

BANBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

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BANBRIDGE

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Principal: Mrs K Feeney BA, NPQH

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mr S Hoey

Controlled Secondary

Age Range: 11-18

Admissions Number: 136

Enrolment Number: 680

Parents of prospective students are invited to visit the school on **Thursday 15 January 2026 at 6.30 pm.**

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. The Principal, on behalf of the Board of Governors, will apply the criteria in the order indicated to select pupils for admission.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

After due consideration of the Department of Education Post-Primary Transfer Policy and in association with the Final Guidance on Transfer the Board of Governors have agreed the following Admission Criteria.

The criteria will be applied firstly to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of proposed admission and then to children not so resident. During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 27 January 2026 at 12 noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 19 February 2026 at 12 noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon (GMT) on 19 February 2026 and up to 4pm on 24 February 2026 will be treated as a late application.

ADMISSION TO YEAR 8

The Board of Governors have confirmed their admissions criteria as follows: Applications for admission to Banbridge High School will be divided into three categories A, B and C as shown below.

Category A: Applications from pupils who were enrolled on 01.09.25 in our Category A primary schools and who remain enrolled in our Category A primary schools. Our Category A primary schools are as follows: Abercorn, Ballydown, Bridge, Gillford, Edenderry, Milltown, Poyntzpass and Scarva.

Category B: Applications from pupils who were enrolled on 01.09.25 in our Category B primary schools and who remain enrolled in our Category B primary schools. Our Category B primary schools are as follows: Bronte, Drumadonnell, Magherlin, Donaghcloney and Waringstown.

Category C: Applications from all other pupils.

Should oversubscription occur within any of the above criterion the following criteria shall be applied in the order set down below.

1. Sibling of a pupil in attendance at the school in 2025/26 whose transfer form expresses a first preference for Banbridge High School.
2. Children of current members of staff at Banbridge High School.
3. Sibling of a past pupil of Banbridge High School whose transfer form expresses a first preference for Banbridge High School.
4. Pupils from Category A whose transfer form expresses a first preference for Banbridge High School.
5. Pupils from Category B whose transfer form expresses a first preference for Banbridge High School.
6. Pupils from Category C whose transfer form expresses a first preference for Banbridge High School.
7. Pupils from Category A whose transfer form expresses a second preference for Banbridge High School.
8. Pupils from Category B whose transfer form expresses a second preference for Banbridge High School.
9. Pupils from Category C whose transfer form expresses a second preference for Banbridge High School.
10. Pupils from Category A, B and C whose transfer form expresses a third preference for Banbridge High School.
11. Pupils living nearest to the school. As measured as the 'crow flies' on Google maps.

NOTES Inaccurate or misleading information provided on or attached to an application may prejudice an offer of a place and may lead to withdrawal of a place awarded to an applicant who has thereby obtained an improper advantage.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that they may be required to produce documents verifying their address or the age of the child concerned.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8

Year	Admissions Number	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/24	136	136	134
2024/25	136	136	135
2025/26*	136	104	110

****The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 includes all Year 8 children admitted to the school including those who have a statement of special educational needs and/or may be attending SPiMS.***

(SPiMS = Specialist Provision in Mainstream School)

ADMISSION TO YEARS 9 – 12

The lodging of an application for admission is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents/carers and the child concerned accept and agree with the ethos, values, philosophy, aims, policies and expectations of the school including any code of conduct or Promoting Positive Behaviour expectations of the school. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school and are contained on the school website. The school will admit all pupils whose parents/carers wish them to attend the school provided that:

1. The enrolment number of the school will not be exceeded by the child's admission;
2. The admission of the pupil will not, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, be prejudicial to the efficient use of resources.
3. The enrolment of the pupil will not result in an increase in class size beyond that which is consistent with the school's curriculum policy.

Applications for admission into Year 11 in relation to the Dickson Plan, will follow the guidance above. Should oversubscription occur the following criteria will be applied in the order set down below.

1. Pupils for whom the school is the Controlled Secondary (Non-Grammar) nearest to their home.
2. Sibling of a pupil in attendance at the school in 2025/26.
3. Children of current members of staff at Banbridge High School.
4. Sibling of a past pupil of Banbridge High School
5. All other pupils whose transfer form expresses a first preference for Banbridge High School.
6. All other pupils whose transfer form expresses a second preference for Banbridge High School.
7. Pupils living nearest to the school. As measured as the 'crow flies' on Google maps.

In the event of oversubscription within a criterion the remaining criteria will be applied until all available places are filled. It should be noted that the school does not operate an admissions waiting list.

ADMISSION TO YEAR 13

The criteria below will be considered in order. Each criterion will only be used if the previous criteria fail to discriminate between the pupils and the courses are still oversubscribed.

Governors may refuse to admit a pupil where they are of the opinion that the admission of the pupil would prejudice the efficient use of resources.

1. Pupils seeking admission to follow our academic pathway should have a minimum of 8 points across a range of five or more subjects with preferably a grade C or above in English and Mathematics. To continue to study a subject at 'A' level it is preferred to have achieved a grade B or above at GCSE level or equivalent. Pupils seeking admission to follow our academic and vocation combined pathway should have a minimum of 6 points across a range of five or more subjects with preferably a grade C or above in English and Mathematics.
2. The points total for each individual pupil will be calculated and places awarded to those with the highest total (until all available places are filled) ie.

GCSE Grade A* = 4 Points Grade A = 3 Points Grade B = 2 Points Grade C = 1 Point

3. Sibling of a pupil in attendance at the school in 2025/26.
4. Children of current members of staff at Banbridge High School.
5. Sibling of a past pupil of Banbridge High School

An interview will be an integral part of the selection process for 'A' level courses.