

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA
ADMISSION TO YEAR 11 (2015-2016)

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 Discipline 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 2015 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, based on the academic evidence from the children's March/April 2015 examinations taken whilst attending Lurgan Junior High School (LJHS) or on the basis of the last school report received by the child/children from another transferring school. Those children with a better academic achievement will achieve a higher place in the rank order than children with lesser academic achievement. **It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure that the School is provided with the necessary information about their child's performance in the said examinations as given to them by LJHS or, where relevant, the last school report received by their child from another transferring school. This information/report must be provided to the School not later than 22 April 2015.**

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:

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.

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

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 by **24 April 2015**.

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 serious medical or other problems, 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 by **24 April 2015**.

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 request an assessment of the child's abilities to be carried out by a 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 judgment 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.