

Strathearn School, Belfast

Criteria for Entry in Sixth Form (Year 13)

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

- the grades achieved in 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 in relevant GCSE subjects at grades A to C with at least four passes at grade B (English Examination Board Equivalent 6) or better. Relevant subjects will include no more than one Short Course GCSE and excluding Learning for Life and Work.

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 total GCSE point score in relevant¹ | GCSE subjects – an applicant's GCSE point score will be calculated on the basis of grades in full course GCSE and no more than one Short Course GCSE (excluding Learning for Life and Work) as follows

English Examination Boards	CCEA / WJEC	Point Score Full Course	Point Score Short Course
9	A*	4	2
8/7	A	3	1.5
6	B	2	1
5	C*	1.5	0.75
4	C	1	0.5

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 School's Reception. Home will be taken to mean the girl's address appearing on the Application Form.

Applicants applying from outside Northern Ireland and who are seeking a Boarding Place at Campbell College must satisfy the School that their academic achievement is equivalent to the standard set out above. In addition, pupils for whom English is an additional language have to complete a CEFR B2 Level assessment for entry into Sixth Form. A score of 60% is required for the candidate to be considered.

The Admissions Criteria have been drawn up and approved by the Board of Governors; their application has been delegated to the Principal.

¹ Relevant Subjects are those offered at AS/ A2 Level in Strathearn School, and / or deemed by the School to provide suitable preparation to undertake an AS/A2 level course offered in Strathearn.

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 who are applying from outside NI and who are seeking a Boarding place at Campbell College.
3. 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.

Requirements for Upper Sixth (Year 14)

Pupils will be admitted to Upper Sixth (Year 14) who have shown by their academic progress and positive attitude to date that they will benefit from the educational provision available in Strathearn in Sixth Form.

New entry into Year 14 would be in exceptional circumstances only. The examination boards and modules of AS courses already completed would need to match the curriculum offer in Strathearn. References and recent reports would be sought from the candidate's previous school.

Appeals Procedure

Appeals procedure If a pupil does not meet the entry requirements and wishes to make an appeal and/or claim special circumstances, he/she may make an appeal to the Board of Governors. This appeal should be supported by documentary evidence of an appropriate nature. When considering such appeals, the Governors will take account of a pupil's commitment to the school (e.g. attendance and behaviour) as one of the criteria they use in arriving at a decision.