

LAGAN COLLEGE

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Principal: Mrs A McNamee, MBE, BA, PGCE, MEd, PQH(NI)

Chairman Board of Governors: Mr Francis Martin, CBE, FCA BSSc. Dip Acc. MBA FIMC

Grant Maintained Integrated School

Age Range: 11-18

Admissions No: 220

Enrolment No: 1300

Lagan College is an integrated, all-ability, co-educational school. It has a grammar stream entry and an all-ability entry.

OPEN DAY INFORMATION

Saturday 18th January 2025 from 9.00am to 12.30pm - The Principal, Mrs McNamee, will address parents at 9.00am, 10.00am, 11.00am, and 12 noon in the Hall. Further details will be shared on social media.

To Parents/Carers naming Lagan College as a preference on your child's Transfer Application for the Stage I Grammar Stream entry (35% of total Year 8 intake).

SEAG Entrance Assessment Outcome

Lagan College will consider the Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) of a pupil's performance in the Schools' Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG), Assessment for entry into the Stage I Grammar stream entrance route. SEAG Entrance Assessment refers to 2 assessment tests taken on 16th November and 23rd November 2024.

Please ensure that you upload the following information with your child's Transfer Application:

- **The SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome with the Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) achieved by your child in the SEAG Entrance Assessment and their SEAG Unique Pupil Number.**

Special Circumstances and/or Special Provision

If you are making a claim for your child to be considered under Special Circumstances or Special Provision in relation to the SEAG Entrance Assessment, you are required to upload to your child's Transfer Application, the appropriate form and documentation requested.

Further details can be found in Section A, under the heading 'Special Circumstances and Special Provision'.

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

Lagan College's Board of Governors has drawn up the Admissions Criteria and Policy and delegates to an Admissions Sub-Committee, which includes the Principal and at least two Governors and Administration Staff, the responsibility for applying the Admissions criteria to any Transfer applications received. Any reference herein to the term the Board of Governors includes any Committee or Sub-Committee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admissions criteria set out herein, which is finally ratified by the full Board of Governors.

Admissions Policy

In the event of the College receiving more applications than can be accommodated within the admissions number, determined by the Department of Education, the following policy and admissions criteria will be applied.

The aim of the Admissions Policy is to achieve as even a balance as possible in the all-ability intake with regard to religious denomination.

Lagan College is a grant maintained, integrated school as defined by the Education Reform (NI) Order 1989 and the Board of Governors is required to ensure that 'the management, control and ethos of the school are such as are likely to attract reasonable numbers of both Protestant and Roman Catholic students'. The Board of Governors of Lagan College considers that this is the pre-eminent feature which distinguishes an integrated school from all other schools and will operate the criteria as outlined below in such a way as to effect an intake which is as close as possible to a ratio of 50% Catholic and 50% Protestant. The College will also admit a proportion of students from other or no religious backgrounds. **The proportion of such students will not exceed 20% of the total enrolment in any year.**

Therefore, in the application of the criteria set out below, the Board of Governors will seek to reflect in the total

number admitted an overall balance between religious affiliations. The criteria for the all-ability entry of the admissions procedure set out below will be applied first to 'Other' or no religious affiliations in the order set down and a maximum of 20% of the available places will be awarded to this group. The meaning of 'Other' below includes both those whose religious affiliation is to a religious group which is other than Roman Catholic or Protestant and also those who have no religious affiliation.

The remaining places will be divided equally between Protestant and Roman Catholic applicants. In the event of less than 20% of places being awarded to applicants of 'Other' religious affiliations or none, the balance will be divided equally between Protestant and Roman Catholic applicants. In the event of an odd number of places remaining in this division, an additional place will be allocated to either the Protestant or Roman Catholic group, whichever having the greater number of applicants.

The criteria set out below will then be applied separately to the Protestant group and Roman Catholic group of applicants. In the event of there being fewer applicants from either group than there are places available for it, then the balance of places will be allocated to the other (Protestant or Roman Catholic) group.

Religious affiliation will be determined by information supplied by the parent/carer on the Transfer Application. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to designate students using the wording 'Catholic', 'Protestant' or 'Other' to categorise their child's religion.

Religious Affiliation is Required on the Transfer Application

The onus is on a parent or carer to make clear under which religious category they wish their child's application to be considered. This will be determined by the following in the order given:

- A. (1) Religious affiliation stated on the Transfer Application, by the parent(s)/carer(s).
 - (2) In the absence of (1 above) the type of primary school which the student attended (i.e. controlled or maintained) will be used to determine the religious affiliation; The Board of Governors will regard pupils attending a Catholic Maintained School as '**Catholic**' pupils and pupils attending a Controlled school as '**Protestant**'.
 - (3) In the absence of (1 and 2 above) in the case of students transferring from a controlled integrated primary school, grant maintained integrated primary school, Irish Medium School and/or the preparatory department of a voluntary grammar school, the school will be asked to supply such information concerning the religious affiliation of the pupil. If the school is unable to or unwilling to supply the information, the Board of Governors will consider the pupil's religious affiliation category to be '**Other**'.
- B. The College seeks to preserve its co-educational nature. To that end, applications are welcomed equally from girls and boys.
 - C. The College will also apply its admissions criteria in such a way as to preserve its all-ability nature and achieve a distribution of academic ability as close as possible to that in the population at large as measured by the SEAG Entrance Assessment. To that end, applications will be considered in two stages:
 - (i) Stage I, Grammar Stream Entry (35% of the intake, selected by reference to the SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome Total Standardised Assessment Score (TSAS);
 - (i) Stage II, All-Ability Entry (65% of the intake, selected with **no** reference to the SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome).

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Section A

STAGE I GRAMMAR STREAM ENTRY

(Selection by SEAG Entrance Assessment Outcome - Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS))

(Selection with no reference to Religious Affiliation)

Criterion 1. SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome -Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)

For the Academic Year 2025/2026 Lagan College will use academic criteria to select pupils for our Stage I Grammar Stream Entry.

The Board of Governors will consider applications from Primary 7 girls and boys who have taken the Entrance Assessment anywhere in Northern Ireland provided by the Schools' Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG).

SEAG will provide the Statement of Outcomes of the Entrance Assessment to parents as a Total Standardised Aged Score (TSAS). The College will use the Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) to allocate applicants a place in the order of Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) achieved by applicants in rank order from highest to lowest until all places have been filled up to 35% of the school's admissions number.

Parent(s)/carer(s) should upload the original **SEAG Entrance Assessment Statement of Outcomes with the Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) achieved by your child in the SEAG Entrance Assessment, and their SEAG Unique Pupil Number with their child's Transfer Application.**

For the avoidance of doubt, the SEAG Entrance Assessment comprises of 2 assessment tests undertaken on both Saturday 16th November and Saturday 23rd November 2024.

or,

Applicants who, having been considered under Special Circumstances/ Special Provisions are deemed by the Admissions Sub-Committee, on the basis of a form and documentation provided by parent(s)/carer(s) to have been determined an equivalent Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS).

Parent(s) Carer(s) must upload the relevant Special Circumstances or Special Provision Form and documentation with their child's Transfer Application.

Selection at a SEAG Entrance Assessment- Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)

If there are more applicants holding the same SEAG Entrance Assessment -Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) than places available for Stage I Grammar Stream Entry (maximum of 35% of the intake), preference will be given at that SEAG Entrance Assessment, Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) according to the following criteria in the order listed:

- 1 (a)** applicants who have a brother(s) or sister(s) or half-brother or half-sister enrolled in the College by 28th January 2025, or formerly enrolled in the College;
- (b)** applicants who are the only or eldest child in their family, to transfer to a mainstream Post-Primary School. This must be verified by an accompanying Primary School letter, signed by the Principal.

*In the case of multiple births, if one child meets the criteria sufficiently to be allocated a place, the other child/children will be considered as having a sibling at the College, i.e. criterion 1A. In the event of one child being displaced and the other child/children being admitted the Board of Governors reserve the right to apply the 1A category to all children of multiple birth in that family to ensure that all are admitted.

**In the case of a newly formed integrated primary school, the Admissions Sub-Committee will also consider under this category the first child in their family to have been able to reach P7 since the school opened i.e. the eldest eligible child; (if this is not clearly stated on the transfer application, Lagan College's Board of Governors will presume that your child is "not the only child or eldest child of their family").

***In the case where an older sibling attends a Special School, the Admissions Sub-Committee will also consider under this category, whether the applicant is the first child in the family to be eligible to attend a mainstream school.

- (c) applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 28th January 2025;
- (d) all other applicants.

NB All information relevant to the above must be clearly stated by parents on the transfer application.

In the event of a tie occurring at any of the Stages 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, in the order set down, priority will be determined according to the following sub-criteria in the order set down:-

- I. Applicants who have placed Lagan College first on their transfer application.
- II. Applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 28th January 2025.
- III. Applicants enrolled at the closest grant maintained integrated primary school or closest controlled integrated primary school to Lagan College on 28th January 2025. The distance between the applicant's grant maintained integrated or controlled integrated primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- IV. Applicants with a parent or older brother or sister in the permanent employment of the Board of Governors of Lagan College, i.e. not less than ten hours per week, on 28th January 2025, or an applicant whose parent is a member of the Board of Governors on 28th January 2025.
- V. Applicants enrolled at the closest primary school to Lagan College on 28th January 2025. The distance between the applicant's primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- VI. If, after applying the previous criteria, in the order set down, there are more applications than spaces available, the unique random computerised number* (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order.

* Any reference in the criteria to the unique random computerised number refers to a list of unique random computerised numbers in the range of 1-1000, which is generated by a computerised programme "Randomizer.org" and verified by the College's Board of Governors before the Transfer Application Process 2025 opens on 28th January 2025. A unique random computerised number will be added to each transfer application in the order of P7 applications received from the EA on their spreadsheet, from top to bottom.

Special Circumstances and Special Provision

(Related to Stage 1 Grammar Entry Applications Only)

In applying their admissions criteria to the Stage 1 Grammar Stream Entry, the Admission Sub-Committee of the Board of Governors will take claims of Special Circumstances and Special Provision into consideration before the application of criteria set out in Section A Stage 1 Grammar Stream Entry.

Please note the SEAG Entrance Assessment consists of two papers. A pupil who only takes one paper (i.e., either Paper 1 or Paper 2 but not both) will not have completed the full Entrance Assessment. Such pupils will, however, have their "single paper" marked by GL Assessment and will receive a Statement of Outcomes. Outcomes for pupils who only sit one paper will have the designation "e" (for estimate) immediately after the Outcome, e.g., Total Standardised Age Score TSAS 196e. Parents of pupils in this situation can make an application to the School under Special Provision.

Special Circumstances

The Admissions Sub Committee will admit students strictly in rank order of the SEAG Entrance Assessment- Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS), subject only to the consideration of medical or other problems which may have affected performance in the assessment(s), and which are supported by documentary evidence of a medical or other appropriate nature. These 'medical or other problems,' are commonly referred to as '**Special Circumstances.**'

Sufficient documentary evidence must be provided by the parent(s)/carer(s). In addition to medical or other appropriate evidence all applicant's standardised English and Maths scores at Key Stage 2 (preferably, P5, P6 and P7 scores) should be submitted and this information should be attached to the applicant's Transfer Application. These scores must be obtained from your child's primary school and verified by their School Principal.

On 25th January 2025, parent(s)/carer(s) should receive their child's SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome and will be able to consider whether their child's performance in the SEAG Entrance Assessment was adversely affected by medical or other problems which their child experienced just before or during the SEAG Entrance Assessment.

If parent(s)/carer(s) decide to proceed with a claim for Special Circumstances and they are making an application to one or more of the schools which use the SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome, then they must complete a Special Circumstances Form and upload details of the claim and the supporting evidence to the Education Authority, through the completion of the Transfer Application.

The Admissions Sub-Committee will consider each application for Special Circumstances. Where this is granted, the Admissions Sub-Committee will determine, on the basis of the information available, an appropriate Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) for the applicant. Such applicants will then be considered with all other applications. Criteria as outlined in Section A Stage 1 Grammar Stream Entry will then be applied in the order set down, as necessary.

Please see the Special Circumstances Form on Lagan College's website <https://lagancollege.com/>

Special Provision

Special Provision may be granted by Lagan College's Board of Governors to a child:

- i. Who has received more than half of their education** outside Northern Ireland; **based on the time from the start of Primary 1 (1st September 2018) to the 28th of February 2025 i.e. more than 3 years and 3 months; or
- ii. Who wishes to transfer to a post-primary school that uses the SEAG Entrance Assessment from a school outside Northern Ireland; or
- iii. Who due to serious medical or other problems which are supported by appropriate documentary evidence or for a demonstrably valid reason also supported by appropriate documentary evidence, was EITHER unable to sit the SEAG Entrance Assessment OR has an estimated outcome because they only sat one of the two Entrance Assessment papers.

If a parent(s)/carer(s) wishes to proceed with a claim for Special Provision and they are making an application to one or more of the schools which use the SEAG Entrance Assessment outcome, then they must complete a Special Provision Form and upload details of the claim and the supporting evidence to the Education Authority, through the completion of the Transfer Application.

The Admissions Sub-Committee will consider each application for Special Provision. Where this is granted, the Admissions Sub-committee will determine, on the basis of the information available, an appropriate Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) for the applicant. Such applicants will then be considered with all other applications. Criteria as outlined in Section A Stage 1 Grammar Stream Entry will then be applied in the order set down, as necessary.

* In the event that applications considered at Stage I Grammar Stream entry exceed the number of places available (35% of the intake), **all applications which are not admitted at Stage I Grammar Stream entry will automatically be considered at Stage II All-Ability entry.**

Section B

STAGE II ALL-ABILITY ENTRY

(Selection with reference to Religious Affiliation)

(Selection with no reference to the SEAG Entrance Assessment)

The onus is on a parent or carer to make clear under which religious category they wish their child's application to be considered.

Applications will be considered at Stage II All-Ability entry **regardless** of whether the applicant did or did not sit the SEAG Assessment.

Applicants will be given priority within the three perceived religious affiliation groups (Catholic, Protestant and Other religious affiliation or none) and considered in the order listed:

- 1 (a)** applicants who have a brother(s) or sister(s) or half-brother or half-sister enrolled in the College by 28th January 2025, or formerly enrolled in the College;
- (b)** applicants who are the only or eldest child in their family to transfer to a mainstream Post-Primary School. This must be verified by an accompanying Primary School letter.

*In the case of multiple births, if one child meets the criteria sufficiently to be allocated a place, the other child/children will be considered as having a sibling at the College, i.e. criterion 1A. In the event of one child being displaced and the other child/children being admitted the Board of Governors reserve the right to apply the 1A category to all children of multiple birth in that family to ensure that all are admitted.

**In the case of a newly formed integrated primary school, the Admissions Sub-Committee will also consider under this category the first child in the family to have been able to reach P7 since the school opened i.e. the eldest eligible child; (if this is not clearly stated on the transfer application, Lagan College's Board of Governors will presume that your child is "not the only child or eldest child in their family").

***In the case where an older sibling attends a Special School, the Admissions Sub-Committee will also consider under this category, whether the applicant is the first child in the family to be eligible to attend a mainstream school.

- (c)** applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 28th January 2025;
- (d)** all other applicants.

NB All information relevant to the above must be clearly stated by parents on the transfer application.

In the event of a tie occurring at any of the Stages 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, in the order set down, priority will be determined according to the following sub-criteria in the order set down:-

- I. Applicants who have placed Lagan College first on the transfer application.
- II. Applicants enrolled at a grant maintained integrated primary school or controlled integrated primary school on 28th January 2025.
- III. Applicants enrolled at the closest grant maintained integrated primary school or closest controlled integrated primary school to Lagan College on 28th January 2025. The distance between the applicant's grant maintained integrated or controlled integrated primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- IV. Applicants with a parent or older brother or sister in the permanent employment of the Board of Governors of Lagan College, i.e. not less than ten hours per week, on 28th January 2025, or an applicant whose parent is a member of the Board of Governors on 28th January 2025.

Admissions criteria for entry September 2025

- V. Applicants enrolled at the closest primary school to Lagan College on 28th January 2025. The distance between the applicant's primary school and Lagan College will be determined using the measurement calculated using the Ordnance Survey Digital Distance and Area Measurement Tool (Map Console).
- VI. If, after applying the previous criteria, in the order set down, there are more applications than spaces available, the unique random computerised number* (which was allocated on receipt of applications) will be assigned and used to allocate places in ascending order.

*Any reference in the criteria to the unique random computerised number refers to a list of unique random computerised numbers in the range of 1-1000, which is generated by a computerised programme "Randomizer.org" and verified by the College's Board of Governors before the Post Primary Admissions Procedure 2025 opens on 28th January 2025. A unique random computerised number will be added to each transfer application in the order of P7 applications received from the EA on their spreadsheet, from top to bottom.

Relevant Information

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that all accurate and relevant information is uploaded with their child's Transfer Application received by Lagan College. **Failure to include all accurate and relevant information may prejudice the chance of a student being admitted.**

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors Admissions Sub-Committee reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any applicant's Transfer Application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors Admissions Sub-Committee by 31st August 2025, 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.

Year 8 Waiting List Policy

Any student that has initially not gained a place during the Transfer Application process will automatically be moved on to the college's waiting list for Year 8 entry only. In the event of a Year 8 vacancy arising, the above admissions criteria will continue to be applied in the order set down above.

After Year 8, parent(s)/carer(s) must write to the school requesting that their child's application is considered for Year 9 entry.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Academic Year	Approved Admissions No	Total Applications <i>i.e.</i> <i>All preferences</i>	Total Admissions
2022/23	220	468	222*
2023/24	220	438	222*
2024/25	220	319	221*

* Additional DENI approved Temporary Variations/ Exceptional Circumstance Admissions

Criteria for entry into Year 9 onwards

Available on Lagan College's website.