

THE WALLACE HIGH SCHOOL

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Lisburn

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Principal: Deborah O'Hare BA PGCE MEd PQH

Chairperson Board of Governors: Mrs S McCabe

Voluntary Grammar School

Age Range: 11-18

Admissions No: 170

Enrolment No: 1160

OPEN DAY INFORMATION

Prospective parents and pupils are warmly invited to visit www.wallacehigh.org from 9.00am on 27 February 2021 to engage with our virtual Open Morning, videos, presentations and prospectus.

To Parents/Guardians naming The Wallace High School as a preference on your child's Transfer Application.

Verification of AQE registration

Please ensure that you attach or upload a readable scanned version of the original AQE registration letter to your child's online application form. This contains your child's name and candidate number.

Verification of non-Academic Stage 2 criteria

Please ensure that the child's birth certificate is uploaded to the online application to allow for verification of name and date of birth.

Please ensure that where reference is made to another child of the family who is currently a pupil or an ex-pupil, his/her name should be included on the online application with, if relevant, the current year group, class set or in the case of an ex-pupil, the year the pupil left.

Please ensure that where reference is made to a parent who is a past pupil of the school, his/her name should be included on the online application with the name of the parent at that time, and the years during which he/she was enrolled in Wallace.

Special Provision

If you are making a claim for your child to be considered under Special Provision, please note that you are required to attach or upload to the online application the information required by the School as referred to in the Admissions Criteria as "Special Provisions."

FEES

As the School is a voluntary grammar school, a mandatory capital fee of £140 per child per annum is currently charged. This is reduced to £70 for the third and subsequent children in a family. This money is used to help finance new school buildings and equipment. Parents are asked to make an additional voluntary contribution of between £80 and £250 per child to support whole school initiatives and general upkeep of the buildings and grounds. The school's "Charges and Remissions Policy" outlines optional extras of which parents may avail for their children. It can be found at www.wallacehigh.org.

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

Selection of the intake for Year 8 has been delegated by the Board of Governors to an Admissions Committee appointed by the Board of Governors.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 8 2021

The School is a co-educational, non-denominational, Voluntary Grammar School. The School's enrolment number is 1160 and its admissions number is 170. For transfer to Year 8 the Admissions Committee of the Board of Governors will consider those children who have registered for the Common Entrance Assessment provided by the Association for Quality Education "AQE CEA" because, under "normal circumstances", the school uses the standardised score for the purposes of admission and the tests were cancelled during the academic year due to the "Covid-19 Reason". (The only exemption to this is for those children whose cases qualify as special provisions as defined below.)

In these criteria:

- "AQE" means the Association for Quality Education Limited.
- "AQE CEA" means the Common Entrance Assessment conducted by AQE in January 2021 from which a standardised score is obtained for each child who sits the AQE CEA.
- "Normal circumstances" means circumstances in which the AQE CEA goes ahead and a standardised score is awarded by AQE.
- "Covid-19 Reason" means the cancellation of the AQE CEA or such disruption to AQE CEA that AQE cannot provide any candidate with a standardised score.
- "Covid-19 Criteria" means the alternative criteria which the Admissions Committee will apply, in order, due to the cancellation of the AQE CEA or such disruption to AQE CEA that AQE cannot provide any candidate with a standardised score.
- "Special Provisions" means that an applicant did not register for the AQE CEA as they took up residence in Northern Ireland after 9 October 2020 and/or the applicant did not register for the AQE CEA as they received more than half of their primary education outside Northern Ireland.
- "The School" means The Wallace High School.
- "The Preparatory Department" means the Preparatory Department of The Wallace High School.

It is the responsibility of the parents of the child applying to ensure that all relevant information is made available.

Special Provisions

Parents/guardians who wish to apply to the school, for their child, under Special Provisions, should complete Form SP20, available from the school, stating the precise reason why they believe the child is eligible for consideration under Special Provisions and upload it, with independent and verifiable evidence, with the transfer application. Applications for Special Provisions must be completed by parents/guardians by 16 March 2021. Those applicants deemed as eligible for treatment under Special Provisions, will be considered first and equally with all applications.

It should also be noted that children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission must be admitted before any child not so resident.

The process for admissions, should the School have more applicants than places available, is as below:-

Covid-19 Criteria

Where the 'Covid-19 Reason' applies, the Admissions Committee will admit 170 applicants who had registered to sit the AQE CEA and that registration is verified by the parent/guardian. When more than 170 children are eligible the Admissions Committee will apply the following criteria, in order, to admit 170 children. Parents/Guardians must append or upload appropriate documentary evidence that the applicant was registered for AQE CEA 2021.

- (a) Children who are currently attending the Preparatory Department of the School.
- (b) Children who have a child of the family enrolled in the School on the date of transfer.
- (c) Children whose twin or triplet sibling(s) has (have) already been admitted to the School.
- (d) Children who have a child of the family who attended the School.
- (e) Children who have a parent who was a pupil of the School.
- (f) Children who are transferring from primary schools from which the School has received pupils within the last five years (see accompanying list) and who are the elder/eldest children in their respective families or who are the first in the family to transfer to a mainstream school or who are the only child in their family.
- (g) Other children who are transferring from primary schools from which the School has received pupils within the last five years (see accompanying list).
- (h) Children *entitled to free school meals at the time of application.
* "entitled to free school meals" will mean children who are listed on the Education Authority register as entitled to free school meals at the date on which their parent has signed their post-primary Transfer Application. If a child becomes eligible subsequent to this but prior to the final publication by the Board of Governors of allocated places, i.e. 12 April 2021, the parent must inform the school so that this criterion can be applied to the application.
- (i) Random computer generated tie-breaker. The following independently verified random selection process, as determined by the Board of Governors and overseen by The Admissions Committee, shall be applied to determine the remaining applications to be accepted:
 - each application to be considered at this stage is allocated a random number electronically generated within Microsoft Excel;
 - the applications are then ranked in order of the random number with higher numbers having preference.

Once the admissions number of 170 has been reached, second, third, fourth and later preference applications will not be considered unless they meet criteria which are ranked higher than those already provisionally admitted.

Primary Schools from which the School has received pupils in the last five years.

Anahilt	Dromara	Lisburn Central	St Aloysius
Ballinderry	Dromore Central	Maghaberry	St Colman's
Ballycarrickmaddy	Drumlins Integrated	Maralin Village	St Joseph's (Crumlin)
Ballymacash	Dunmurry	McKinney (Dundrod)	St Joseph's (Lisburn)
Ballymacrickett	Fairhill	Meadow Bridge	St Mary's (Derrymore)
Botanic	Fairview	Moira	Straidhavern
Brooklands	Finaghy	Oakwood Integrated	Stranmillis
Brownlee	Fort Hill Integrated	Old Warren	Tonagh
Carntall	Friends' Prep	Our Lady Queen of Peace	Victoria College Prep
Carr	Harmony Hill	Pond Park	Wallace Prep
Carrick, Lurgan	Killowen	Riverdale	Waringstown
Cranmore Integrated	King's Park	Rowandale Integrated	William Pinkerton Memorial
Crumlin Integrated	Knockmore	Seymour Hill	
Downshire	Largymore	Spa	

DUTY TO VERIFY

The Admissions Committee of the Board of Governors reserves the right to require additional information or evidence, to determine, support or verify information on the online application. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by the School can result in the withdrawal of a place and the inability to offer a place on the part of any school nominated on the applicant's application.

The Information Commissioner's website www.ico.gov.uk contains guidance for parents with regard to how to access information held by schools in relation to their child.

Parents/Guardians should familiarise themselves with the remit of the Exceptional Circumstances Body, <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/exceptional-circumstances-body-guidance-notes-and-application-form>

WAITING LIST POLICY

If a vacancy arises and is to be filled during Year 8 the next applicant on the original transfer list rank order will be contacted. This list does not transfer automatically into applications for other year groups.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications <i>ie. All preferences</i>	Total Admissions
2018/19	170	267	176 *
2019/20	170	292	180**
2020/21	170	320	179***

* Includes SEN children and children admitted under ECB.

** Includes SEN children, additional places approved by DENI.

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Criteria for admission to years 9 onwards

For applications for a place in years other than Year 8 parents must complete and return the Application for Admission form, available on www.wallacehigh.org/about/admissions-criteria/admissions-non-yr8/

The criteria used to establish a rank order of applications is published on www.wallacehigh.org/about/admissions-criteria/admissions-non-yr8/

Please refer to the school website for guidance on admission to Sixth Form.