

St Catherine's Primary School
2 Newtownkennedy Street
Strabane
BT82 8HT

Maintained Primary School

Enrolment No: 406
Admissions No: 58

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PRINCIPAL: Mrs B Wilders
CHAIR OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Mrs B Allen

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

The Admissions Criteria will be applied by the Board of Governors.

The Board of Governors of St Catherine's Primary School have determined that the following criteria be applied to children who have attained compulsory school age and/or who deferred school seeking admission to Year 1 in September. Priority shall be given to children resident in Northern Ireland.

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 application form. Parents/Guardians should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is clearly stated on the application form or attached to it.

NB: Children of the family includes sister/brother, half-sister/half-brother, adopted or foster sister/brother living at the same address.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – YEAR 1

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 9 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 26 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 26 January 2024 and up to 4 pm on 31 January 2024 will be treated as a late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances. After 4 pm on 31 January 2024 no applications will be processed until after the close of procedure on 25 April 2024.

Priority will be given to children who will have attained compulsory school age at the time of their proposed admission, including those children whose parents deferred their admission to primary school in September 2023 as defined by the new School Age (NI) Act (both groups to be treated equally).

Priority will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school before those who are not so resident.

Admissions criteria will be applied as below;

- 1 Children who have a child/children of the family currently enrolled in St Catherine's Nursery or Primary School.
- 2 A child who is the eldest child or only child in the family.
- 3 Children who normally reside in the Parish of Camus.
- 4 Children who normally reside in the East Ward of Strabane.
- 5 Children who normally reside in the North, South and West Wards of Strabane (on an equal basis).
- 6 Other children of compulsory school age / deferred school age. In the event of two or more identical dates of birth, selection will be made using the random alphabetical tie breaker as listed below.

Admissions criteria for entry September 2024

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion which can be applied then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as per the birth certificate, in the order set out below, this having been determined by a randomised selection:-

Mc O' K Mac I V Q U T R P L F B S M N Y E G A X D H J C O Z W

The order was determined by randomized selection of letters. In the event of surnames beginning with the same 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 as per the birth certificate will be used.

If a place is offered on the basis of incorrect or misleading information then the Board of Governors may withdraw the offer. All criteria will apply at the closing date of the application.

If parents/guardians have any difficulty in completing the Application Form they should consult the Principal of the school.

YEAR 1 ADMISSIONS – AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Children who apply to enter the school during the academic year will be considered using the same criteria as for Year 1.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that they will be required to produce documents verifying their address. All applications should provide any two of the following four documents;

- A bank or building society statement which shows the address at which the child is resident;
- A utility bill (for instance electricity, gas, Television Licence, telephone) which shows the address at which the child is resident;
- A letter awarding Child Benefit to the child or another letter relating to this benefit;
- The child's Medical Card.

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

The school's policy on the consideration of applications after the Open Enrolment Admissions procedure concludes, is available directly from the school. Should a vacancy arise, the above criteria will be applied to select pupils from our waiting list.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – YEARS 2-7

The Board of Governors have established the following criteria for pupils in Years 2 -7. Children will be admitted subject to the enrolment number not being exceeded, nor, in the opinion of the Board of Governors that the admission would not prejudice the efficient use of the school's resources. If there is over-subscription then the criteria for Year 1 will be applied.

| Applications and Admissions to Primary 1 | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Year | Total Applications | Total Admissions |
| 2021/2022 | 62 | 62 |
| 2022/2023 | 57 | 57 |
| 2023/2024 | 57 | 54 |