

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY OF STUDENTS - YEARS 9-12

The religious and educational philosophy of St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School for boys is that of a Christian and Catholic School.

It is expected that an application to attend St. Mary's will indicate that there is an acceptance to respect the ethos and traditions of the school and to comply with all school rules and regulations.

Grammar schools are required to accept children up to the school's admission number as set by the Department of Education. If that number is exceeded by the number of those applying for places, the Criteria below will be used to select those who will be admitted. The Board of Governors reserves the right to apply to the Department of Education for a reduction in the admissions number if it considers that to be educationally appropriate.

The Board of Governors decide which applicants will be admitted and the Principal will administer the admission process on their behalf.

CRITERIA FOR ENTRY:

Please note:

Boys will be considered for admission provided that, in the opinion of the Board of **Governors, their admission would not prejudice the efficient use of the school's resources.**

Boys resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission will be admitted before girls not so resident.

In the event of the number of applications exceeding the school enrolment number the following criteria will be applied in the order stated below:

- i. Boys who have a son of the family (i.e. a brother) currently enrolled in St Mary's or are past pupils of St. Mary's. **(The name of the child of the family and his year group (if applicable) are required on the Application Form).**
- ii. Boys who have a female child of the family currently enrolled in St Dominic's High School Belfast. **(The name of the child of the family and her year group are required on the Application Form.)**
- iii. Should there be over-subscription at the last criterion that can be applied, selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as identified on the birth certificate.

The order is set out below:

F J de M T Z V A Mc U C W Mac H R Ua N B X O Ó L G E I S O' P Q D K Y

The order was determined by a randomised selection witnessed by a Governor and the Principal.

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order using the above randomised selection. In the event of two or more identical surnames the alphabetical (randomised) order of the initials of the forenames will be used. Where names cannot be separated by this process, children will be accepted by date of birth with preference given to the oldest.

NB: THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MUST BE INDICATED ON THE APPLICATION FORM:

- (a) Boys who have or who have had a brother at the school (including brother's name and year
- (b) Name and year of sister currently attending St. Dominic's High School
- (c) Report from current school attached.
- (d) Date of Birth – a copy of the birth certificate will be required if a place is offered.

Failure to include this information on the Application for admission may not be used as a basis for appeal regarding non-selection.

Applicants must complete an assessment to be considered for a place in St. Mary's in Year 9-12.

The Board of Governors will require an assessment of an applicant's abilities to be carried out by a suitably qualified person or body approved by the school. This assessment will be facilitated by St. Mary's and take place prior to a decision to award a place. Within the operation of our admission criteria, the Board of Governors of St. Mary's will decide whether these children should be admitted on the basis that they fall within the ability range of other pupils being admitted in that year.

Applications will be received at any time of year. However, the Application Year commences on the 1st September each year and ends on 30th June of the following year. After the latter date a fresh application must be submitted if seeking a place in each subsequent year.

WAITING LIST POLICY

This waiting list will be in place until the end of June. The school will contact you in writing if your child gains a place in the school by this method.