

A. ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY OF PUPILS TO YEAR 8 (FORM 1) IN SEPTEMBER 2021

TO PARENTS / GUARDIANS naming Larne Grammar School (hereinafter referred to as ‘the School’) as a preference on your child’s Online Transfer Application

The Board of Governors of Larne Grammar School remains firmly committed to academic selection as a method of entry to the School. In this unprecedented year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of the Common Entrance Assessment administered by the Association for Quality Education (AQE), alternative criteria outlined below have been adopted. **These contingency admissions criteria will apply for the September 2021 intake only.**

Special Provisions

Parents/guardians making a claim for their child to be considered under Special Provisions should read carefully the information given in the relevant section below. Parents/guardians who wish to apply to the school under Special Provisions should complete Form SP20, obtainable from the School, stating the precise reason why they believe their child is eligible for consideration under Special Provisions and upload it, with appropriate evidence, to the online Transfer Application.

Please note that parents/guardians are required to upload with the online application all such material as they consider will assist the Admissions Committee in determining if Special Provisions apply.

General

- 1.1 The Board of Governors delegates the selection of pupils for admission to the School Admissions Committee, consisting of at least three members of the Board of Governors, the Principal (or his appointed Deputy) and one other member of the School’s Senior Leadership Team.
 - 1.2 **The Board of Governors of the School will not use as a criterion the position of preference given to the School on the Transfer Application, i.e. a child who has chosen Larne Grammar School in any position on the online Transfer Application will be considered equally with those who have put the School first.**
 - 1.3 It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to make sure that all relevant information is made available to the School either on or uploaded with the online Transfer Application. **When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or uploaded with the online Transfer Application. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school’s admissions criteria is stated on the online Transfer Application or uploaded with it.** Parents should note that the information contained within an application that qualifies the child for admission will require verification. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines as set by the School can result in the withdrawal of a place.
 - 1.4 Where applicable, ‘sibling’ is defined as another child of the family [Article 2(2) of the Domestic Proceedings (NI) Order 1980], to include: adopted/fostered children, half-brothers and sisters and orphaned cousins being brought up with a family.
 - 1.5 Where applicable, ‘Eldest Child of the Family’ will be defined as children who at the date of their application, are the eldest child of the family to be eligible to apply for admission to the school. This will include:
 - twins (or other multiples), who will be treated as joint eldest;
 - children who are more than seven years younger than their next sibling;
 - children who are the eldest child of the family eligible to transfer to a mainstream post-primary school;
 - children who have moved to reside within the Mid and East Antrim Borough Council or Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council areas, in the current academic year, and so are the eldest child eligible to attend Larne Grammar School.Parents/guardians should provide relevant information should they believe their child falls within one of these categories, either on or uploaded with the online Transfer Application.
- 2 If the School is over-subscribed, the following criteria for entry will apply, in the order stated:**
- 2.1 The Board of Governors will consider children who are resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the School before those who are not.
 - 2.2 The Board of Governors will then consider children who registered and remained registered to sit the 2020/21 Common Entrance Assessment (“CEA”) administered by the Association for Quality Education (“AQE”), subject only to the consideration of those children whose parents/guardians are claiming Special Provisions as defined below.
The AQE candidate number must be entered on the online application and, if available, the AQE Registration Letter or the AQE Examination Card should be uploaded with the online Transfer Application.

2.3 If, following the application of Criterion 2.2, the School is still over-subscribed, then the places will be allocated using the following criteria, in the order stated:

- i children who have a sibling currently enrolled or accepted for admission in the School [state name(s) and Tutor Group(s)] (see 1.4);
- ii children who are the eldest child of the family to transfer to a Post-Primary School (see 1.5);
- iii children who, at the date of their application, reside within the Mid and East Antrim Borough Council or Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council areas;
- iv children enrolled, at the time of application, in one of the following primary schools (listed alphabetically):

Ballycarry	Islandmagee	St. MacNissi's (Larne)
Ballyclare	Larne & Inver	St. Nicholas' (Carrickfergus)
Ballynure	Linn	Toreagh
Cairncastle	Mossley	Whitehead
Corran Integrated	Moyle	Woodburn
Fairview	Olderfleet	
Glynn	St. Anthony's (Larne)	

- v children enrolled, at the time of application, in one of the following primary schools (listed alphabetically):

Acorn Integrated	Kilbride Central	St. John's (Carnlough)
Carnalbanagh	Mossgrove	Straid
Carnmoney	Oakfield	Tildarg
Carrickfergus Central	Our Lady of Lourdes	Victoria
Carrickfergus Model	Parkgate	Whitehouse
Doagh	Seaview (Glenarm)	Woodlawn
Greenisland	Silverstream	

- vi If, following the application of the above criteria, the number of applicants still exceeds the number of available places (110), applicants will be ranked for acceptance on the basis of a computer-based process which will make use of the names of applicants as shown on their online Transfer Application.

The process is carried out by means of a computer program which, for each applicant, generates a ranking number using the details from the online Transfer Application as the seed for a random number generator. The outcome, for any given applicant, is dependent only on the applicant's name (as shown on the online Transfer Application), and is not affected by the details of any other applicant. Although the process is repeatable, and the results may therefore be subsequently verified, it is not possible to predict, in advance of running the program, what the result will be for any given set of details. Applicants with the lowest ranking numbers will be given places up to the number of places available. Further details may be obtained from the Principal.

3. **If there are still places available after consideration of all the children who have registered to sit the 2020/21 AQE CEA, and remained registered at the date the test was due to take place, the School Admissions Committee will consider for admission any children who do not qualify for consideration under Criterion 2.2. These children will be allocated to the remaining places up to the School's Admission Number using the criteria outlined above in 2.3 in the order set out.**

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Special Provisions will apply to children who fall into any one of the following categories and who, as a consequence, have NOT made an application to sit the AQE Common Entrance Assessment:

- (a) Children whose parents/guardians wish them to transfer from schools outside Northern Ireland;
- (b) Children who moved to Northern Ireland after the conclusion of the AQE registration process (i.e. after 9 October 2020);
- (c) Children who have received more than half their primary education outside Northern Ireland.

Parents/guardians who wish to apply to the School under Special Provisions should complete Form SP20 obtainable from the School, stating the precise reason why they believe the child is eligible for consideration under Special Provisions and upload it, with appropriate evidence, with the online Transfer Application. Parents/guardians who are applying for Special Provisions under category (a) must do so by 4pm on 12 April 2021.

In each case, it will be the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide the Admissions Committee with evidence which supports the claim for Special Provisions.

The School Admissions Committee will consider the application for Special Provisions before the application of any of the Admissions Criteria. Where Special Provisions is granted, the child will be included under Criterion 2.2 of the Admissions Criteria.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Parents/Guardians should note that the information contained within an application that qualifies the child for admission will be verified.

The Board of Governors, therefore, reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any online Transfer Application.

This information will be requested from successful children shortly after they have been notified of their allocation of a place at the School.

Parents should also note the provision of false information or incorrect information or the failure to provide verifying documents according to the required deadline may result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the school to offer a place.

B. ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY OF PUPILS TO YEAR 8 (FORM 1) FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE TRANSFER PROCEDURE

The school's policy on the consideration of applications after the Transfer Procedure concludes in June 2021 is available directly from the school or can be accessed on the school website at www.larnegrammar.org.uk.

Should a vacancy arise after the completion of the Transfer Procedure in June 2021 all applications for admission to Year 8 that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the published criteria applied. This waiting list will be in place until 30 June of the year following application.

The School will contact parents/guardians in writing if their child gains a place in the School by this method.

The names of all applicants will be automatically added to the list. Parents/guardians should contact the School if they wish for their child's name to be removed from the list.

If the application is made by a child who arrived in Northern Ireland after the transfer process has been concluded and the School Admissions Committee determines that the child is suitable to be admitted, the School will then seek Department of Education approval to admit the child as an additional place. If such approval is given, the child will be admitted.

Applications and Admissions

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admission
2018/19	110	137	110
2019/20	110	145	110
2020/21	110	113	110

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