

St Mary's Primary School
43 - 48 Melmount Road
Strabane
BT82 9EF

Maintained Primary School

Enrolment No: 600

Admissions No: 86

Tel No: 028 7138 2765 / 7138 2422

Fax No: 028 7138 2572 / 7188 2951

E-mail: info@stmarysmelmount.strabane.ni.sch.uk

PRINCIPAL: Mrs Sandra O'Doherty

CHAIR OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Ms Liz Kavanagh

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

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or attached to it. Examples of such information include whether the child has brothers or sisters attending the school etc.

The term 'brother / sister' in all the criteria below also includes step-brother / step-sister / half-brother / half-sister / foster brother / foster sister living at the same address.

The following criteria will be applied in the order set down 1-2 by the Board of Governors of St Mary's Primary School in selecting pupils for admission into Year 1 in September.

Priority shall be given to children resident in Northern Ireland. Preference will be given to children with exceptional circumstances (medical, social or other problems) that necessitate admission to St Mary's Primary School rather than any other primary school. The circumstances should be personal to the child and must be supported by independent and appropriate documentation, providing evidence of the circumstances being described as being exceptional.

ADMISSION CRITERIA YEAR 1

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 7 January 2020 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 30 January 2020 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 30 January 2020 will be treated as a late application.

1. Children of compulsory school age who live in the Parish of Mourne.
2. Other children of compulsory school age.

SUB-CRITERIA

In the event of over-subscription in any one of the criteria, taken in order, the following sub-criteria will be applied in the order set down. If over subscription in any one of the sub-criteria, taken in order, should occur, final selection will be on the basis of the closeness of the home to the school as measured by the shortest walking distance by public footpath using Google Maps. In the case of two pupils coming from the same area random selection as outlined below will be applied.

- a) Children who have sisters, brothers, presently enrolled at St Mary's Primary School.
- b) Children whose parent / guardian is presently a permanent member of the school teaching / ancillary / auxiliary staff of St Mary's Primary School in the Parish of Mourne.
- c) Is the eldest child of the family.
- d) Pupils who have previously attended St Mary's Nursery (Ballycolman or Melmount Site).
- e) Children whose parent / guardian, sister / brother are prior pupils of St Mary's Boys' PS or St Mary's Girls' PS.

YEAR 1 ADMISSIONS – AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Children who apply to enter the school during the academic year will be considered using the same criteria as for Year 1.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – YEARS 2-7

The following criteria will be applied in the order set down below to all pupils seeking admission to Years 2 to 7. However the school cannot cause or permit the number of registered pupils to exceed the school’s enrolment number as determined by the Department of Education.

1. Pupils for whom their admission would, in the Board of Governors opinion, prejudice the efficient use of the school’s resources.
2. Pupils will be accepted in order of application.

In the event of being over-subscribed on the last criterion that can be applied then the following Sub-Criteria shall be used:

- a) Children who have sisters / brothers presently enrolled at St Mary’s Primary School.
- b) Children whose parent/guardian is presently a permanent member of the school teaching staff / auxiliary / ancillary staff of St Mary’s Primary School in the Parish of Mourne.
- c) Children whose parent / guardian, sister / brother are prior pupils of St Mary’s Primary School.

In the event of over-subscription selection in any of the above criteria taken in order, then selection for the available places will be on the basis of proximity to the school, ie the shortest walking distance via the public footpath as recorded by Google Maps. In the event of equal proximity, then selection for the available places will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as per the birth certificate through a random alphabetical selection of letters as listed below:

L	G	Z	S	W	Q	J	C	Mac	O	Mc
H	B	F	R	K	X	A	Y	U	E	D
I	M	N	P	T	V					

The order was determined by a randomized selection of letters of the alphabet. In the event of surnames beginning with the same letter, the subsequent letters of the surnames 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.

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 Application Form.

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 LISTS

The school’s policy on the consideration of applications after the Open Enrolment Admissions procedures concludes on 28 April 2020 is available directly from the school or can be accessed on our school website. Should a vacancy arise, the above criteria will be applied to select pupils from our waiting list.

Applications and Admissions to Primary 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2017/2018	78	82
2018/2019	90	90
2019/2020	87	85