



Transfer Information Evening

8th May 2017

**Mr Jonathan Wylie
Principal**



Common Entrance Assessment (CEA)

- 34 grammar schools use the AQE Ltd test (CEA).
- Based on the Key Stage 2 curriculum
- English & Maths (no Science)
- Three 1 hour papers (best two count)
- Test dates: 11th & 25th November & 2nd December 2017
- Taken in one of the 34 AQE schools – not necessarily the one to which application will be made
- A modest charge (£48 but fee waived if child entitled to FSM)



Timetable – May-Dec 17 (1)

- **Registration 2nd May – 8th September 2017**
- Application forms available from AQE website or participating grammar schools (& may be available from primary schools)
- Guidance notes available – LGS will provide assistance to anyone who needs it;
- Application forms (inc. application for access arrangements) returned to AQE;



Timetable - May-Dec 17 (2)

- AQE processes application forms, confirms test centre and sends out candidate examination number;
- Saturday 21st October – Familiarisation day for applicants.
- Tests – 11th & 25th Nov & 2nd Dec
- Marking & collating of tests by AQE



Timetable – Dec 17-Feb 18

- The Board of Governors of each school determines the admissions criteria and it will be published prior to Christmas 2017.
- Results (Age-Standardised scores) sent to parents & to schools (to arrive on 27th January 2018).



Timetable – Feb 18

- Most primary schools will facilitate a transfer interview in order to provide guidance to parents on completing the Transfer Form (although DE has removed funding for these interviews).
- Transfer form completed & forwarded (along with any application for Special Circumstances) to relevant educational authority



Timetable – Mar-May 18

- Post-primary schools receive forms and apply published criteria
- Parents informed of schools allocated



Criteria for Entry

1. Rank order of the Common Entrance Assessment (CEA) Score.
2. *Sister/Brother of a present pupil.*
3. *Eldest or Only child in the family*
4. *Random tie-breaker.*

**Special Circumstances
and
Special Provisions**



Timetable – May-June 18

- If a parent thinks that a school has refused to admit a child because it did not apply its admission criteria correctly, an appeal can be made to an Appeal Tribunal.



Access Arrangements

- Registration form contains a section in which parents may apply for access arrangements to facilitate a candidate to undertake the CEA. A second form (ACC 17) will then be issued to those parents.
- An AQE Access Panel will meet to make decisions on all applications for access arrangements.
- Examples of arrangements that may be made include
 - extra time
 - enlarged test booklet
 - bi-lingual dictionary
 - specific test venue



Special Circumstances

- Any parent who feels that their son/daughter under-achieved due to circumstances beyond his or her control may make a claim.
- Form SC17 obtained from the AQE office, AQE website or any AQE school after the assessment.
- Completed Form SC17 and any accompanying evidence should be brought to the Transfer interview with the Primary Principal and attached to the back of the Transfer Form.
- Each school will consider claims and decide on the validity of each case.



Other considerations

- Statemented pupils – do not have to sit the CEA. They will continue to be assessed by the Education Authority.
- Pupils who miss all the CEAs – application made to schools under Special Provisions
- Pupils arriving in NI post CEAs - application made to schools under Special Provisions
- Irish language version of the CEA will be available.