

Controlled Secondary School

CARRICKFERGUS ACADEMY**Junior Campus**, Downshire Road, Carrickfergus BT38 7DA**Telephone:** 028 9336 4334**Senior Campus**, 110 North Road Carrickfergus BT38 7QX**Telephone:** 028 9336 4334**E-Mail:** info@carrickfergusacademy.carrickfergus.ni.sch.uk**Website:** <https://carrickfergus.academy/>**Principal:** Mrs A Irvine**Chair of Governors:** Mr G McCord**Age Range of pupils:** 11-19**Admissions Number:** 210**Enrolment Number:** 1250**Open Night**

Carrickfergus Academy Open Night will take place on our Junior Campus on 8th January 2026 from 6.30pm – 9pm.

Admissions Criteria For Entry Into Year 8

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 will be treated as a late application.

Respective functions of the Board of Governors and Principal in relation to Admission to the school

The Board of Governors will determine the Admissions Criteria. The criteria will be applied by the Principal who may, if necessary, refer to an Admissions Sub-committee. When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will **only** take into account information that is detailed on or uploaded to the online application form. Parents/Carers should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the online application or uploaded to it.

Children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission will be given preference over those not so resident.

In the event of over-subscription, the following criteria will be applied in the order set down in determining those children to be admitted to Year 8. Applicants should note that they may be required to produce documents verifying their address or age of the child.

1. Pupils who have brothers/sisters who are currently enrolled in Carrickfergus Academy.
2. Pupils who attended schools in the catchment area of the school.
3. Selection for any places remaining will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname, with pupils being selected in order as set out below. The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters. In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used.

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It is expected that pupils seeking entry to the school and their parents will agree and fully support the ethos, policies, procedures, code of conduct and high standards expected in all aspects of school life.

ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8 AFTER 1 SEPTEMBER 2026

Parents who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after 1st September 2026 should write to the Principal clearly stating this. Should a vacancy arise, the above criteria will be applied to select pupils from our waiting list.

Applications and Admissions to Year 8

Year	Admissions Number	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/24	210	177	177
2024/25	210	130	130
2025/26*	210	118	129

****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)

ADMISSIONS TO YEARS 9 -12

A pupil will be considered for admission to Carrickfergus Academy at Years 9-12 within the criteria beneath:

The school enrolment number is not exceeded.

The admission of the pupil would not prejudice the efficient use of the resources of the school.

In the event of oversubscription for entry into any year from 9 to 12, priority will be given, in order, on the basis of:

pupils who have brothers/sisters who are currently enrolled in Carrickfergus Academy;

applicants who are the eldest child;

selection for any places remaining will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname, with pupils being selected in order as set out above. The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters as given previously.

ADMISSION TO SIXTH FORM

The enrolment at Sixth Form has been set at 75; however, the School has been permitted to increase this and we are currently operating at 125 in Sixth Form. Given the oversubscription, we would encourage any prospective pupils from schools other than Carrickfergus Academy to make an early expression of interest by contacting us by telephone or emailing the school information account info@carrickfergusacademy.carrickfergus.ni.sch.uk early in Year 12.

In order to confirm your child's age/name please provide a copy of your child's Birth Certificate with all applications. For admission to Year 8 in September 2026, this should be uploaded with your application.