



LIMAVADY

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prospectus 2024



Welcome to Limavady Grammar School

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

January 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Limavady Grammar School's new Prospectus! I hope that you find it interesting and informative as you make decisions about your child's post-primary education.

Limavady Grammar is a happy, caring school in which children flourish and achieve highly both in and out of the classroom. Relationships which are based on respect and positivity bring out the best in our pupils, while our system of Pastoral Care ensures that any difficulties the children experience, whether academic or emotional, are listened to sympathetically and appropriate strategies implemented. We are a dynamic and forward thinking school, eager to adapt and change to meet the needs of our pupils.

We are a non-denominational inclusive grammar school and draw our pupils from a wide catchment area. Places in the school are much sought after and our curriculum provides breadth and choice at GCSE and A level which creates many opportunities for our students and opens the doors to many pathways. We are very proud of our pupils'

achievements. In recent years we have exceeded every key benchmark for Grammar Schools at GCSE and A Level with the results being the best in recent history. These results place us amongst the top grammar schools in Northern

Ireland. Most pupils progress into Sixth Form and each year our students leave us well-equipped to succeed in their degree course at university, further education course, higher level apprenticeship or indeed employment.

In addition, we provide an extensive extra-curricular programme in music, drama, sport and creative arts to name but a few. This holistic approach to education contributes to the well-rounded young adults who leave our school after Sixth Form.

Our intake for 2024 will be determined on the basis of the SEAG Entrance Assessments. Our Admissions Criteria can be read on Page 32.

Yours sincerely

NJ Madden (Mrs)
Principal

“ I like Limavady Grammar because of all the opportunities here. I love all the clubs and sports because there is so much and everyone has a club to join. All the teachers are so kind and it is a very happy school – Cara ”



School Aims

We pride ourselves on creating a warm and caring atmosphere which arises from the importance we place on friendly relationships between pupils, staff and parents. This enables pupils to develop a very positive attitude to school life in terms of both their studies and their participation in the wide range of activities on offer outside of the classroom.

The mission statement, Learning, Caring and Preparing for life underpins every aspect of school life.

It is the aim of Limavady Grammar School to:

- Create a happy, caring society within the school community in which staff and pupils learn to live and work together with mutual respect and feel a sense of belonging to the school.
- Provide a supportive pastoral care system for all, which recognises the importance of personal wellbeing and develops confidence as well as emotional resilience.
- Promote leadership and recognise and develop the talents of each individual in the pursuit of academic excellence and extra-curricular success.
- Assist pupils to recognise the need to develop a self-disciplined, independent and responsible attitude to life.
- Equip pupils to acquire a wide range of knowledge and skills, enabling them to gain qualifications relevant to further and higher education, employment and adult life in a rapidly changing world.
- Develop closer relationships between the school and the local community and provide service to the community whenever the opportunity arises
- Ensure that all pupils will receive the highest quality of learning and teaching so that they may be enabled to achieve their full potential.
- Create awareness, and actively to develop an understanding of the different cultures in our society, and to encourage tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life.

“The teachers are amazing and always willing to help. The extracurricular activities are diverse and there is something for everyone - Vivian”



“

*I like Limavady Grammar School
because it's a very friendly and upbeat school.*
- Aidan

”

Helping and encouraging your child to learn



Learning and Teaching

Excellent teaching encourages children to seize the life chances they deserve. Limavady Grammar School is proud to have staff who will excite and engage your children through an invitational approach which challenges them and shows them what they really can do. We promote Active Learning in the classroom helping pupils to develop independence and curiosity in their learning. We work hard to create good relationships in the classroom alongside a positive approach which will inspire and encourage your children to take risks in their learning, develop resilience and achieve outcomes they never thought were possible.

Supporting Learning

Literacy and numeracy are the backbone of success in learning and in life. We provide support for those who find these and other areas of the curriculum challenging. In order to help children who are finding aspects of Literacy or Numeracy difficult, we provide support at the Maths or Literacy Achievement Club. In addition Study Club is held after school in the Library where all students are welcome to complete homework tasks in a quiet and calm environment. A range of help and support is available for those pupils with physical difficulties or additional learning needs. This is overseen by the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and a team of Classroom Assistants.

Religious Education

Limavady Grammar School follows the RE Core Syllabus as agreed by the four main churches. The team of RE Teachers is confident in using key concepts and key questions to relate to important issues for young people in today's society.

Homework and Assessment, Tracking Pupil Progress

Homework provides an important opportunity to help pupils to fulfil their potential at school. Through the setting of regular homework, staff aim to encourage good work habits, the development of independent study skills and a highly-motivated attitude to learning.

Regular assessment allows teachers and parents to assess pupils' progress. Parents receive a report after each assessment point in the school year. Interventions are arranged, if necessary, to help your children to overcome any obstacles to their learning and to support them in their efforts to meet their personalised targets.



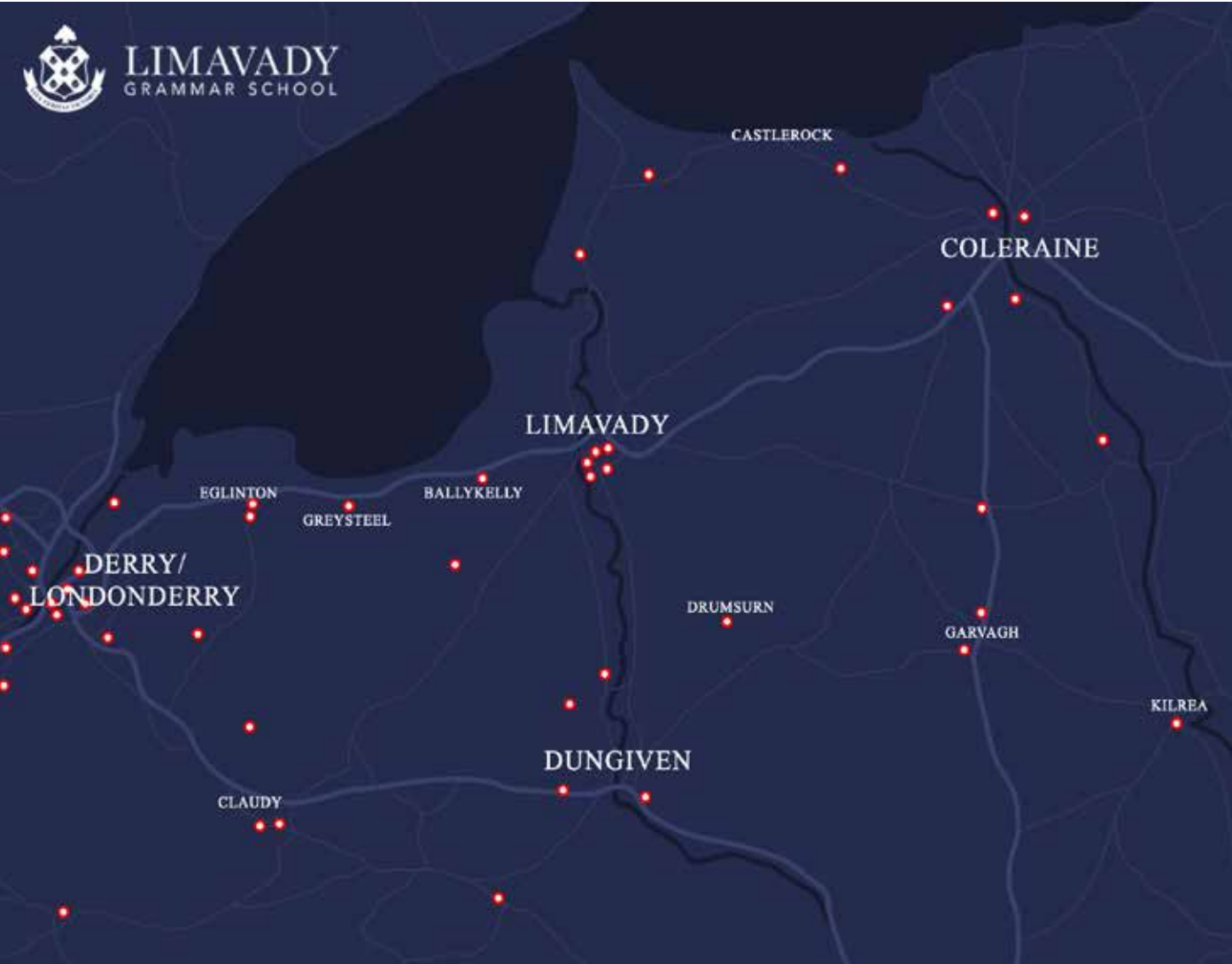
Pathways to Learning curriculum

Subjects	Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	A Levels
Art & Design	✓	✓	✓
Biology *	✓	✓	✓
Business Studies		✓	✓
Chemistry *	✓	✓	✓
Computing	✓	✓	
Construction			✓
Digital Technology (Multimedia & Programming)		✓	✓
Drama	✓	✓	
Engineering			✓
English (including Media Education)	✓	✓	
English Literature		✓	✓
Food and Nutrition / Nutrition and Food Science		✓	✓
French	✓	✓	✓
Further Mathematics		✓	✓
Geography	✓	✓	✓
Government and Politics			✓
Health and Social Care		✓	✓
History	✓	✓	✓
Home Economics	✓		
Learning for Life and Work	✓		
Life and Health Science (Single Award)			✓
Mathematics (with Financial Capability)	✓	✓	✓
Moving Image Arts			✓
Music	✓	✓	✓
Performing Arts			✓
Physical Education and Games	✓	✓	
Physics *	✓	✓	✓
Religious Studies	✓	✓	✓
Science (Double and Single Award)		✓	
Software Systems Development			✓
Spanish (Year 9 & 10)	✓	✓	✓
Sports Science and the Active Leisure Industry			✓
Technology & Design (Product Design & Systems and Control)	✓	✓	✓

* Please note: Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taught separately in Year 10 but as Combined Science in Years 8 and 9. The Key Stage 4 Curriculum is constantly under review.

Catchment Area

Limavady Grammar School is a popular and oversubscribed school which draws its pupils from a wide area. As an inclusive inter-determoninational school we welcome pupils from a wide geographical area. See map.



Each dot represents a contributory primary school.



Contributory Primary Schools

Limavady Grammar School draws its pupils from a wide area. In recent years pupils have come from:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Ballykelly | Macosquin |
| Broadbridge | Millburn |
| Castleroe | Mullabuoy |
| Chapel Road | Nazareth House |
| Culcrow | Newbuildings |
| Cumber | Oakgrove |
| Claudy | Roe Valley Integrated |
| Damhead | St Aidan's |
| DH Christie | Magilligan |
| Donemana | St Brigids |
| Drumachose | St Canice's Dungiven |
| Drumahoe | St Canice's Feeny |
| Drumrane | St Colmcille's |
| Ebrington | Claudy |
| Eglinton | St Columba's |
| Faughanvale | Newbuildings |
| Gaelscoil Léim an Mhadaidh | St Eithne's Londonderry St |
| Garvagh Good Shepherd | Finlough's Sistrakeel |
| Gorran | St John's Bligh Lane |
| Gortnaghey | St John's Dernaflaw |
| Groarty | St Mary's Gortnaghey |
| Hezlett | St Matthew's Drumsurn St |
| Kilrea | Oliver Plunkett |
| Limavady Central | St Patrick's & St Joseph's Garvagh |
| Lisnagelvin | Termoncanice |
| Listress | Irish Society Primary School |
| Londonderry Model | |

Afternoon bus routes

Sistrakeel, Londonderry via Eglinton/Strathfoyle (connection for Tamnaherin), Strathfoyle, Brewster's Corner, Slaughtmanus, Coolagh Road, Coleraine via Aghanloo, Londonderry via Tamnaherin, Aghanloo Crossroads, Baranailt, Drumsurn, Coleraine via Myroe, Kilrea, Killybrady, Ballyquin Road, Dungiven via Terrydremond, Claudy, Drumsurn and Dungiven via Largy/Burnfoot.

Timetable

- **Registration/Full Assembly**
8.55am - 9.10am
- **Period 1**
9.15am - 9.50am
- **Period 2**
9.50am - 10.25am
- **Period 3**
10.25am - 11.00am
- **Break**
11.00am - 11.15am
- **Period 4**
11.15am - 11.50am
- **Period 5**
11.50am - 12.25pm
- **Period 6**
12.25pm - 1.00pm
- **Lunch**
1.00pm - 1.40pm
- **Period 7**
1.45pm - 2.20pm
- **Period 8**
2.20pm - 2.55pm
- **Period 9**
2.55pm - 3.30pm
- **Extra Curricular Activities**
3.35pm
- **Bus Leaves for Translink Depot**
4.45pm



School Performance

Performance in Public Examinations 2019-2023
Please note Public Examinations did not take place in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Performance Indicator	2018-19		2022	2023
Percentage	LGS	NI Average	LGS	LGS
Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C	98.5	96.8	100	95.2
Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C	94.7	90.7	99.2	92.9
Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-G	100	99.9	100	100
Achieving no GCSEs	0	0	0	0
% Achieving 3+ A Levels at Grades A*-C	80.5	79.9	88	80
% Achieving 2+ A Levels at Grades A*-E	100	99.6	100	100

A full list of results is available in the Annual Report of the Board of Governors .





School Uniform

Our pupils are proud of their uniform. We expect all pupils to wear it correctly at all times and parents to support us in maintaining high standards. We expect our pupils to maintain our uniform policy when travelling to and from School.

Boys

- Navy blazer with School Crest
- School Tie
- White Shirt
- Charcoal Grey Trousers
- Plain black leather shoes

Girls (Years 8-10)

- Navy blazer with School Crest
- School Tie
- White Blouse
- Navy 6 panel knee length skirt (trousers are available)
- Plain black leather shoes

A full list of school uniform is available on the School Website and Pupil Information Booklet.



“ I really like all my teachers! They are so kind and helpful and make lessons really interesting! - Erynne ”

Caring for and supporting your child

We pride ourselves on the high standard of pastoral care we provide for our pupils. Each member of staff shares the responsibility for the welfare and happiness of our young people and plays an active role in encouraging every individual to reach their full potential.

This is underpinned by excellent teacher- pupil relationships built on respect, teamwork and communication. Pupils are supported to develop personally, socially and academically in a positive, friendly and safe learning environment. Working in partnership with you, the parents, is crucial in this process and on-going contact with home is highly valued. We operate an extensive rewards system within each year group and at whole school level in order to regularly celebrate the children's success both inside and outside the classroom. Individuals and form groups are consistently rewarded for their hard work, effort, commitment, progress and attitude.

We believe it is important for our pupils to have a voice in their school and to develop confidence and a sense of belonging to the wider LGS family/community. All year groups play a part in a well-structured and wide ranging Student Council, which allows them to contribute consistently to decision- making. Growing up in the modern world can be a challenging experience, so we offer strong support for pupils experiencing social or emotional problems. A professional, caring and trained Counselling Team offers additional support in school and has access to a number of external

organisations. The Designated Teachers for Child Protection are very experienced and a large number of staff hold First Aid qualifications.

The school's pastoral care system is led by an extremely dedicated team of Form Tutors and Heads of Year, who work closely with pupils to ensure that appropriate support is available to all. Your child will have daily contact with Form Teachers, a weekly personal development period, and occasional year group assemblies. Our modern and tailored Personal Development curriculum (Learning for Life and Work) ensures that pupils develop an understanding of study skills, academic target-setting and dealing with change, as well as other topical and relevant issues such as personal health, emotional development and safety. Areas such as mental health, anti-bullying, drugs awareness, mobile phone use and e-safety are among the many important topics delivered and discussed within the programme.

At LGS we encourage all of our pupils to make the very most of their time at school: every effort is made to remove any obstacles to learning. We are passionately committed to equipping our young people with both the confidence and skills to be enthusiastic learners and effective members of their community. Here are some of our new initiatives, designed to enhance our pupils' happiness and to bolster their self-confidence: a dedicated health and wellbeing room, mindfulness workshops, friendship groups and self-esteem and self-regard workshops.

For break and lunch there is an amazing selection of snacks and foods – I love the pizza!!
- Lily

Careers Guidance

Planning for your future

Limavady Grammar School provides a carefully planned programme of careers education and information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for all pupils in Years 8-14, in partnership with the Northern Ireland Careers Service.

Students are encouraged to take 'ownership' of their personal career planning so that informed and realistic choices are made at the vital transition stages of Years 10, 12 and 14. The programme aims to equip our young people with the knowledge and skills to investigate careers, identify those which interest or excite them and to develop their capabilities so that they will be able to participate confidently in a rapidly changing society. Information meetings for parents are provided at key transition points.

The programme includes group work and individual interviews, information and research activities, work-related learning (including work experience) and individual learning activities. These take place in stand-alone sessions and with Personal Development and Careers Classes. Other focused events are also provided. Work experience preparation and follow-up activities take place in careers lessons and other appropriate parts of the curriculum.

The vast majority of our students succeed in identifying and accessing the pathways most suited to their needs and abilities. Most of our departing Year 14 are accepted for higher education and many of them have secured places on the most competitive courses at some of the UK's best universities including Oxford and Cambridge. A number of students secured prestigious scholarships including the JP McManus All Ireland Scholarship, the Arkwright Scholarship and Deloitte and PWC Higher Level Apprenticeships.

I like the atmosphere in the school, everyone is just so nice and all the staff always show care and support. This makes me feel very safe and secure – Grace



Learning beyond the classroom

Clubs & Societies		Sports
Board Games	Orchestra	Athletics
Charity	Photography	Cricket
Chess	Pottery	Cross Country
Choir	Public Speaking	Football
Current Affairs	Rock Bands	Hockey
Crochet	Running Club	Netball
Debating	Science (STEM)	Rugby
Drama	Sign Language	Surfing
Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Study Club	Swimming
Dungeons and Dragons	SU (180)	Tennis
Guitar	Technology	
History	Textiles	
IT/Computing	Traditional Group	
Modern Languages	Ukelele Orchestra	
Musical Production	Young Enterprise	
Musical Concerts		

“ I really love extra-curricular activities, especially pottery club! I've never tried that before I came to LGS! - Rebecca ”





“The school is welcoming to all people from different backgrounds! - Lewis”

Getting involved, taking responsibility, growing up



The school provides many opportunities for our pupils to express their personalities by involvement in a wide variety of creative and expressive arts, sports, clubs and societies. Our young people are invited to develop their team-working and leadership skills.

Mentors

Sixth Formers provide mentoring support for the new Year 8 pupils to encourage the children to feel welcome to the school family. Numeracy and Literacy Mentors support younger pupils while at the same time developing their own self-confidence. Health and wellbeing mentors help with the organisation of health and wellbeing initiatives within the school.

STEM

Club mentors enthuse and support budding junior scientists with a range of exciting experiments.

School Council

Each class nominates a Representative. If a pupil is concerned about any aspect of their school experience, they can tell their class representative who can then raise the issue at a School Council meeting. Regular meetings which address whole school issues are chaired by the Senior Prefect Team.

Pupil Librarians

This role invites pupils to take an active role in managing the library. They carry out a range of responsibilities including helping other children to find, borrow or order the books they want to read, or the material they need for project work.

Bookstore Mentors

Every day Senior Pupils are entrusted with managing stock and with the sale of extra stationery. This helps them to develop responsibility and to enhance their communication skills as well as encouraging them to interact sensitively with younger pupils.

Prefects

Sixth Formers are elected as Prefects who assist with school events and serve as role models. The team is overseen by the Head Boy and Head Girl.

House Captains

Every pupil belongs to a House and each year House and Games Captains are elected to lead and motivate their members. The House System offers various competitive and non-competitive activities, and offers your child opportunities both to excel and to have fun.

“ If you love music, LGS is a great school where you can learn new skills and talents! I highly recommend the music lessons. - Jude ”



Working with the local community

Through our Charity Committee we work not only to support worthy charities such as Foyle Hospice, Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Appeal, AWARE, the Childrens' Cancer Unit in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Macmillan Cancer, Angel Wishes and LIPS (Limavady Initiative for the Prevention of Suicide) but also to help families in need in our local community through ventures such as donating Christmas hampers to St Vincent de Paul and the Salvation Army. Pupils are encouraged to think of others and to show compassion to those in need. Whole school staff and pupil charity events are organised and are very well supported by our school community.

As well as our partnerships with schools overseas, we work closely with other schools in the Roe Valley area to help maintain the highest possible educational standards in the local community and to foster ever-closer relationships between the schools and the communities they serve. Pupils have an opportunity to contribute positively to the local community in a variety of ways including community initiatives, Duke of Edinburgh award volunteering, helping out at Rossmar School and working in partnership with the RVLC schools to contribute to the Roe Valley Foodbank.





Developing global awareness



Ensuring that our pupils see themselves as citizens of the global community is an extremely important part of our work. We encourage the children to gain linguistic skills and enhance their awareness of different cultures. This should enable them to appreciate the many life-enhancing opportunities for employment and leisure on offer in today's world.

International School Award

We have recently earned the acclaimed International School Award, a recognition of the variety of ways in which we invite our pupils to form a keen awareness of the global context of their education.

Trips/Visits Abroad

Being a pupil at Limavady Grammar School means being offered the opportunity to visit a wide range of countries on eye-opening, mind-expanding trips abroad. In July 2019, a large group of senior pupils travelled to Oloosuyian Girls' School in Kenya, where they worked to improve the facilities needed to provide education for the local Maasai girls, as well as enjoying the intoxicating taste of life in Southern Kenya.

The bi-annual visit during Halloween to the CERN research centre in Geneva encourages A-level Physics students to apply and improve their understanding of Particle Physics. Halloween 2019 saw a rugby trip to Portugal which provided the senior squad with warm-weather training plus some competitive fixtures as well as the opportunity to experience Portuguese culture. Also taking place at Halloween, the trip to Berlin allowed 45 pupils accompanied by six members of staff to learn about engineering and manufacturing processes at the VW factory. They also enjoyed some fascinating cultural experiences such as trips to the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp Memorial Site, the remains of Hitler's Reichstag building, the Jewish Memorial, the Deutsches Technikmuseum and the superb Berlin Zoo. The annual junior and senior senior ski trips visit a range of European destinations where pupils learn to ski and have fun in the snow. The surfing visit to Cornwall has delighted many of our children with its variety of fun-filled activities in addition to the thrill of riding the waves. The hockey girls enjoyed their visit to France and Belgium in 2018; rugby and hockey tours have taken our pupils to such far-flung destinations as Canada, Argentina and S Africa!

Languages

We encourage pupils to develop their language skills through diverse events such as the ever-popular French breakfast, selling ice creams in either French or Spanish to celebrate European Day of Languages and a whole raft of lively activities organised by the Modern Foreign Languages Club. A level students honed their language skills on the trip to Brussels while their GCSE counterparts took the chance to use their French language skills outside the classroom in their yearly exchange trip to La Roche Sur Yon as well as making new friends and experiencing a different culture.



School Leaver Destinations

Years 12-14 2022/23

Subjects	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14
Higher Education NI	-	-	62
Higher Education NI Foundation Degree	-	-	-
Higher Education GB	-	-	14
Higher Education GB Foundation Degree	-	-	-
Higher Education non UK	-	-	1
Further Education NI	13	8	7
Further Education GB	-	-	-
Gap Year	-	-	7
Apprenticeship including Higher Level	2	-	5
Employment	-	1	3
Unknown	-	1	1
Emigrated	-	-	-
A Levels elsewhere	8	1	-
Long term sick	-	-	-
TOTAL	23	11	100

“ I've been at the Grammar for only 1 month and I already love it. All the older pupils have been so welcoming and so have all the teachers, if I had to choose one of the things I love, I would say the library. - Layla ”

Total School Attendance 2022/23

No. of possible attendance sessions:	309263
No. of sessions attended	284289
Percentage	91.9%

GCSE Results

Summer 2023



Subjects	Entries	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F
Art & Design	13	7.7	23.1	69.2	92.3	100	100	100	100
Biology	24	50	91.7	100	100	100	100	100	100
Business Studies	50	0	14	40	64	82	94	100	100
Chemistry	24	29.2	91.7	100	100	100	100	100	100
Design and Technology	49	14.3	44.9	79.6	89.9	98	100	100	100
Digital Technology	73	26	63	76.7	90.4	97.3	100	100	100
Drama	10	0	20	30	100	100	100	100	100
English Language	128	2.3	32.8	67.2	89.8	98.4	100	100	100
English Literature	41	9.8	48.8	80.5	95.1	95.1	100	100	100
Food and Nutrition	35	28.6	60	94.3	97.1	100	100	100	100
French	31	9.7	26.6	41.9	80.6	93.5	100	100	100
Geography	40	12.5	40	77.5	92.5	92.5	95	97.5	100
Health & Social Care	34	2.9	20.6	50	79.4	94.1	97.1	97.1	100
History	55	20	60	87.3	94.5	96.4	98.2	98.2	100
Mathematics	128	21.1	59.4	85.2	96.9	98.4	100	100	100
Mathematics Further	50	46	84	94	96	100	100	100	100
Music	2	0	50	50	50	100	100	100	100
Physics	24	75	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Religious Studies	43	16.3	48.8	76.7	93	97.7	100	100	100
Science Single Award	12	0	25	33.3	75	91.7	100	100	100
Spanish	44	25	61.4	77.3	90.9	100	100	100	100
Sport/PE Studies	31	3.2	51.6	67.7	83.9	90.3	100	100	100

Subjects	Entries	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC*	C*C*	C*C	CC
Science Double Award	92	9.8	22.8	48.9	64.1	83.7	90.2	95.7	98.9	100

A-Level Results

Summer 2023



Subjects	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E
Art & Design	6	0	16.7	66.7	100	100	100
Biology	29	0	27.6	62.1	82.8	96.6	100
Business Studies	5	0	0	40	60	80	100
Chemistry	23	8.7	34.8	65.2	87	95.7	100
Digital Technology	10	0	20	60	100	100	100
English Literature	21	0	23.8	47.6	85.7	100	100
French	4	25	75	100	100	100	100
Geography	13	7.7	53.8	92.3	100	100	100
Health & Social Care	19	0	5.3	31.6	84.2	100	100
History	21	9.5	28.6	76.2	90.5	100	100
Life and Health Science	4	0	0	50	75	100	100
Mathematics	30	26.7	70	86.7	100	100	100
Moving Image Art	2	0	0	50	100	100	100
Nutrition and Food Science	8	0	25	50	87.5	87.5	100
Physics	24	8.3	45.8	79.2	91.7	100	100
Politics	15	0	26.7	46.7	86.7	100	100
Religious Studies	21	4.8	38.1	57.1	85.7	95.2	100
Spanish	1	0	100	100	100	100	100
Sports Science	12	25	50	66.7	100	100	100
SSD	9	0	11.1	77.8	100	100	100
Technology	10	20	90	100	100	100	100

	Entries	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass
Engineering (BTEC)*	12	0	50	91.7	100

Admissions Criteria

Admissions to Year 8 in September 2024

To Parents/Guardians naming Limavady Grammar School (hereinafter referred to as ‘the School’) as a preference on your child’s Transfer Application.

Entrance Assessment Results

Please ensure that you enter the Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) awarded by the Schools’ Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG) together with the SEAG Unique Pupil Number on the Transfer Application and please note it is the responsibility of parents/guardians to make sure that the Statement of Outcome received from SEAG indicating their child’s SEAG Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) is uploaded with the Transfer Application.

SEAG is very clear that its 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 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. Such pupils may be considered for admission by Limavady Grammar School under Special Provisions.

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 read carefully the information given in the relevant section below. **Please note that you are required to upload with the Transfer Application all such material as you consider will assist the Admissions Committee of the Board of Governors in determining if Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions apply.**

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

Parents/Guardians who wish to apply to the School under Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions should complete Form SC and/or SP obtainable from the School and upload it with appropriate documentation described in section 2.

Parents/Guardians should note that they are required to produce documents verifying information pertinent to the School’s Admissions Criteria. If the documents are not uploaded with the Transfer Application, as detailed below, they will be requested after notification of a offer of a place at the school.

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

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 Provisions” and “Special Circumstances” are taken by the Admissions Committee. Further reference, therefore, to the Board of Governors may imply the Admissions 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 Application. **The criteria may be subject to change**

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA 2024

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 30 January 2024 at 12 noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 22 February 2024 at 12 noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon (GMT) on 22 February 2024 and up to 4.00pm on 4 March 2024 will be treated as a late application.

When considering which children should be selected for admission the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed or uploaded with the Transfer Application. Parents/Guardians should therefore ensure that all information

pertaining to their child and relevant to the School’s admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Application or uploaded with it at the time of application.

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

The School will use the following Admissions Criteria which will be applied in the order in which they are set out until the point where the admissions number is reached. In the event of over-subscription in the case of the first or subsequent criteria the next criterion will be applied in order:

- 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 Entrance Assessment administered by the Schools’ Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG). The Board of Governors will use the Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) as awarded by SEAG to a pupil in the Entrance Assessment, subject only to the consideration of applications claiming ‘Special Circumstances’ or ‘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 Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) awarded by SEAG and the SEAG Unique Pupil Number on the Transfer Application and attach a copy of the statement of outcome to the Transfer Application. If two or more pupils are eligible for the final remaining place or places because they have equal Total Age Standardised Scores, then the following sub-criteria shall be applied in the order set down:

- a) A child with a sibling*1 currently enrolled at the School at date of application **(state name(s) and registration group(s) on the Transfer Application);**
- b) A child who is the eldest child*2 in the family (details to be supplied on the Transfer Application). Proof of eldest child should be uploaded with the Transfer Application – a letter on headed note paper, stating that the child is the eldest child and that the family is known to the verifier, from one of the following who is not a family member of the Applicant: a Primary School Principal, a medical practitioner, a solicitor, an elected public representative, a member of the clergy or a police officer;
- c) Oldest pupils first (established by date of birth as entered on the Register of Births or the Adopted Children’s Register). In the event that two or more of the children who have applied have the same dates of birth (as entered on either of the said Registers) a random selection will be applied based on a computer programme. The said process is carried out by means of a computer programme which, for each applicant, generates a ranking number using the details from the Transfer Application as the seed for a random number generator. The random number generated for any given applicant is dependent only on the applicant’s name (as entered on the Transfer Application), and is not affected by the details of any other applicant. Applicants with the lowest ranking numbers will be given places up to the number of places available.

If there are still places available after all the children who have been entered for the SEAG Entrance Assessment and been awarded a Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) by SEAG or a TSAS assigned by the Admissions Committee in accordance with the arrangements for Special Circumstances and Special Provision have been considered, the above Criteria (labelled a-c) shall be applied, in the order set down, to children who have not been entered for the Entrance Assessment administered by SEAG.

*1 Sibling – defined as ‘child of the family’. This covers children fostered, adopted or half-brothers and sisters and orphaned cousins being brought up within a family.

*2 Eldest child – defined as:

- (a) “children who at the date of their application, are the eldest ‘child of the family’ as evidenced by date of birth. This wording covers “only” children and is also intended to treat twins (or other multiples) as joint eldest.
- (b) in circumstances where a family has not had the opportunity to have the eldest child already and currently enrolled in the School by reason of an older sibling being unable to attend mainstream school but who attended a Special School, then for the purposes of this criterion the eldest child shall be deemed by the Board of Governors to be the Child next eligible to apply for admission to the School.

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 Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) equivalent to that which he or she would have obtained in the SEAG 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 Committee so that a Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) equivalent to that which the child would have obtained in the SEAG Entrance Assessment under normal conditions can be assigned.

It is for parents/guardians to present all such material as they consider will assist the Admissions Committee 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 assign a Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) that the child would have obtained in the SEAG Entrance Assessment under normal circumstances, the

Admissions Committee will consider any material uploaded with the Transfer Application in support of the application. This material may include any or all of the following:

- (i) The Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) awarded by SEAG in the Entrance Assessment (if the child sits both SEAG Entrance Assessments) or the TSAS estimate provided by SEAG, where only one assessment was taken because of illness, or other unforeseen circumstances;
- (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 in Year 5 and 6;
- (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 in Year 5 and 6 and, where available the respective SEAG Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) awarded;
- (iv) Any other relevant material.

The onus is on the parents/guardians to ensure that a copy of Form SC and/or SP (obtainable from the School) together with all supporting evidence, is attached to the Transfer Application at the time of application.

Special Circumstances

The School has academic performance in the SEAG Entrance Assessment as its first criterion, subject only to the consideration of medical or other problems which may have affected a child's performance in SEAG 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 SC obtainable from the School and attach it, with appropriate documentary evidence, to the Transfer Application. Parents/Guardians should note that where there is independent evidence available it should be supplied.

The onus is on the parents/guardians to ensure that a copy of Form SC (obtainable from the School) together with all supporting evidence, is attached to the Transfer Application at the time of application.

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 SEAG, the Admissions 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 the SEAG 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 SC the precise details of the problem and attach documentary evidence of its existence to the Transfer Application.**

Where the problem is a medical one of short term duration which affected the child only at the time of the SEAG 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 SC and to provide appropriate documentary evidence to corroborate its existence. It should be noted that independent evidence will carry greater weight.

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

In assessing a claim for Special Circumstances the Admissions Committee 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 Committee then make a final decision on whether or not (and by how much) the Total Standardised Age Score awarded by SEAG 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 SEAG Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS). The Admissions Criteria shall then be applied.

Special Provisions

Special Provisions will apply to children who fall into any one of the following categories:

- (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 who due to a serious medical or other problem supported by appropriate documentary evidence or for a demonstrably valid reason also supported by appropriate documentary evidence, were either unable to sit both the SEAG Entrance assessment papers OR have an estimated outcome from SEAG because they only sat one of the two Entrance Assessment papers.

Assessment papers.

In all three such cases, it will be the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide the School's Admissions 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 02 October 2023, all those seeking admission should sit the SEAG Entrance Assessment.

Parents/Guardians who wish to apply to the School under Special Provisions should complete Form SP obtainable from the School, 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 Application, with appropriate documentary evidence.

The onus is on the parents/guardians to ensure that a copy of Form SP (obtainable from the School) together with all supporting evidence, is attached to the Transfer Application at the time of application.

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

- (a) The Admissions 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 SEAG Entrance Assessments had Special Provisions not been applied.

(b) The Admissions Committee will assign, on the basis of all the available assessment information, an equivalent Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) 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 a SEAG Standardised Age Score (TSAS). 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 the Education Authority.

Note To Parents/Guardians

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

If the Board of Governors becomes aware of any irregularity in the details uploaded or included on the Transfer Application it reserves the right to reject the application made on behalf of the child for admission to the School.

The verification of information provided

- Parents/Guardians should note that the information contained within an application that qualifies the child for admission will be verified.
- The Admissions Committee therefore reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on the Transfer Application.
- This information will be requested from successful children on or shortly after 18 May 2024 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 2024

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 (18 May 2024). Should a place 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 (18 May 2024) and before 1 September 2024 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 2024 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 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 2024

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of any child on whose behalf an application for admission to the School has been sought, but has been unsuccessful, and who wish that child to be considered for admission in the event of a place arising after the beginning of the academic year, should write to the Principal stating this. An acknowledgement will be issued. The name of the child will then be on a waiting list which will operate after 1 September 2024.

In addition, other Parent(s)/Guardian(s) who wish their child to be considered for admission to the school in the event of a place arising after the beginning of the academic year should, in the first instance, write to the Principal stating this. An acknowledgement will be issued.

If a place becomes available after 1 September 2024 and there are more children seeking admission than there are 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) become available.

Number of Applications and Admissions

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2021/22	136*	162	136 + 3 SEN
2022/23	132*	149	132 + 2 SEN
2023/24	130	149	130 + 2 SEN

* Temporary variation of admissions number



LIMAVADY

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Follow us on



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Principal: Mrs NJ Madden, BSc(Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)

Chairman of Board of Governors: Mr G Hill

Age Range: 11-18 Enrolment: 910 Intake: 130 Sixth Form: 220
Controlled Grammar Co Educational