



Strathearn School 2021

Strathearn School

Principal - Mrs N Connery MA PGCE PQH

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Chairman of the Board of Governors Mrs L Mallon LLB

The School Reception is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 4.30pm.

Strathearn is a voluntary grammar school for girls (Group A) administered by its Governors in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Education.





Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to Strathearn School. Thank you for your interest in our School and the opportunity to share our ethos and vision which embodies an exceptional education for all of our girls.

In Strathearn there is a strong academic emphasis and we develop our pupils' love for learning and an intellectual curiosity that will help them achieve academic excellence. As well as the wide range of subjects, Strathearn has an extensive extra-curricular and pastoral care system which places the pupils and their needs at the heart of the School. The School has attained outstanding academic success and our girls' public examination results rank amongst the top schools in the United Kingdom.

We aim to provide an environment where each girl's potential is recognised and valued so that she is encouraged to fully develop her abilities and talents, and achieve her best in all areas of life.

As you read this prospectus, you will gain an insight into our special moments and achievements as well as learning about the day-to-day life in Strathearn. However, no prospectus can hope to convey the positive atmosphere that prevails in Strathearn and the quality of relationships that we enjoy.

I warmly invite you to visit the School and see for yourself our inspirational pupils and dedicated staff. If you have any questions or queries about the education we provide in Strathearn, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I look forward to meeting you.

N. Corneey

Excellence in learning



School Admission

The School currently admits 120 girls each year into Year 8, and admission at this stage is conducted through the Transfer Office of the Education Authority.

The criteria for admission into Year 8 are detailed in Appendix 1. There are also places available for entry into the Sixth Form and occasionally into other year groups.

The School operates a waiting list and parents of prospective pupils should apply directly to the School. The criteria for entry into a year group other than Year 8 is detailed in Appendix 2.

The enrolment of the School in September 2020 was 785 girls, including a Sixth Form of 194. The admissions number is 120 and the enrolment number is 770. The enrolment for the School is from Year 8 (Form 1) to Year 14 (Form Upper 6).

School Hours & Holidays

Currently, the school day begins at 8.45am, when the pupils register with their Form Tutors. Classes begin at 9.05am after Assembly or Form Time, with three teaching periods before break (10.50am - 11.05am), and three before lunch (12.50pm - 1.45pm). Three afternoon periods end at 3.30pm.

2020/21 School Year (provisional)	
CHRISTMAS TERM	20 August 2020 - 18 December 2020
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	26 October 2020 - 30 October 2020
EASTER TERM	4 January 2021 - 26 March 2021
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	15 February 2021 - 19 February 2021
SUMMER TERM	12 April 2021 - 25 June 2021
MAY DAY HOLIDAY	3 May 2021

Encourage, Empower, Excel

At Strathearn we are committed to:

- ⦿ Excellence in teaching and learning
- ⦿ Creating a culture of challenge and aspiration
- ⦿ Fostering a caring and supportive ethos where each individual is valued
- ⦿ Encouraging a sense of pride in our School and in our wider community
- ⦿ Building and maintaining positive relationships across our school community
- ⦿ Maintaining the highest standard of facilities within an attractive physical environment

We will strive to ensure that each girl will:

- ⦿ Be happy and safe in School
- ⦿ Love learning
- ⦿ Meet her full potential
- ⦿ Develop life-long friendships
- ⦿ Take advantage of the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities on offer
- ⦿ Mature into a well-rounded individual, equipped to contribute positively to society





"My daughter has really enjoyed her participation in school music and, as she has progressed through the School, has been able to learn from more senior pupils. Now that she herself is in 6th Form she has that sense of responsibility towards more junior pupils."

Strathearn 6th Form Parent

Curriculum

Strathearn School offers a broad and balanced curriculum to ensure that all of our pupils have an appropriately challenging educational experience.

At Key Stage 3, for girls aged 11-14, classes are taught in form groups. As well as all of their curricular areas, girls also have a weekly Learning for Life and Work period, led by their Form Tutor.

At Key Stage 4 most pupils choose to study at least 9 subjects. Pupils receive guidance and advice in order to choose the most appropriate range of GCSE subjects that will lay a secure foundation for their progression to A-level.

In Sixth Form pupils will have the opportunity to study four A-level subjects. They continue to meet with their Form Tutor for one period per week; additionally, they have one period dedicated to Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

Assessment

Pupils are continually assessed throughout the academic year at all key stages. Pupils in Forms 1-4 have formal school examinations once a year in May. Pupils in Form 5 have mock exams in December with Lower 6th and Upper 6th mock examinations taking place in February, in addition to external pupil examinations.

There is a parents' meeting for each year group and parents receive a short Pupil Progress Update and a full report each year. Pupils' achievement is closely monitored and the subject teachers work closely with pupils and parents to ensure the pupils reach their full potential.

Homework Policy

Homework is essential for all pupils as a very important way of reinforcing the work done in class. Each girl is required to complete homework and the time she spends on this increases as she proceeds up the School.



Learning

Careers

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) is an integral aspect of the educational provision at Strathearn. The Head of Careers is available for consultation by the students in School, and by parents and pupils at transition Parent Consultations and Parent Information Evenings. Outside speakers, university admissions staff and former pupils are regularly invited to the School to talk to pupils about a range of career opportunities.

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award



Leadership

Pupils in Strathearn are actively encouraged to embark on leadership roles. There is a form captain for each class and in Sixth Form there are a number of extra responsibilities including Office Bearers, Peer Mentors and chairs of committees, as well as opportunities to volunteer in local primary schools and a local care home.

Merit System

Throughout the School we operate a Merit System which aims to reward students for achieving high standards in behaviour, attendance, punctuality and uniform. Individual students are given a certificate or merit badge at merit ceremonies which are held each year.

Curriculum Subjects Summary

Subject	Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
Art & Design	○	○	○
Biology*		○	○
Business Studies		○	○
Chemistry*		○	○
Design & Technology	○	○	○
Digital Technology		○	○
Double Award Science		○	
Drama		○	○
English Language	○	○	
English Literature	○	○	○
French	○	○	○
Further Maths		○	○
Geography	○	○	○
German	○	○	○
Government and Politics			○
Health & Social Care			○
History	○	○	○
Home Economics	○	○	
ICT	○		
Junior Science*	○		
Learning for Life and Work	○	○	
Mathematics	○	○	○
Media Studies			○
Moving Image Art			○
Music	○	○	○
Nutrition and Food			○
Physical Education	○	○	
Physics*		○	○
Religious Studies	○	○	○
Spanish	○	○	○

* Junior Science is taught in Forms 1 and 2 with the 3 Sciences introduced as discreet subjects in Form 3.



Innovation

ICT Facilities

At Strathearn we believe that modern technologies and the internet are an integral part of our lives and an important and useful resource for us all. At Key Stage 3, pupils are provided with a School-owned iPad for use in the classroom and at home. For Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils staff have access to class sets of Chromebooks. All classrooms are fully equipped with Interactive White Boards and high speed internet access.

Our Learning Centre allows whole class and individual pupil access for all subjects. Computer facilities are available at lunch time and after school when pupils are supported by specialist ICT staff. In addition, several departments, HE, Art and Technology, have their own suites of computers to support the pupils work in that subject. The Music Department has its own suite of Macs, with Logic sequencing software and a dedicated recording studio.

Sport

Through the extra-curricular programme pupils are provided with the opportunity to participate in a wide range of team and individual activities. Those pupils who have a keen interest in swimming, horse riding, golf, squash and trampolining are supported by the Physical Education Department and represent the School in competitive events.

Sports Hall, Gymnasium and Fitness Suite

The School has a large, purpose-built Sports Hall, funded entirely by parental contribution. Accommodation within the Sports Hall is flexible, and allows for: a full size indoor hockey pitch; five badminton courts; indoor tennis court; netball; volleyball; basketball, with provision for gymnastics. A brand new Gymnasium complements the use of the Sports Hall and a fully equipped Fitness Suite completes the indoor sports accommodation.

Outdoor Facilities

One synthetic and two all-weather hockey pitches; athletics track including a double long jump pit with tartan track run-up and caged throwing area. There are a total of six AstroTurf tennis courts on site. In addition, we have ready access to the CIYMS synthetic hockey pitch, adjacent to the School, which is available for both junior and senior teams and this is in addition to the tennis facilities, if and when required.

3rd XI Gibson Cup Winners
March 2020



Opportunity

Extra-Curricular Programme

Strathearn offers a comprehensive extra-curricular programme and encourages all pupils to take full advantage of what is on offer.

COMMUNITY SERVICE *Junior Choir*
Guitar Club **CADET'S** *Orchestra*
Chamber Choir senior scripture union
ART CLUB **CROSS-COUNTRY**
BADMINTON **DRAMA**
 Athletics *Gymnastics*
BOOK CLUB **Senior Choir**
Senior Debating Society
Bar Mock Trials *Creative Writing*
french club
 JUNIOR SCRIPTURE UNION **TENNIS**
Netball **FOOTBALL CLUB**
DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD
JUNIOR DRAMA CLUB *Youth Lyric*
 Traditional Group **KAYAKING**
HOCKEY **DANCE**
SQUASH *School Production*
SELF-DEFENCE
MATHS HELP DESK *Public Speaking*
Film & Animation Club

Care

Pastoral Care

Strathearn places a strong emphasis on the pastoral dimension of education, ensuring that pupils feel valued, included and secure at all stages of their school career. Our Pastoral Vice Principal, Mrs N Sinnerton, has overall responsibility for the pastoral care of pupils.

All staff have a role in enabling the pupils to gain maximum benefit from their time at School. Our dedicated Form Tutors are key figures in the pastoral system, as they care for the needs, progress and well-being of each pupil in their class. Form Tutors are supported in their role by Heads of Year. Two School Health Nurses work as a team to look after the various health needs of our girls throughout the School day, while the School Counsellor supports the emotional well-being of pupils on a weekly basis.

In Strathearn, we pride ourselves on our positive ethos which reflects mutual respect between pupils and staff. The Positive Behaviour Policy emphasises the priority placed on rewarding merit-worthy behaviour at all key stages, and this is supported by Sixth Form Office Bearers and Peer Mentors. The School Council, comprising elected representatives from every form class, provides a prime opportunity for a clear pupil voice to be heard.

In Strathearn School, we prioritise our responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of all our pupils, and this is reflected in a range of School policies, including Safeguarding and Child Protection, Anti-Bullying, Pastoral, Attendance and Drugs Policies. Due regard for pupil safety underpins all aspects of school life.

Mrs N Sinnerton is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection and also for Drugs.

All pupils with additional educational needs in Strathearn have access to the full range of curricular subjects with the support of our Learning Support Co-ordinators and team of classroom assistants. Staff in our SENI (Special Educational Needs and Inclusion) Department work in close partnership with the pupil, her family and outside agencies to ensure that no girl is at a disadvantage because of disability. Our SENI policy is freely available, along with all other pastoral policies, from the School Reception or website.

In all aspects of school life, we actively promote parental partnerships through formal consultations and also informally, as required, throughout the school year. The Parent Forum provides an ideal opportunity for parents to have direct involvement in the development of policy and procedures in Strathearn.



Pupil Voice

Strathearn School Council

The Strathearn School Council is an elected body of pupils whose purpose is to represent their classes and to be a forum for active and constructive pupil input into the daily life of the School community.

The Strathearn School Council supports the functioning of our School. It gathers the thoughts and feelings of pupils about issues that are important to them and that may have an impact on the School environment.

Our School Council meets at least once a month during the academic year and is made up of representatives elected from all thirty-five form classes across the School. The meetings are chaired by the Student Chair and Vice Chair who are Sixth Form students appointed to the role.

The School Council representatives have played their part in shaping new School policies such as the Positive Behaviour Policy and the Uniform Policy. They have also lobbied to have improved facilities in School, such as those within the Miskelly Deli canteen.

Day-to-day, the School Council performs a vital role, seeking partnership between pupils and staff for the benefit of the whole School community.



Uniform

We are very proud of our School uniform and work hard to maintain high standards in this area.

On admission to School, a uniform list with details of suppliers will be issued to parents. For safekeeping it is essential that all items of clothing and equipment are clearly marked with the owner's name.



- School blazer with House colour badge and merit badges
- Beige shirt for Forms 1-5 and white shirt for sixth form
- Straight skirt for Forms 1-3 and pleated skirt for Forms 4-6
- Opaque black tights for everyone (beige socks in the summer for Forms 1-3)
- Flat black shoes for Forms 1-3 and low heel for Forms 4-6



Achievement

School Performance 2019-2020

Strathearn is committed to offering the curriculum which best meets the needs of our pupils. The subjects which are offered at each key stage, together with the way in which they are taught and learned, ensure that all of the pupils have access to a programme which has breadth and balance.

Public Examination Results 2019-2020

GCSE		A2	
5 A* - C	99.2%	3+ A*-C	96.8%
5 A* - C (inc E and M)	99.2%	2+ A*-E	100%
7 A* - C	99.2%	-	-
7 A* - C (inc E and M)	99.2%	-	-

"My time at Strathearn as Head Girl has been a huge honour and I have thoroughly enjoyed both the challenges and opportunities the role has given me. I have made friendships for life and so many memories I will cherish forever."

Jemima Thomas



School Policies

The School has developed many policies over time to ensure the most effective and safe learning experience for all pupils. All of the policies may be accessed through the School website. Parents may also obtain a full copy of any of the School's policies by making a request at the School Reception.

Home to School Transport

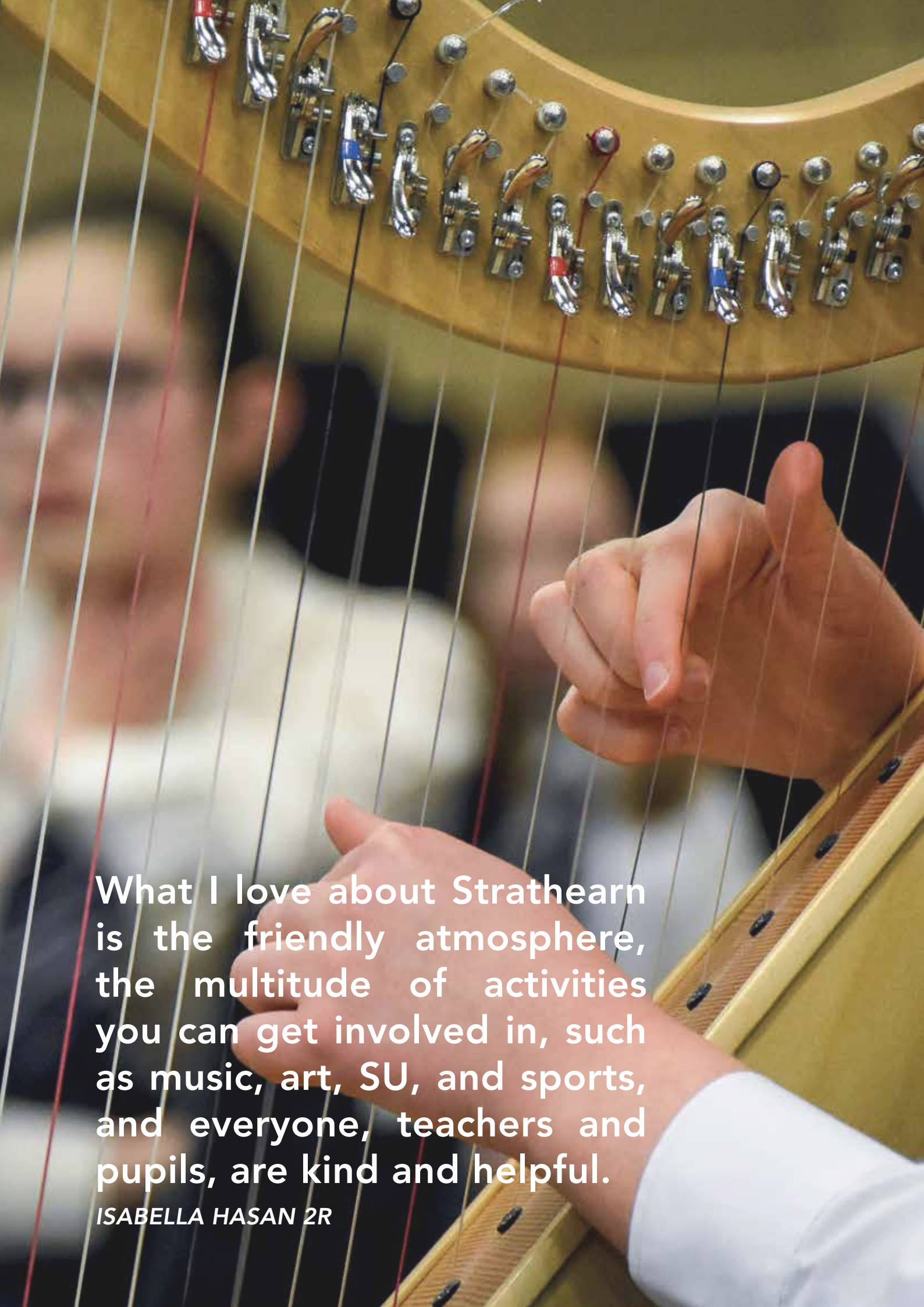
Please find below the information on the School bus service provided by Translink and Metro. All timings are approximate and the information may be subject to change depending on pupil numbers, Translink, weather conditions and roadworks. More detailed information is available from the Inspectors in Newtownards, Bangor and Comber.

AM	Comber	Comber bus leaves from the Cemetery at 7.40am and comes directly to School. A connecting bus leaves Killinchy at 7.17am and stops at the Comber depot
	Newtownards	School bus departs from Stand 1 in Newtownards bus station at 8.10am. This bus will pick up girls from any stop along the route, commencing at the Quarry Corner, and leave them directly to the School gates.
	Bangor	School bus leaves from the depot at 7.50am and stops at Crawfordsburn Village at approximately 8.05am, Holywood at 8.20am, and then travels on to Strathearn School.
PM	Bangor (i)	School bus leaves from Belmont Road at 3.40pm stopping at Holywood and Helens Bay.
	Bangor (ii)	Express School bus leaves from the Belmont Road at 3.35pm sharp and travels directly to the depot in Bangor.
	Newtownards	School bus leaves from the Belmont Road at 3.40pm and travels along the Upper Newtownards Road, first drop off is at Cherryhill in Dundonald. Priority will be given to pupils travelling to Newtownards as there is a Metro Service available for pupils living in Dundonald.
	Comber	Express School bus departs from the Belmont Road at 3.45pm and stops at the Bridge and Comber Cemetery before going on to Killinchy. Girls travelling to Killinchy will have priority on this bus.
	Comber	Another bus leaves from the stop at Belmont Primary School at 3.50pm and stops at all stops along the route to Comber. There is no onward connection to Killinchy.

Please note that bus routes are correct at time of publication

After Hours

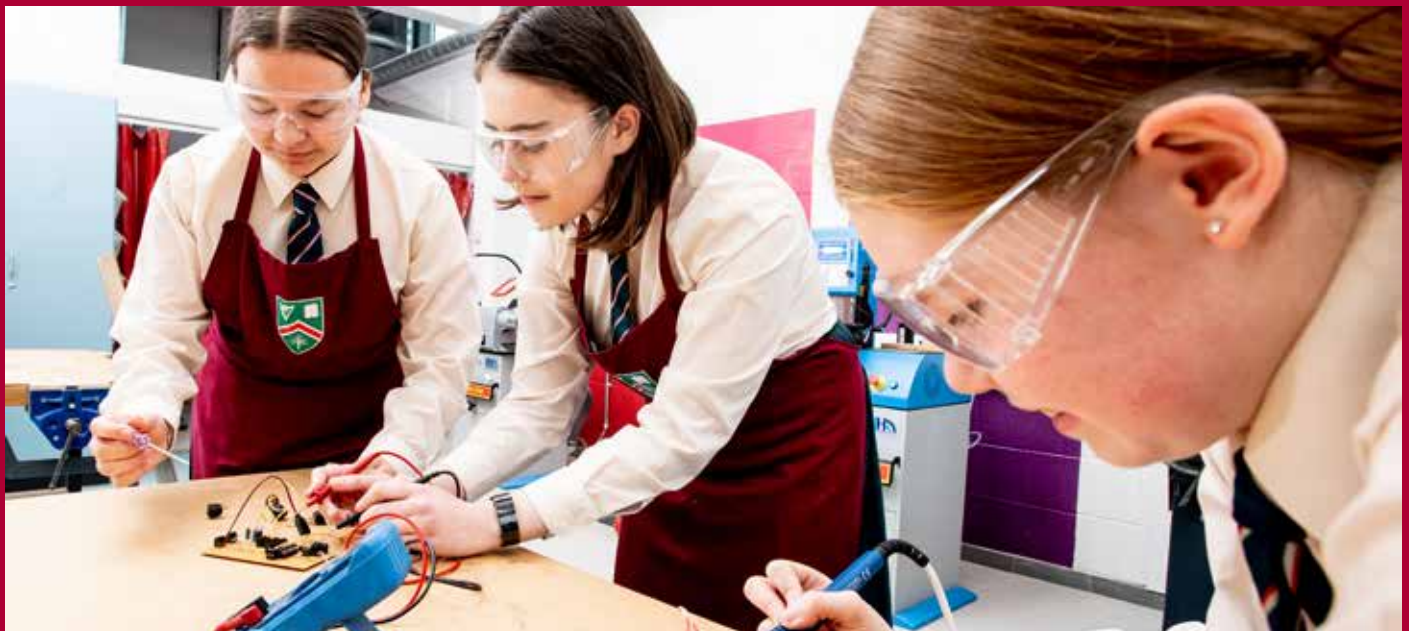
Pupils who wish to remain for a time after school may wait for transport home in Room G2. This room is also available to those pupils who arrive at School early. Pupils who choose to use this facility will be unsupervised, however, School staff remain on the premises after school hours, and the School Reception is open until 4.30pm. Pupils should be collected from School by 5pm at the latest.



What I love about Strathearn
is the friendly atmosphere,
the multitude of activities
you can get involved in, such
as music, art, SU, and sports,
and everyone, teachers and
pupils, are kind and helpful.

ISABELLA HASAN 2R





Public Examination Results 2019-2020

GCSE Results 2020

Number of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades									
	Number Entered	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	
Further Maths	50	14	26	7	0	0	0	0	
Art & Design	21	2	13	5	1	0	0	0	
Biology	60	13	18	17	9	3	0	0	
Business Studies	8	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	
Chemistry	39	12	15	7	2	1	2	0	
Design & Technology	13	2	6	3	2	0	0	0	
Drama	27	4	13	8	2	0	0	0	
English Language	118	25	69	21	3	0	0	0	
English Literature	118	29	55	26	8	0	0	0	
French	51	15	18	8	9	1	0	0	
Geography	62	30	18	11	2	1	0	0	
German	25	7	5	6	5	2	0	0	
History	40	19	15	1	2	3	0	0	
Home Economics	15	6	4	3	2	0	0	0	
Child Development	12	4	6	2	0	0	0	0	
ICT	12	5	2	5	0	0	0	0	
Mathematics	110	31	64	9	6	0	0	0	
Music	19	6	9	4	0	0	0	0	
Physical Education	11	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	
Physics	45	18	17	9	1	0	0	0	
Religious Studies	67	31	32	4	0	0	0	0	
Science - Double	72	38	22	11	1	0	0	0	
Spanish	49	19	18	7	3	2	0	0	
Totals	1044	338	454	176	61	13	2	0	
RS short course	50	30	18	2	0	0	0	0	

Cumulative % of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades									
	Number Entered	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	
Further Maths	50	28.0	80.0	94.0	100	100	100	100	
Art & Design	21	9.5	71.4	95.2	100	100	100	100	
Biology	60	21.7	51.7	80.0	95.0	100	100	100	
Business Studies	8	25.0	75.0	100	100	100	100	100	
Chemistry	39	30.8	69.2	87.2	92.3	94.9	100	100	
Design & Technology	13	15.4	61.5	84.6	100	100	100	100	
Drama	27	14.8	63.0	92.6	100	100	100	100	
English Language	118	21.2	79.7	97.5	100	100	100	100	
English Literature	118	24.6	71.2	93.2	100	100	100	100	
French	51	29.4	64.7	80.4	98.0	100	100	100	
Geography	62	48.4	77.4	95.2	98.4	100	100	100	
German	25	28.0	48.0	72.0	92.0	100	100	100	
History	40	47.5	85.0	87.5	92.5	100	100	100	
Home Economics	15	40.0	66.7	86.7	100	100	100	100	
Child Development	12	33.3	83.3	100	100	100	100	100	
ICT	12	41.7	58.3	100	100	100	100	100	
Mathematics	110	28.2	86.4	94.5	100	100	100	100	
Music	19	31.6	78.9	100	100	100	100	100	
Physical Education	11	54.5	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Physics	45	40.0	77.8	97.8	100	100	100	100	
Religious Studies	67	46.3	94.0	100	100	100	100	100	
RS Short Course	57	56.1	84.2	91.2	96.5	98.2	100	100	
Science - Double	72	52.8	83.3	98.6	100	100	100	100	
Spanish	49	38.8	75.5	89.8	95.9	100	100	100	
Totals	1044	32.4	75.9	92.7	98.6	99.8	100	100	

Public Examination Results 2019-2020

AS Level Results 2020

Cumulative % of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades										Number of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades									
	Number Entered	A	B	C	D	E	U			Number Entered	A	B	C	D	E	U			
Art	8	50	100	100	100	100	100			8	4	4	0	0	0	0			
Biology	31	48.4	61.3	83.9	100	100	100			31	15	4	7	5	0	0			
Business Studies	21	28.6	71.4	100	100	100	100			21	6	9	6	0	0	0			
Chemistry	29	44.8	72.4	100	100	100	100			29	13	8	8	0	0	0			
Design & Technology	2	50	100	100	100	100	100			2	1	1	0	0	0	0			
English Lit	27	66.7	88.9	100	100	100	100			27	18	6	3	0	0	0			
French	8	75	87.5	100	100	100	100			8	6	1	0	0	0	0			
Geography	31	71	100	100	100	100	100			31	22	9	0	0	0	0			
German	7	57.1	85.7	100	100	100	100			7	4	2	1	0	0	0			
Health & Social Care	14	50	92.9	100	100	100	100			14	7	6	1	0	0	0			
History	34	76.5	94.1	100	100	100	100			34	26	6	2	0	0	0			
Home Economics	20	40	75	90	100	100	100			20	8	7	3	2	0	0			
Information Technology	8	62.5	75	100	100	100	100			8	5	1	2	0	0	0			
Mathematics	34	64.7	82.4	97.1	100	100	100			34	22	6	5	1	0	0			
Media Studies	20	35	85	100	100	100	100			20	7	10	3	0	0	0			
Moving Image Art	3	100	100	100	100	100	100			3	3	0	0	0	0	0			
Physics	14	64.3	85.7	100	100	100	100			14	9	3	2	0	0	0			
Politics	13	61.5	84.6	100	100	100	100			13	8	3	2	0	0	0			
Religious Studies	20	55	85	100	100	100	100			20	11	6	3	0	0	0			
Spanish	15	60	100	100	100	100	100			15	9	6	0	0	0	0			
Totals	359	56.8	84.1	97.8	100	100	100			359	204	98	49	8	0	0			

A Level Results 2020

Cumulative % of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades									Number of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades								
	Number Entered	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U		Number Entered	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art	7	14.3	28.6	85.7	85.7	100	100	100	Art	7	1	1	4	0	1	0	0
Biology	30	23.3	56.7	70	100	100	100	100	Biology	30	7	10	4	9	0	0	0
Business Studies	13	15.4	38.5	84.6	100	100	100	100	Business Studies	13	2	3	6	2	0	0	0
Chemistry	23	30.4	69.6	78.3	91.3	100	100	100	Chemistry	23	7	9	2	3	2	0	0
Design & Technology	4	0	50	75	100	100	100	100	Design & Technology	4	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
Drama	12	50	66.7	100	100	100	100	100	Drama	12	6	2	4	0	0	0	0
English Lit	38	31.6	55.3	89.5	100	100	100	100	English Lit	38	12	9	13	4	0	0	0
French	7	14.3	57.1	85.7	100	100	100	100	French	7	1	3	2	1	0	0	0
Geography	18	27.8	72.2	88.9	100	100	100	100	Geography	18	5	8	3	2	0	0	0
German	4	75	100	100	100	100	100	100	German	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
History	9	55.6	77.8	100	100	100	100	100	History	9	5	2	2	0	0	0	0
Home Economics	8	0	37.5	75	100	100	100	100	Home Economics	8	0	3	3	2	0	0	0
ICT	6	16.7	50	66.7	100	100	100	100	ICT	6	1	2	1	2	0	0	0
Mathematics	28	39.3	64.3	85.7	100	100	100	100	Mathematics	28	11	7	6	4	0	0	0
Further Mathematics	4	50	100	100	100	100	100	100	Further Mathematics	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Media Studies	16	6.3	37.5	87.5	100	100	100	100	Media Studies	16	1	5	8	2	0	0	0
Music	6	0	50	83.8	100	100	100	100	Music	6	0	3	2	1	0	0	0
PE	1	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	PE	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Physics	9	22.2	66.7	88.9	100	100	100	100	Physics	9	2	4	2	1	0	0	0
Politics	3	33.3	66.7	66.7	100	100	100	100	Politics	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Religious Studies	27	18.5	59.3	92.6	100	100	100	100	Religious Studies	27	5	11	9	2	0	0	0
Spanish	14	28.6	71.4	100	100	100	100	100	Spanish	14	4	6	4	0	0	0	0
Totals	287	26.5	59.6	86.1	99	100	100	100	Totals	287	76	95	76	37	3	0	0

Summary Information

School Leavers' Destinations 2019-2020 (from Years 12, 13 & 14)

2019-2020	
Number of Leavers	113
Higher Education	85% (96 pupils)
Further Education	6.2% (7 pupils)
Another School	3.5% (4 pupils)
Job Skills	0
Employment	1% (1 pupils)
Unknown/Gap	4.4% (5 pupils)

Strathearn School's Annual Attendance Rate (All Pupils) 2019-2020 was 95.1%



Curriculum Complaints

Any parent who may have a complaint about curriculum provision is asked to contact the Principal or the Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning), who has a responsibility for Curriculum Development. The Chairman of the Board may also be contacted at the School.

School Security

Strathearn recognises the need to provide a secure learning and working environment for pupils and staff. Visitors to the School are required to sign in at Reception and wear a Visitor's badge, if not accompanied by a member of staff. All staff exercise a collective responsibility for the identification of any stranger. Both sites have a perimeter fence to maintain security. In addition, the main campus has a CCTV network and controlled access on the doors.

Charging Policy

In conformity with the requirements of the Education Reform Order (NI) 1989, it is the policy of the Board of Governors:

1 To levy a capital charge for the purpose of meeting expenditure on the provision or alteration of School premises or for equipment provided in connection with the provision or alteration of School premises.

In accordance with guidance issued by the Department of Education, the Board of Governors may consider a reduction and/or waiver of a part or all of the capital charge if:

- 1.1 the pupil or parent is in receipt of Income Support or Income-Based Job Seekers' Allowance; or
- 1.2 where the parents receive the Child Tax Credit and are ineligible for the Working Tax Credit because they work less than 16 hours per week and have an annual taxable income not exceeding an amount determined by the Department for the school year in question; or
- 1.3 where the pupil is the child of an asylum seeker supported by the Home Office National Asylum Support Service (NASS);
- 1.4 the pupil or parent (as the case may be) is in receipt of Universal Credit and would otherwise have satisfied Condition 1.1 or 1.2 above before the introduction of Universal Credit;

Any application for reduction/waiver should be made in writing to the Chair of the Board of Governors as soon as the parent is in receipt of such benefit(s) or should have been aware of the circumstances entitling them to seek a reduction/waiver by satisfying one of the conditions outlined above. Such application must be accompanied by official documentation evidencing that the Applicant meets at least one of the conditions above.

The Board of Governors reserves the right not to consider such an application, if it has not been brought promptly or has not been accompanied by the relevant supporting documentation. A reduction/waiver cannot be made for past fees if an application has not been made in time;

2 To levy, except where pupils are entitled to statutory remission, a charge for all board and lodging on residential visits;

3 To levy a charge for activities wholly or mainly outside school hours which are not part of the Northern Ireland Curriculum, statutory religious education, or in preparation for a prescribed public examination;

4 To levy no charge for examination entries, except where:

- 4.1 the School has not prepared pupils for the examination for which entry is made; or
- 4.2 a pupil has failed, for no good reason, to complete the requirements for examination or to attend for it; or
- 4.3 a pupil is resitting an examination previously paid for by the School;

5 To levy no charge in respect of books, materials, equipment, instruments or incidental transport provided in connection with the Northern Ireland Curriculum, statutory religious education, or in preparation for prescribed public examinations or in courses taught at the School, except where parents have indicated in advance their wish to purchase the product;

6 To request voluntary contributions from parents for the enhancement of School facilities, and for School activities in or out of school time for which compulsory charges cannot be levied but which can only be provided if there is sufficient voluntary funding, whilst ensuring that no pupil is excluded from such activity by reason of inability or unwillingness to make a voluntary contribution;

7 To seek payment from parents for damage or loss to school property caused wilfully or negligently by their children;

8 To leave to the Principal's decision the portion of costs of an activity which should be charged to public or non-public funds;

9 To delegate to the Chairman and the Principal the determination of any individual case arising from the implementation of this policy.

Note: the word 'charge' is used throughout to denote a compulsory payment which may legally be required. All other payments are 'voluntary contributions'. The law does not put a limit on the amount of voluntary contribution which parents or others may make for the benefit of the School or for School activities; nor does it place any restriction upon the purpose for which such contributions can be sought. Boards of Governors are free to establish their own practices on this matter and may, of course, undertake other general fund-raising activities for the benefit of the school and the education of its pupils.

Current Fees

The 'Capital Fee' is currently £140 per annum. The Governors also request a payment of £200 per annum to be used for whole school activities, resources and premises as necessary. This is known as Contribution to the 'Contingency Fund'.

Invoices are issued annually in September and an option to pay by Direct Debit on a monthly basis or by debit/credit card if required.



Appendix 2

Admission Criteria for Entry of Pupils after Commencement of Year 8 Transfer

FORM 1 (Year 8) As at Form 1 Transfer

FORMS 2 - 5 (Years 9 - 12)

1 Admission to Forms 2-5 will be governed by the availability of places within that year group, class sizes including practical class sizes and the School's planned allocation and usage of staff, accommodation and other resources. Admission to the School will depend on the applicant's ability to benefit from the academic and creative life of the School.

2 In the case of applicants from other post-primary schools, the Board of Governors will give preference to girls on the basis of academic achievement. Academic achievement will be judged with reference to the transfer grade/score (if there was one) and evidence of academic achievement and pastoral information from the current school's reports.

3 In the event of being oversubscribed with applicants for any year group the following criteria will apply:

- I. Academic Record (AQE/ GL Score, examination results, current school's reports)
- II. Applicant attended the Preparatory Department of the School
- III. Sister of the applicant attends or attended the School
- IV. Applicant is the first born girl in the family
- V. Sister of the applicant is accepted for the secondary department of the School for the forthcoming academic year

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

FORM 6 (Years 13 - 14)

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 or better. Relevant subjects will include no more than one Short Course GCSE and exclude 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 relevant subjects – an applicant's GCSE point score will be calculated on the basis of grades in full course GCSEs as follows:

A* - 4 points, A - 3 points, B - 2 points, and C - 1 point with half the relevant points awarded to a short course GCSE.

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.



Finding Us

Pupils travel to Strathearn School from a wide catchment area of East Belfast and beyond. The school is easily accessible from the Belmont Road and there is a good bus network.

