

## Admissions criteria for entry September 2017

### SPERRIN INTEGRATED COLLEGE

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**Principal:** Mrs B A Heron, BEd (Hons), PQH(NI)

**Chairperson of the Board of Governors:** Mrs F Symington, BEd, MA, Dip TEFL



**Grant Maintained Integrated**

**Age Range of pupils:** 11-18

**Admission Number:** 80

**Enrolment No:** 500

#### Open Event Information

**Thursday 19 January 2017 at 7pm – Principal's Address 7pm**

Pupils in Primary 6 who are planning ahead are welcome to attend, as are Year 12 students with their Parents/Guardians who are interested in the possibility of joining 6<sup>th</sup> Form in September 2017

#### Grammar and All Ability pathways

**35% of places, are available for pupils wishing to apply for the Grammar Stream. Parents of academically able pupils wishing to be considered for grammar stream entry must clearly indicate this on the Green Transfer Form.** Supporting evidence should also be attached. This may be one, or more of the following suggested indicators: Progress in English (PIE) / Progress in Mathematics (PiM) scores, or any other standardised test results available from the child's primary school; a school report which reflects high academic ability; or equivalent supporting evidence. *See Admissions Criteria*

#### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 8

The criteria set out below at points 1 - 7 will be applied separately to Protestant, Catholic and Other applicants.

#### Respective functions of the Board of Governors and Principal in relation to Admissions to the school and Admissions Criteria Information

- The Board of Governors of Sperrin Integrated College seeks in as far as it is possible to have equal numbers of both Protestant and Catholic children at the school. This is a feature of Integrated Schools. This balance is reflected in the makeup of the Governors themselves and of the College's staff. The criteria set out below have been determined by the Board of Governors. They will be applied by the Head Teacher. Final approval of the Year 8 intake rests with the sub-committee of the Board of Governors with responsibility for Admissions. The aim is to have an intake which is as close as possible to 40% Protestant, 40% Catholic and 20% Other. Our criteria, as set out below, will first be applied to the Other category until a maximum of 20% of the places available have been allocated. In the event of less than 20% of places being awarded to applicants from the Other category the balance will be divided equally between Protestant and Catholic applicants. If an odd number of places remain in this division, an additional place will be allocated to the main tradition having the greater number of applicants. In the event of there being fewer applicants from either tradition than there are places available for that tradition, then the balance of places will be allocated to the other categories on a proportionate basis.
- Parents should use the Official Transfer Form (the green form) to provide information to assist the College in the application of its criteria under Section C 'Parents Remarks'. This must include the child's religion, or parental wish that the child be placed in the Other category.
- The provision of accurate information on the form is very important and the **Board of Governors reserve the right to authenticate and seek verification of the content of any application.** This can include the request to see an original birth certificate or Court Order to verify a surname. Applications for admission to the College from students residing within Northern Ireland at the time of proposed admission will take precedence over applications from those not so resident.

#### Admissions Criteria

- The Board of Governors, in seeking to affirm the all ability nature of the College, will ensure that each year group caters for pupils of all abilities, including the most academically able. Grammar Stream Entry is available for a maximum of 35% of the intake. Parents of academically able children may opt for Grammar Entry and should indicate this on the green transfer form, including appropriate supporting evidence. The College will strive for Religious balance both within the Grammar Entry and the overall admissions number. If the number of applicants for Grammar Entry exceeds the number of places available the criteria listed below will be used to determine a rank order of applicants for criterion 1. Academic evidence is simply an indicator of the student's

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suitability for the grammar pathway and is not used for differentiating between, or rank ordering applicants for Grammar Stream entry. Those applying for grammar entry and who are not admitted under criterion 1, will automatically be considered for admission, with all other applicants, using the remaining criteria, 2 – 7.

2. Children who have a brother/sister or foster child placed within their family who is currently enrolled in the College or who attended the school.\*
3. Children whose parent/guardian has indicated a first or second preference for Sperrin Integrated College.
4. Children who are transferring from any Integrated Primary School either Grant Maintained Integrated or Controlled Integrated.
5. Children who are the eldest in the family, eligible to enter second level education, since the college opened in September 2002 or in the case of a family recently arrived in the catchment area the first to reach transfer age since arrival.
6. As a final decider pupils will be admitted according to date of birth with preference to the eldest child.
7. In the event of two children with the same date of birth the alphabetic sort printed below will be applied.

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

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 surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of 2 identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used.

The religious affiliation of a student will be decided by the religious affiliation noted on or attached to the Transfer Form. If the religious affiliation of a student has not been provided the Governors reserve the right to seek verification before allocating the child to a category as follows:

- a. The Governors will seek to determine the affiliation firstly by consultation with the student's primary school.
- b. In the event that this does not determine the affiliation the student will be classified according to the type of primary school attended, if it is controlled or maintained.
- c. Where no religious affiliation can be determined the student will be placed in the 'Other' category.

**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.**

**In the event that Sperrin Integrated College is oversubscribed, we write to parents who wish their child(ren) to be considered for a place in Sperrin Integrated College, should a place become available for any reason. In the event that a place does become available the above Admissions Criteria will be applied to those applicants who are placed on our Waiting List.**

\*Sibling is defined as a brother/sister or foster child within their family who is currently enrolled in the College or who attended the College through years 8 to 12 or at Sixth Form level. The term brother/sister includes Step or half brother or sister. Brothers or sisters **may** only be admitted under this criterion if they reside at the same address.

### **ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8 AFTER 1 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Parents who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after 1 September 2017 should write to the Principal clearly stating this. In the event of a vacancy arising the above criteria will be applied to these applications.

**Number of Applications and Admissions**

| Year           | Admissions No. | Total Applications<br>All Preferences | Total Admissions |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>2014/15</b> | 80             | 97                                    | *87              |
| <b>2015/16</b> | 80             | 92                                    | *86              |
| <b>2016/17</b> | 80             | 97                                    | *97              |

\* Temporary increase in admission number for the school year

This table does not include children who were admitted to the school with a statement of special educational needs.