

ST MARY'S CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Principal: Mrs Siobhan Kelly BA, M.ED, PQH (NI)
Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mr Sean Mahon

**Voluntary Grammar School
Boys' Grammar**

Age Range: 11-18

Admissions No: 175

Enrolment No: 1180

OPEN EVENINGS

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we are unable to showcase the School through our usual Open Nights. A video, prospectus and information pack are available on our school website, www.stmaryscbgs.com

To Parents/Guardians/Carers naming St Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School as a preference on their child's Transfer form/ Application or its equivalent.

Entrance Assessment

Under normal circumstances, St Mary's will give preference to, those applicants awarded a **grade** by GL in completing the GL Entrance Assessment or the Supplementary GL Entrance Assessment. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and following Public Health restrictions, the GL Entrance Assessment and Supplementary GL Entrance Assessment have been cancelled this year. Consequently, our normal entrance criteria have been amended to reflect this.

COVID-19 Disruption Preventing GL Entrance Assessment Taking Place

As the GL Entrance Assessment planned for Saturday 30th January 2021 and the Supplementary Assessment on Saturday 6th February 2021 have been cancelled, parents/guardians/carers whose children have been registered to sit the GL Entrance Assessment in any of Post Primary Transfer Consortium schools, and who wish to apply for a Year 8 place in St Mary's should apply through the normal post primary admissions process as set out by the Education Authority.

Information on grades and admissions in the last three years may be accessed in the School's Prospectus. All pupils are asked to pay a Voluntary Contribution (currently £60 per annum).

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

The Board of Governors draws up the admissions criteria and delegates to an Admissions Committee, which includes the Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference herein to the term the 'Board of Governors' includes any Committee or Sub-Committee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admission criteria set out herein.

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

NOTE: IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER OF A PROSPECTIVE PUPIL TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS SUBMITTED, EITHER ON THE ONLINE TRANSFER FORM/APPLICATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT, ALL THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO ENABLE THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO APPLY THE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA OF THE SCHOOL TO THE APPLICATION OF THE PROSPECTIVE PUPIL. ONLY EVIDENCE SUBMITTED EITHER ON THE TRANSFER APPLICATION OR UPLOAD/ATTACH TO THE ONLINE TRANSFER FORM/APPLICATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT OR ATTACHED/UPLOADED WITH THAT FORM AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION TO THE SCHOOL FOR ADMISSION SHALL BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS IN THE ALLOCATION OF A PLACE TO THE APPLICANT.

St Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School will initially consider only those applicants who have registered to take the GL Entrance Assessment. A copy of the GL Registration Card must be attached/uploaded to the Online Transfer Form/Application or its equivalent.

The Board of Governors will not use as a criterion the position of preference given to the School on the Transfer Application i.e. an applicant who has chosen St Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School in any position on the Transfer Application will be considered equally with those who have put St Mary's first.

ALLOCATION OF PLACES

All pupil's resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to St Mary's will be selected for admission before any pupil not so resident.

In order to determine which pupils will be accepted into Year 8 the following criteria will be applied in the order set down:

- 1 Priority will be given to those applicants **who registered to take the GL Assessment. A copy of the GL Registration Card must be uploaded to the On-line Transfer Application.**
- 2 In event of the number of applications exceeding the school's admissions number, the following criteria will be applied in the order stated below:
 - (a) Boys who have a son of the family (i.e. a brother) currently enrolled in St Mary's **(The name of the child of the family and his year group are required on the Transfer Application).**
 - (b) A boy who is the eldest son in the family or the eldest child at the date of application, eligible to transfer to St Mary's, or the only child. **The parents/guardians must provide evidence stating that the son is the eldest and that the son and family are known for at least two years to the verifier of such evidence. It must be written on headed notepaper and signed by a verifier who is not a member of the applicant's family. Examples of this might include a medical practitioner, a solicitor, a Priest/Minister of Religion or a Primary School Principal. This criterion will treat twins or other multiples as joint eldest.**
 - (c) Boys who have a female child of the family currently enrolled in St Dominic's High School Belfast. **(The name of the child of the family and her year group are required on the Transfer Application.)**
 - (d) Boys transferring from Primary Schools under the ERST trusteeship, or formerly under the Trusteeship of the Christian Brothers.
 - (e) Boys transferring from our listed feeder schools:
Ballymacward, Ballymacrickett, Bunscoil Bheann Mhadagain, Bunscoil Phobal Feirste, Bunscoil an tSleibhe Dhuibh, Christ the Redeemer, Cranmore, Good Shepherd, Gaelscoil na bhFal, Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach, Gaelscoil na Móna, Hazelwood, Holy Child, Holy Cross, Holy Evangelists, Holy Family, Holy Rosary, Holy Trinity, Oakwood, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Our Lady of Lourdes, Scoil na Faiseoige, John Paul II, Sacred Heart Primary School, St. Aloysius, St. Anne's, St. Bernard's, St. Bride's, St. Clare's, St. Colman's (Lambeg), St. John the Baptist, St. Joseph's (Slate Street), St. Joseph's (Carryduff), St. Joseph's (Lisburn), St. Joseph's (Crumlin), St. Ita's, St. Kevin's, St. Kieran's, St MacNissi's, St. Malachy's, St. Mary's (Divis Street), St Mary's- on-the-Hill, St. Matthew's, St. Michael's, St. Oliver Plunkett, St. Paul's, St. Peter's, St. Teresa's, St. Therese of Lisieux, St Vincent de Paul, Scoil an Droichid.
 - (f) Should there be over-subscription at the last criterion that can be applied, selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as identified on the online Transfer Form/Application received from the Education Authority.

The order was determined by a randomised selection witnessed by a Governor and the Principal before all first preference applicants are considered.

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order using the randomised selection. In the event of two or more identical surnames the alphabetical (randomised) order of the initials of the forenames will be used. Where names cannot be separated by this process, children will be accepted by date of birth with preference given to the oldest.

Please Note:

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or upload/attach to the on-line Transfer Application. Parents should ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Application or uploaded with the Transfer Application.

DUTY TO VERIFY

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

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 POLICY

Should a vacancy arise after the transfer results are published, all applications for admission to Year 8 that were initially refused will make up the waiting list. We will accept additional information not received at the time of the transfer process. We will also accept new applications from pupils who did not initially apply through the Transfer process. The published criteria above will be applied. This waiting list will be in place until 31st October 2021. The school will contact parents/guardians by telephone if the child gains a place in the school by this method.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications <i>ie. All preferences</i>	Total Admissions
2018/19	175	285	176*
2019/20	175	233	176*
2020/21	175	241	176*

*includes pupils who won their Appeal Tribunal

Criteria for Years 9 and onwards: Available on request from the school or can be viewed on the school website.