

Criteria for Entry in Sixth Form (Year 13) Strathearn School, Belfast

Strathearn will give preference to pupils on the basis of academic achievement. Academic achievement will be judged with reference to:

- the grades achieved in full course GCSEs*
- the relevance of the subjects taken
- information from recent school reports.

The minimum required for entry into the Sixth Form will be seven passes at grades A to C, with at least four passes at grade B or better.

If there are more girls who are eligible than there are places available, places shall be awarded in the following order:

1. Applicants with the highest GCSE score – an applicant's GCSE score being calculated on the basis of GCSE grades as follows:

A* = 4 points, A = 3 points, B = 2 points, and C = 1 point

2. In the event of a tie, priority will be given to the girl whose home is closer to the School. Distance will be measured in a straight line using an Ordnance Survey web distance measurement tool from the front door of the girl's home to the front entrance of the School's main administrative building. Home will be taken to mean the girl's address appearing on the Application Form.

Criteria for any extra places made available by the Department of Education for admission into Sixth Form (Year 13).

The Department of Education may, at the School's request, increase the number of pupils that the School can admit to its Year 13. Places that become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the basic eligibility criteria for sixth form study (as above) and shall be allocated in the order determined by the criteria to be applied in the following order:

1. Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in Strathearn.
2. Pupils from other schools where admission to an extra place at Strathearn has been agreed by the Department of Education.**

**Parents should note how the Department of Education (DE) will, in response to a school's request, increase the school's enrolment number in order to allow an extra post-16 pupil to enrol. DE will first check whether there is another school or schools of a type suitable for that pupil within an hour's journey of where the pupil lives. If there is, DE will then check whether this other school or schools may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue. If these checks find that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue - then DE will agree a school's request for an extra place.

What is a school of a type that is suitable for a pupil? To determine this, DE first considers all schools to be one of 4 types: (1) denominational (2) non-denominational (3) Integrated and (4) Irish-Medium. A school requesting an extra place for a post-16 pupil will belong to one of these 4 types and DE will consider any other school or school from this same type as suitable for the pupil. DE will also consider as suitable for the pupil any school from the same type as the type of school that the child attended in Year 12.