SLEMISH COLLEGE **Larne Road** **Ballymena BT42 3HA** **Telephone:** (028) 25630156 **Fax:**(028) 25632944 **E-Mail:** info@slemish.ballymena.ni.sch.uk **Web:** www.slemishcollege.org.uk **Principal:** Mr M. Bennett BSc(Hons) PQHNI **Chairperson of Governors:** Mrs J Jervis BSc(Hons)	**Maintained Integrated School** **Age range of pupils:** 11-18 **Admission Number:** 140 **Enrolment Number:** 830

> **Due to the latest DENI guidance there will be no Open Nights –promotional films will be released in January 2021**

SLEMISH COLLEGE – 2021/22 ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 8

The Board of Governors seeks to affirm the all-ability nature of the College, ensuring that each year group caters for all students, including the most academically able and those students requiring additional support for their learning. Slemish College is an integrated school, Christian in ethos, and our students represent all faiths and all abilities. Students of Protestant and Catholic backgrounds, all other faiths, and none are not only welcome at Slemish College but they also enrich the highly successful school that Slemish College has become. Our admissions criteria, with Grammar Pathway, means that as a school we can provide both Grammar and All-ability options, all under one roof. **We are truly a school for all the family**. Grammar Entry is available for a maximum of 35% of the intake and All ability Pathway 65%.

Slemish College has been directed to select for admission, children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission before any child not so resident may be selected for admission.

The criteria have been determined by the Board of Governors and will be applied by the College's Admissions Committee who have been delegated by the Board of Governors to apply these criteria. Through the application of the criteria, the Board of Governors seeks to establish an overall balance between religious affiliations. Our aim is to effect an intake which is as close as possible to the ratio of 40% Catholic, 40% Protestant and 20% of applicants of other faiths, or none, ('Other' category).This is the pre-eminent feature which distinguishes an Integrated school from all other schools. The College also wishes to meet the requirement for integrated schools to cater for students of all abilities through academic and all ability entry.

SLEMISH COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 8 for SEPTEMBER 2021

Parents naming Slemish College as a preference on their applicant's transfer application must include the following information on the transfer application.

A Statement of the preferred **religious affiliation** of the applicant, either:
- **Protestant**
- **Catholic**
- **Other**

In the event that the category is not clearly stated by the inclusion of the wording of **'Catholic'**, **'Protestant'** or **'Other'**, or where more than one category may be applicable, the Board of Governors will regard applicants from Catholic Maintained Schools as **'Catholic'** applicants and applicants from Controlled schools as **'Protestant'**. If the applicant has not attended a Controlled, or Catholic Maintained Primary school and the parent has not clearly and unambiguously stated the category, then the Board of Governors will regard the child as being in the **'Other'** category.

35% of places (49) are available for parents wishing to apply for the Grammar Pathway for their child. 65% of places (91) are available for students accessing the All Ability Pathway. Parents of children wishing to be considered for Grammar Pathway must clearly indicate this on the transfer application.

In the event that there are more pupils for admission than there are places available, the Board of Governors has determined that the following criteria shall be applied.

1. **Grammar Stream Entry.** This is available for a maximum of **35%** of the intake. Parents of academically able children may opt for Grammar Entry **and should clearly indicate this on the Transfer application uploading evidence* that shows that the child may be suited for an academic pathway*.** Academic evidence* provided, is simply an indicator of the pupil's academic profile and is used to inform learning and teaching, curriculum planning, timetabling and resourcing.If the number of applicants for Grammar Entry exceeds the number of places available, the criteria listed below will be used to determine a rank order of applicants for Criterion 1. Those applying for Grammar entry and who are not admitted under criterion 1, will automatically be considered for the All-ability pathway, with all other applicants, using the remaining criteria, 2 – 6.

2. **Applicants who have a 'child of the family'**currently enrolled at the College.**
   Criterion 2 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place, however if Criterion 2 is oversubscribed, the unique random computerised number (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order. If not all the places have been filled, Criterion 3 will then be applied for the remaining places.

3. **Applicants who are the 'eldest child'*** currently in compulsory education, who have had a 'child of the family'** previously attend Slemish College at least until the completion of Key Stage 4.**
   Criterion 3 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place, however if Criterion 3 is oversubscribed, the unique random computerised number (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order. If not all the places have been filled, Criterion 4 will then be applied for the remaining places.

4. **Applicants who are the 'eldest child'***.**
   Criterion 4 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place, however if Criterion 4 is oversubscribed, the unique random computerised number (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order. If not all the places have been filled, Criterion 5 will then be applied for the remaining places.

5. **Applicants who are currently enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school, or controlled integrated primary school, and have attended a grant maintained primary school, or controlled integrated primary school for all of Key Stage 2.**
   Criterion 5 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place, however if Criterion 5 is oversubscribed, the unique random computerised number (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order. If not all the places have been filled, Criterion 6 will then be applied for the remaining places.

6. **All other applicants**
   Criterion 6 will be applied and eligible applicants awarded a place, however if Criterion 6 is oversubscribed, the unique random computerised number (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order.

---

* **Academic evidence** is chosen by the parents, and could be, for example: any standardised test results, e.g. PTE/PTM/CAT; a school report; or equivalent supporting evidence. Whilst the evidence indicates a child's suitability to follow a grammar pathway, it is criteria 2 -6 that will be used to allocate 35% of places for grammar entry. This is because the Transfer Assessments have been cancelled this year and so we will not be using any academic entry criteria to determine admission to the school this year but it is the College's intention to apply academic criteria in 2022/23.

'Child of the family'** – Article 2(2) of the Domestic Proceedings (NI) Order 1980: 'Child of the family' in relation to the parties to a marriage or parties living together in the same household means:
- A child of both of them; and
- Any other child who has been treated by both of those parties as a 'child of their family'.
'Child of the family' covers:

- A child born to a married couple;
- A child born to a co-habiting couple;
- A child of either of those people by a previous marriage or relationship;
- A child living with same sex partners whether there is a civil partnership under the Civil Partnership Act 2014 or not;
- An adopted or fostered child;
- A situation where, for example, an orphaned cousin is being brought up within a family.
- The child should be a child of the family at the date of the application since these complex living arrangements may change rapidly

*** **'Eldest child'** is defined as 'children who, at the date of the application, are the eldest child of the family.' This wording covers 'only' children and is also intended to treat twins (or other multiples) as joint eldest.

The Board of Governors wish for this criterion to cover other circumstances where a family has not had the opportunity to have an elder child enrolled, e.g. cases where a family has moved residence into the area; or cases where an older sibling cannot attend mainstream school, for example attends a special school.

NB. All information relevant to the above must be clearly stated by the parents according to the requirements of the Transfer Procedure conducted through the Education Authority.

Parents should ensure that all relevant information is included on, or attached to, the Official Transfer Application as additional information which is subsequently received will only be considered in the event of a place becoming available after the issue of the initial placement letters.

Verification of all Information
The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on the Transfer Application or appended to the Transfer Application by parents. For verification purposes original documents are required and not facsimiles or photocopies. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide any requested verifying documents within the deadline set by the College will result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the College to offer a place.

It is the responsibility of the Parents to ensure that:
- The Transfer Application and other necessary documentation is correctly completed.
- Any required verification documents are provided within specified deadlines

ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8 AFTER 1 SEPTEMBER 2021
Parents who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after 1 September 2021 should write to the Principal clearly stating this.

In the event of such application, the Board of Governors will only make an offer if there is a place available. Should there be more applications than places available, the procedure outlined in the College policy 'Admissions to Slemish College Outside Normal Transfer Processes (Years 8 – 12)' will be applied.

Number of Applications and Admissions

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2018/19	140	224	145
2019/20	140	270	145
2020/21	140	232	142

This table does not include children who were admitted to the school with a statement of special educational needs.