half-sister enrolled in the College by 1st February 2023, or formerly enrolled in the College;
- (b)** applicants who are the only or eldest child in their family to transfer to a mainstream Post-Primary School. This must be verified by an accompanying Primary School letter.

In the case of multiple births, if one child meets the criteria sufficiently to be allocated a place, the other child/children will be considered as having a sibling at the College, i.e. criterion 1A. In the event of one child being displaced and the other child/children being admitted the Board of Governors reserve the right to apply the 1A category to all children of multiple birth in that family to ensure that all are admitted.

In the case of a newly formed integrated primary school, the Admissions Sub-Committee will also consider under this category the first child in the family to have been able to reach P7 since the school opened i.e. the eldest eligible child; (if this is not clearly stated on the transfer application, Lagan College's Board of Governors will presume that your child is "not the only child or eldest child in their family").

- (c)** applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 1st February 2023;
- (d)** all other applicants.

NB All information relevant to the above must be clearly stated by parents on the transfer application.

In the event of a tie occurring at any of the Stages 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, in the order set down, priority will be determined according to the following sub-criteria in the order set down:-

- I. Applicants who have placed Lagan College first on the transfer application.
- II. Applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 1st February 2023.
- III. Applicants enrolled at the closest grant maintained integrated primary school or closest controlled integrated primary school to Lagan College on 1st February 2023. The distance between the applicant's grant maintained integrated or controlled integrated primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).

- IV. Applicants with a parent or older brother or sister in the permanent employment of the Board of Governors of Lagan College, i.e. not less than ten hours per week, on 1st February 2023, or an applicant whose parent is a member of the Board of Governors on 1st February 2023.
- V. Applicants enrolled at the closest primary school to Lagan College on 1st February 2023. The distance between the applicant's primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- VI. If, after applying the previous criteria, in the order set down, there are more applications than spaces available, the unique random computerised number* (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order.

*Any reference in the criteria to the unique random computerised number refers to a list of unique random computerised numbers in the range of 1-1000, which is generated by a computerised programme "Randomizer.org" and verified by the College's Board of Governors by 31 October 2022, before the Transfer 2023 Process begins. A unique random computerised number will be added to each transfer application in the order of P7 applications received from the EA on their spreadsheet, from top to bottom.

Section C

Special Circumstances and Special Provision

Related to Stage 1 (Grammar Stream Entry Applications only)

In applying their admissions criteria to the Stage I Grammar Stream Entry, the admissions Sub-Committee of the Board of Governors will take claims of Special Circumstances and Special Provision into consideration before the application of the criteria set out in Section A.

Special Circumstances

The Admissions Sub-Committee will admit students strictly in the order of the Band level they obtain in either the GL Assessment or the AQE Assessment, subject only to the consideration of medical or other problems which may have affected performance in the Assessment(s) and which are supported by documentary evidence of a medical or other appropriate nature. These 'medical or other problems' are commonly referred to as "**Special Circumstances**".

Sufficient documentary evidence must be provided by the parent/carers. In addition to medical or other appropriate evidence all the applicant's standardised English and Maths scores at Key Stage 2 (preferably P7 scores) should be submitted and this information should be uploaded to the applicant's Transfer Form. These scores must be obtained from your son/daughter's Primary School and **verified and signed by their Primary School Principal.**

If you feel that your child's performance in the GL Assessment or AQE Assessment has been affected by a medical or other problem you should do one or both of the following:

- GL Assessment - make a claim directly to the Assessment Centre on Form SCR by 2.00pm on Wednesday 14th December 2022 and follow GL Assessment guidance in relation to the Transfer Form.
- AQE Assessment: - you should obtain the form SC23 from AQE and upload it with supporting evidence to the Transfer Form.

Having considered applications for Special Circumstances, a decision will be taken by the Sub-Committee as to the Band level within which the Applicant will be placed. Criteria as outlined in Section A will then be applied as necessary.

A copy of the Special Circumstances Form(s) should be uploaded to the Transfer Application by the parent/carers.

Special Provision for Grammar Stream Entry for Stage I

Special Provision will be made by the Board of Governors Sub-Committee for children:

Moving or recently moved to Northern Ireland:

- a. whose parents/carers wish them to transfer to post-primary schools from schools outside Northern Ireland.
- b. who have received more than half of their primary education outside Northern Ireland.
- c. whose educational provision has been negatively affected by serious medical or other problems which is supported by independent verifiable documentary evidence and who have not taken either the GL Entrance Assessment or the AQE Assessment.

Applicants in categories a and b above, who wish to apply under Special Provision do not need to take either the GL Entrance Assessment, the GL Supplementary Assessment or the AQE Assessment unless their parents/carers so wish, in which case the result(s) obtained would also be considered.

The Admissions Sub-Committee may require an assessment of an applicant's abilities to be carried out by a suitably qualified person or body approved by Lagan College.

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide precise reasons why the applicant did not take part in the GL Entrance Assessment, the GL Supplementary Assessment or the AQE Assessment and to submit appropriate documentary evidence to the Transfer Form.

For those applicants currently in P7 in Primary Schools in Northern Ireland, claims for Special Provision should be made on Lagan College's Special Provision Form SP1 and uploaded to the EA Transfer Form. The SP1 Form is available from the College's website. Parents/carers wishing to claim Special Provision should also forward a completed copy of Form SP1 directly to the College by 4 pm on Thursday 9th March 2023.

The Admissions Sub-Committee will consider each application for Special Provision. Where this is granted, the Admissions Sub-Committee will determine, on the basis of the information available, an appropriate Band equivalent for the applicant. Such applicants will then be considered with all other applicants. Criteria as outlined in Section A – Stage I Grammar Stream Entry, will then be applied as necessary.

A copy of the Special Provision Form should be uploaded to the Transfer Form by the parent/carer.

Relevant Information

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that all accurate and relevant information is received by Lagan College by the closing date. **Failure to include all accurate and relevant information may prejudice the chance of a student being admitted.**

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors Admissions Sub-Committee reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any applicant's transfer application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors Admissions Sub-Committee by 31st August 2023, 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.

Year 8 Waiting List Policy

Education Authority Transfer Process – 31 August 2023

Any student that has initially not gained a place during the transfer process will automatically be moved on to the college's waiting list for Year 8 only. In the event of a vacancy arising, the above admissions criteria will continue to be applied in the order set down above.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Academic Year	Approved Admissions No	Total Applications <i>i.e.</i> <i>All preferences</i>	Total Admissions
2020/21	211	518	213*
2021/22	211	442	212*
2022/23	220	468	222*

* Additional ECB Admissions

Criteria for entry into Year 9 onwards

Available on request from the school and published on our school website.