

LIMAVADY GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
3 Ballyquin Road  
Limavady  
Co Londonderry BT49 9ET

FINAL COPY EMAILED 3/11/10

Controlled  
Grammar School  
Boys and Girls  
Age Range 11 – 18

Tel No: 028 7776 0950  
Fax No: 028 7776 5183  
E-mail: info@lgs.limavady.ni.sch.uk  
Website: www.limavadygrammar.org.uk

Principal: Mr R Wilson, BSc(Hons), HSc, Grad. Cert. Ed., PQH(NI)

Chairman of the Board of Governors: Mr R Alcorn

ENROLMENT NO. SEPTEMBER 2010: 889

ADMISSIONS NO. 130

APPROVED ENROLMENT NO. 910

**Open Night**  
Monday 31 January 2011  
P7 pupils

Surnames A – H 6.45 pm  
Surnames I – M 7.00 pm  
Surnames N – Z 7.15 pm

**P6 pupils 7.30 pm**  
**Car parking available in Rossmar School**

**To Parents/Guardians** naming **Limavady Grammar School** hereinafter referred to as 'the School' as a preference on your child's Transfer Form.

### **Entrance Assessment Results**

As part of its admissions criteria the School will consider children who have taken the **Common Entrance Assessment administered by The Association for Quality Education Limited (AQE)**.

Parents/Guardians of applicants are advised to record the Age Standardised Score awarded by AQE and the AQE Candidate Number in **Section C of the Transfer Form** in the following format:

**AQE Candidate No. \_\_\_\_ AQE Score \_\_\_\_**

and attach a statement of result to the Transfer Form.

### **Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions**

If you are making a claim for your child to be considered under Special Circumstances or Special Provisions please note that you are required to provide information as detailed in the relevant sections below.

Claims for consideration for a child under Special Circumstances and Special Provisions shall be examined and decided upon **before the application of any of the Admissions Criteria**.

## **CATCHMENT**

Limavady Grammar School (the School) draws its pupils from a wide area. In recent years pupils have come from Ballykelly, Bellarena, Broadbridge, Chapel Road, Craigbrack, Cumber Claudy, Donemana, Drumachose, Drumahoe, Drumrane, Ebrington, Eglinton, Faughanvale, Good Shepherd, Gorran, Gortnaghey, Groarty, Hezlett, Kilrea, Limavady Central, Lisnagelvin, Listress, Londonderry Model, Macosquin, Millburn, Model, Mullabuoy, Nazareth House, Newbuildings, Oakgrove, St Anthony's Bellarena, St Canice's Dungiven, St Colmcille's Claudy, St Columba's Newbuildings, St Eithne's Londonderry, St Finlough's Sistrakeel, St John's Dernaflaw, St Matthew's Drumsurn, St Patrick's & St Joseph's Garvagh and Termoncanice Primary Schools.

## **FACILITIES**

The School buildings are in attractive spacious grounds and include an assembly hall/gymnasium, sports hall, lecture theatre, library and resource centre, 10 science laboratories, a technology suite, 6 networked computer rooms and specialist rooms for Art, Home Economics and Geography. A Careers Suite, Sixth Form Centre, dining hall and kitchen and a social area complement these excellent facilities.

## **AIMS – learning, caring, preparing for life**

The School aims to enable pupils to develop their full potential in acquiring knowledge, skills and qualifications relevant to the adult world, to learn respect for the religious and moral values of different cultures and to appreciate the importance of planned physical and intellectual pursuits outside the formal curriculum.

## **ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

All pupils follow courses which are strongly academic, with emphasis throughout on a broad general education, delaying specialisation for as long as possible. Pupils at Key Stage 3 study all aspects of the new Northern Ireland Curriculum by way of the traditional subjects, but also developing Learning Skills and Personal Capabilities, Citizenship and Employability, as well as engaging proactively in relevant aspects of Assessment for Learning. At 'A' level our commitment to the Roe Valley Learning Community (RVLC) ensures that our students have access to a range of applied subjects in combination with traditional academic subjects, in line with the Entitlement Framework. Physical Education and Games and Learning for Life and Work form an integral part of all courses. All pupils take GCSE in a range of 7 – 10 subjects and a high proportion pursue their studies to 'A' level and beyond. The School's examinations results place it regularly in the top tier in Northern Ireland and in the top 150 in the UK. 97% of our leavers enter University courses. The 'A' level results in 2010 were the best ever; 30 pupils gained 3 or more Grade A\* As, with 8 attaining 4 A\* As.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR INTERESTS**

The School is generously provided with playing fields including a full-size Astroturf pitch and use is made of other nearby facilities. Rugby, cricket, soccer, hockey, athletics, tennis, netball and swimming are all available. Gaelic Games are accessible via the RVLC. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, chess, debating, choral work, string and brass ensembles, Jazz Band and the Scripture Union are among the wide range of interests catered for. The School has established a high reputation for the quality of presentation of plays and musicals. Competition with other schools takes place in many of these activities and the School is divided into 4 Houses to encourage a competitive spirit within the School. Parties of pupils frequently travel to plays, films, conferences and exhibitions and there are opportunities for educational visits abroad for sport, language exchange and skiing.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Overseen by the Vice-Principal (Pastoral) and Year Heads, each class is supervised by a Form Teacher who looks after each pupil's individual welfare and academic progress. The Careers Department provides expert guidance and information to help pupils reach decisions on their future through its Careers Education, Information and Guidance Programme. The participation of parents/guardians is essential and regular opportunities are given to meet subject and careers teachers. In addition the Principal is always most willing to discuss any problems with parents/guardians.

School colours are navy and royal blue. School uniform regulations are strictly enforced. There are no school fees, though a contribution, currently of £50 per pupil/£80 per family is requested for the School Fund.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **LIMAVADY GRAMMAR ADMISSIONS CRITERIA**

### **Admissions to Year 8 in September 2011**

The Board of Governors has approved the criteria described below and has delegated the task of applying these criteria to the Principal. Decisions in respect of "Special Circumstances" and "Special Provisions" are taken by the Admissions Sub-Committee of the Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as the 'Admissions Sub-Committee') to whom decision-making powers have been delegated by the full Board of Governors of the School. Further reference, therefore, to the Board of Governors may imply the Admissions Sub-Committee or the Principal.

The Board of Governors will NOT give priority to applications according to the preference in which they place the School on the Transfer Form.

### **What criteria must a child meet to gain entrance to Limavady Grammar School?**

If the number of applications is greater than the Admissions Number determined by The Department of Education, the following criteria shall be applied in the order set down below:

- 1 Children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission will be selected for admission to the School before any child not so resident.
- 2 Children who have taken the Common Entrance Assessment administered by AQE, subject only to the consideration of applications claiming 'Special Circumstances' and 'Special Provisions' as defined below.

Places will be allocated in strict rank order of the Age Standardised Scores, starting with the highest score and working in descending rank order. Parents/Guardians of applicants are advised to record the Age Standardised Score awarded by AQE and the AQE Candidate Number in Section C of the Transfer Form and attach a statement of result to the Transfer Form.

If two or more pupils are eligible for the final remaining place or places because they have equal Age Standardised Scores, then the following sub-criteria shall be applied in the order set down:

- (a) Normal transfer age pupils;
- (b) Pupils with a sibling\*<sub>1</sub> currently enrolled at the School (state name(s) and registration groups in Section C of the Transfer Form) OR pupils who are the eldest child\*<sub>2</sub> in the family;
- (c) Oldest pupils first (established by date of birth);
- (d) Children will be selected for admission on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as it appears on the Birth Certificate, in the order used in the BT Telephone Directory for domestic users, 'BT order';

- (e) Where surnames begin with the same letter, the second and, if necessary, subsequent letters will be used to establish relative priority for admission using BT order;
- (f) Where children have the same surname, the initial letter of the first forename as it appears on the Birth Certificate will be used for admission;
- (g) Where the first forenames begin with the same letter, the second and, if necessary, subsequent letters will be used to establish relative priority for admission using BT order;
- (h) Where no priority can be established by means of this direct alphabetical comparison (eg 'Alan' 'Alanna') the child with the shorter first forename will be prioritised for admission;
- (i) Where children have the same first forename the child without any subsequent forename will be prioritised for admission;
- (j) Where the application of (d) to (i) above has not permitted priority to be established then (g) and (h) will be repeated with the substitution of 'second forename' for 'first forename';
- (k) The School wishes to continue its tradition of accepting children from a wide catchment area, irrespective of the proximity of their homes from the School. If, however, it becomes necessary to make a final selection, priority will be given to the child who lives closest to the School. Distance will be measured in a straight line distance from the child's home to the front entrance of the School's main administrative building, using an Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland web distance measurement tool. Home will be taken to mean the child's address as entered on the Transfer Form.

If there are still places available after all the children who have taken AQE's Common Entrance Assessment have been considered the above criteria (labelled a-k) shall be applied, in the order set down, to children who have not taken the Common Entrance Assessment administered by AQE.

\*<sub>1</sub> **Sibling** – defined as 'child of the family'. This covers children fostered, adopted or half-brothers and sisters and orphaned cousins being brought up with a family.

\*<sub>2</sub> **Eldest child** – this is defined as children who are the eldest child eligible to be admitted to the School. It treats twins (or other multiples) as joint eldest. An only child is an 'eldest' child.

### **Special Circumstances and Special Provisions**

Claims for consideration for a child under Special Circumstances and Special Provisions shall be examined and decided upon **before the application of any of the Admissions Criteria**.

The purpose of a claim for Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions is so that a child can be assigned a score equivalent to that which he or she would have obtained in the AQE Common Entrance Assessment under normal conditions. Consideration of a claim for Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions consists of two parts: the first requires the consideration of whether there is sufficient material to permit a child to be considered as having Special Circumstances or attracting Special Provisions, or both; if a child is permitted to be considered as having Special Circumstances or as attracting Special Provisions or both, the second part of the consideration requires an educational judgement to be made on the totality of the material presented to the School's Admissions Sub-Committee so that a mark equivalent to that which the child would have obtained in the AQE Common Entrance Assessment under normal conditions can be awarded.

**It is for parents/guardians to present all such material as they consider will assist the school in performing both parts of the consideration described above. It should be noted by parents/guardians that both parts of the consideration referred to involve an exercise in judgement and not precise calculation.**

### **Educational Evidence which could support a claim for Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions**

In reaching the educational judgement needed to award the mark that the child would have obtained in the AQE Common Entrance Assessment under normal circumstances, the

Admissions Sub-Committee will consider any material presented (and attached to the Transfer Form) in support of the application. This material may include any or all of the following:

- (i) The score achieved in the AQE Common Entrance Assessment;
- (ii) The results for the child of any standardised tests conducted in Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 and the results in any end of year tests in English and Mathematics;
- (iii) Comparative information from the Primary School, including the results, without names, for other children in the child's Year 7 class of any standardised tests conducted in Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 and the results in any end of year tests in English and Mathematics;
- (iv) Any other relevant material.

### **Special Circumstances**

The School has academic performance as its first criterion, subject only to the consideration of medical or other problems which may have affected a child's performance in AQE's Common Entrance Assessment 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'.

Parents/Guardians who wish to apply, on behalf of their child, to the School under 'Special Circumstances' should complete Form SC10 obtainable from the School or AQE and attach it, with appropriate documentary evidence, to the Transfer Form. Parents/Guardians should note that where there is independent evidence available it should be supplied.

Please note:

- If a claim for the consideration of Special Circumstances is made in respect of matters for which Special Access arrangements were granted by AQE, the Admissions Sub-Committee will take into account the fact that the child was granted Special Access arrangements for those matters.

### **Details of Medical or Other Problems which could contribute to a claim for Special Circumstances**

Where it is claimed that a pupil's performance in AQE's Common Entrance Assessment has been affected by a medical or other problem, it is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to set out in the Form SC10 the precise details of the problem and attach documentary evidence of its existence to the Transfer Form. This should be noted also in Section C of the Transfer Form.

Where the problem is a medical one of short term duration which affected the child only at the time of the AQE Common Entrance Assessment, parents/guardians should be aware that the school will attach greater weight to evidence indicating that the child was examined by a medical practitioner in relation to the illness at the time of the assessments.

If the claim is for other than a medical problem, it is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to set out precise details of the problem on the Form SC10 and to provide appropriate, documentary evidence to corroborate its existence.

**In both such cases, it will be the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide the School's Admissions Sub-Committee with evidence which reflects the child's academic ability.**

In assessing a claim for Special Circumstances the Admissions Sub-Committee of the Board of Governors will first of all determine, on the basis of all the documented evidence made available to it at the time of reaching its decision, if the claim is to be upheld. Only if the claim is upheld will the Admissions Sub-Committee then make a final decision on whether or not (and by how much) the Age Standardised Score awarded by AQE and attained by the child should be

adjusted. Any revised score will then be placed at the appropriate point within the rank order of all the children who have been awarded an Age Standardised Score. The Admissions Criteria shall then be applied.

### **Special Provisions**

Special Provisions will apply for:

- (a) Children whose parents/guardians wish them to transfer from schools outside Northern Ireland;
- (b) Children who have received more than half their primary education outside Northern Ireland;
- (c) Children entered for the AQE Common Entrance Assessment, who, because of unforeseen and **serious** medical or other problems which are supported by appropriate documentary evidence, were unable to participate in any of the assessments.

**In all three such cases, it will be the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide the School's Admissions Sub-Committee with evidence which reflects the child's academic ability. Parents/Guardians should note that where there is independent evidence available it should be supplied.**

Note: It is expected that, other than children who took up residence in Northern Ireland after 17 September 2010, all those seeking admission should sit the AQE Common Entrance Assessment.

Parents/Guardians who wish to apply to the School under Special Provisions should complete Form SC10 obtainable from the School or AQE, stating the precise reason why they believe the child is eligible for consideration under Special Provisions. This should be attached to and sent, with the Transfer Form, with appropriate documentary evidence.

The Admissions Sub-Committee will consider the application for Special Provisions. Where this is accepted, the following procedure will apply:

- (a) The Admissions Sub-Committee will consider any documentary material which will enable it to make an educational judgement as to what the candidate would have obtained in the AQE Common Entrance Assessment had Special Provisions not been applied.
- (b) The Admissions Sub-Committee will determine, on the basis of all the available assessment information, an appropriate Age Standardised Score for the child. This score will then be placed at the appropriate point within the rank order of all the children who have been awarded an Age Standardised Score by AQE. The Admissions Criteria shall then be applied.

### **Special Educational Needs**

The procedures for children in receipt of a Statement of Special Educational Needs will operate outside the normal Open Enrolment procedures, in order to ensure that such children are provided with the most appropriate school placement. Further advice may be obtained from WELB.

### **Note to Parents/Guardians**

**It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that the Transfer Form is completed in full and that all relevant information is recorded on, or attached to, the Transfer Form by the date of receipt by the School.**

If the Board of Governors becomes aware of

- (a) any material irregularity in the application made by the child to AQE in connection with the prescribed test, or

- (b) any falsification of any documents submitted to AQE in connection with the prescribed test, or
- (c) any material breach of the conditions on the part of the child or his/her parents or guardians relating to the prescribed test,

it reserves the right to reject the application, to the School, of such a child.

**The verification of information provided**

- Parents/Guardians should note that the information contained within an application that qualifies the child for admission may require to be verified.
- The Admissions Sub-committee therefore reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Application Form/Transfer Form.
- This information will be requested from successful children on or shortly after 30 May 2011 when they have been notified of their allocation of a place at the School.
- Parents/Guardians should also note that the provisions of false information or incorrect information or the failure to provide verifying documents according to the required deadline may result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the School to offer a place.

**Admissions following the conclusion of the Transfer Process until 31 August 2011**

**Waiting Lists**

A waiting list consisting of applications on behalf of children who have sought admission but have been unsuccessful will operate following the conclusion of the Transfer Process. Should a space become available then decisions will be taken by applying the Year 8 Admissions Criteria to those pupils who have been unsuccessful in their application.

**New Applications**

Parents/Guardians who wish their child to be considered for admission in the event of a place arising after the conclusion of the Transfer Process and before 1 September 2011 should, in the first instance, write to the Principal stating this. An acknowledgement will be issued and advice on how to proceed will be given. If a place(s) becomes available before 1 September 2011 and there are more children seeking admission than there are places available then decisions will be taken by applying the Year 8 Admissions Criteria to those pupils seeking admission at the time the place(s) becomes available. Should the Admissions Sub-Committee determine that a child, who has arrived in Northern Ireland after the Transfer Process has been concluded and is seeking admission to the School, is suitable for admission, and all places have been allocated, it will seek the approval from the Department of Education to admit the child through the allocation of an additional place.

**Admission into Year 8 after 1 September 2011**

Parents/Guardians who wish their child to be considered for admission in the event of a place arising after the beginning of the school year should, in the first instance, write to the Principal stating this. An acknowledgement will be issued. If a place(s) becomes available after 1 September 2011 and there are more children seeking admission than places available, then decisions will be made by applying the Year 8 Admissions Criteria to those pupils seeking admission at the time the place(s) becomes available.

**NUMBERS OF APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS**

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2008/2009	130	138	133
2009/2010	130	141	130

2010/2011	130	130	128
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