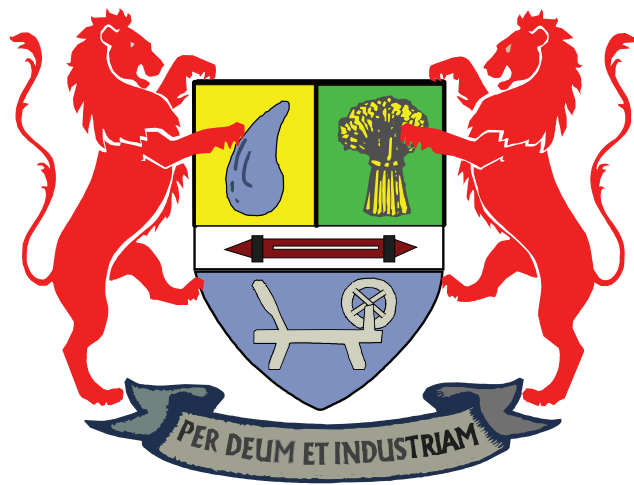


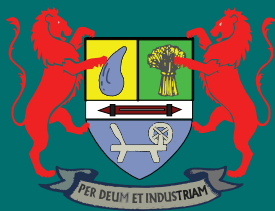


Banbridge Academy

BOARD OF GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024



Banbridge Academy



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Chairman of Board of Governors
Mr D Livingstone

Principal
Mr R S McLoughlin OBE

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Foreword

From Chairman Mr D Livingstone

It is with great pleasure that I preface the Governors' Annual Report for the year 2023/2024 in Banbridge Academy.

As the report will testify Banbridge Academy has continued to enjoy academic and sporting success and has continued to provide opportunities for learning both inside and outside the classroom against a backdrop of pastoral care carrying the ethos of the school through the many activities of school life.

The Board of Governors has carried out its delegated responsibility and has supported the school through the work of the many committees whose remit covers the areas of appointments, finance, estates overview, admissions and curricular development. As Banbridge Academy is a progressive school the commitment to service on its Board of Governors is not taken lightly. I would like to pay tribute to the Governors for their expertise and support and thank them for their service so readily gifted to the school.

The teaching staff are at the heart of this busy organisation and it is to them that we owe a debt of gratitude for the sharing of their talents and skills to create the environment for success. The dedication of the auxiliary staff, the commitment of the pupils and the understanding and encouragement of the parents complete the picture of a happy and thriving school guided by sensitive and visionary leadership.



Staffing Annual Report

Principal & Secretary to Governors:

Mr R S McLoughlin OBE, BSc, MEd, PQH

Board of Governors:

Chairman

Mr D Livingstone

Parents' Representatives:

Mr M McNeill

Mrs L McAlister

EA Representatives:

Mrs J Dobson

Mr D Livingstone

Mr J Mathers (Vice-Chairperson)

Mr M Orr

Mr T Shields

Mr J Wilkinson

Teachers' Representatives:

Mr J Clarke

DENI Representatives:

Mrs S Henning

Mr M Hudson

Mr H Widdis

Ms R Donnelly

Mr J Trueman

STAFFING

Teaching Staff (including Principal)	77
Teaching Ratio	17.4 : 1
Office Staff	8
Pupil Welfare Auxiliary	1
Technicians	6
Ancillary: Caretakers	2
Part-time cleaners	20
Groundsman	1
Foreign Language Assistants	2
Study Supervisor	1



Attendance

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

School attendance during the year was 95.9%. The school management continues to monitor attendance and is keen to maintain and improve school attendance. Parental support in this matter is always appreciated.

SCHOOL SECURITY

Visitors are required to report to Reception to sign a visitors' book on arrival and departure. They are also issued with a visitors' badge. Members of staff are reminded regularly of the need for vigilance at all times.

The school holds practice emergency evacuations and regularly reviews safety procedures.



Financial Report 2023/24

The Board of Governors presents the following report on the school budget based on the LMS Budget and Expenditure Report from the Education Authority (Southern Region)

SCHOOL: Banbridge Academy

SECTOR: Controlled Grammar School

Pupils: 1320

DE REF NO: 541-0013

Accrued Carry Over to 2023/2024	£	£
		823,364

INCOME 2023/2024

Budget Allocation		6,262,110
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Additional Allocation

Additional CFF Allocations 2023-24	110,028	
Non Teaching Pay Award	72,510	
Permanent Teachers' Incremental Progression	39,961	
In Year Growth	14,648	
SENCo SEND Act (NI)	10,175	
Period Dignity	1,787	
Entitlement Framework	3,627	
EMA	500	249,369
		7,338,710

EXPENDITURE: 2023/2024

Salaries: Teaching	4,690,112	
Salaries: Non Teaching	1,024,457	
Staff - Other Costs Total	7,841	
Premises, Fixed Plant & Grounds	328,048	
Operating Costs Total	452,745	
Non Capital Purchases Total	123,326	
Reallocations Total	73,850	
Capital Expenditure Total	28,049	
Other Income (inc. Renewable Energy)	-9,005	6,719,423

Carry Over to 2024/25		619,287
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School Fund 2023/24

Parental Contributions and Allocations

	£	£
Balance brought forward from 2022/23		-77,043
Income for the year to 31 Aug 2024		
Parental Contributions		91,985
Shortfall Remediation Transfer		77,043
		169,028
Expenditure for the year to 31 Aug 2024		
Extra and Co-curricular Expenses	94,697	
Transport	75,748	
Affiliation/Entry Fees	5,911	
Facilities Hire	5,319	
Miscellaneous	4,835	
School Magazine	580	
Grants to Visits/Trips	463	
		-187,553
In-year movement for year to 31 Aug 2024		-18,525
Balance carried forward		-95,568



School Hours and Holidays

The school hours are as follows:

Monday to Friday: 9.00am to 3.25pm. The school will be open to receive pupils from 8.45am. All pupils not engaged in school organised activities should have left the premises by 3.45pm.

A number of inter-schools games fixtures are held on Saturday mornings from 9.00am to 12.00 noon approximately.

Pupils selected for school teams are expected to make participation a priority.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

The school will be closed for the months of July and August (except for examinations results and advice on Higher Education and Further Education). A list of holiday arrangements is set out below. Information about holidays and school closures will be confirmed with parents at the beginning of September.

PROVISIONAL Holiday List 2024/2025

Please note subject to change when EA Harmonisation Dates are published

Term 1

Induction Days	Thursday 29 & Friday 30 August 2024
First Day of Term (All pupils)	Monday 2 September 2024
Prize Day	Friday 25 October 2024
Mid Term Break	Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November 2024
End of Term	Friday 20 December 2024

Term 2

First Day of Term	Monday 6 January 2025
Mid Term Break	Monday 10 – Friday 14 February 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 17 March 2025
End of Term	Friday 11 April 2025

Term 3

First of Term	Monday 28 April 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 26 May 2025
End of Term	Monday 30 June 2025

ATTENDANCE

Full attendance is expected of all pupils at all levels. Only in cases involving medical or other exceptional circumstances are pupils permitted to be absent. Parents are expressly asked not to arrange family holidays in term time.



The Curriculum

The school timetable consists of 45 periods per week, each period lasts 35 minutes.

KEY STAGE 3

Pupils entering Year 8 are organised into 8 unstreamed classes in which they remain throughout Years 9 and 10. All pupils have equal access to the full curriculum.

The Curriculum provision will be reviewed annually.

SUBJECT	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
English	5	5	5
Mathematics	5	5	5
Science and Technology			
Science	5	6	6
Technology & Design	2	2	2
Environment and Society			
Geography	2	2	3
History	2	3	3
Home Economics	2	2	2
Creative & Expressive Studies			
Art & Design	2	2	2
Drama	2	-	-
Music	2	2	2
Physical Education	2	2	1
Games	3	2	2
Languages			
French	4	4	3
Spanish	-	4	4
Religious Studies	2	2	2
Personal Development, Employability, Citizenship [LLW] & Careers Education.	3	2	1
Computing	2	-	2
TOTAL PERIODS	45	45	45



The Curriculum

In Key Stage 4, pupils are divided into an appropriate number of classes. In some subjects this selection is based on either ability and performance or on the requirements of the timetable. All pupils have access to the Areas of Study

- (a) Compulsory subjects
English; English Literature; Mathematics; one Modern Language (from French, Spanish); Double Award Science or the three separate Science subjects (Biology, Chemistry, Physics); Religious Studies (Short Course).
- (b) Optional subjects
Further Mathematics; Art and Design; Business Studies; Computer Science; Economics; Geography; History; Food and Nutrition; Moving Image Arts; a second Modern Language; Music; Religious Studies (Full Course) ; Technology and Design; Physical Education; Digital Technology, MVRUS.

All pupils take 9 Full GCSE subjects except in cases where, in the view of the school and the parents, only 8 subjects would be considered more appropriate.

Most pupils are entered at the Higher Tier in GCSE. In some cases, the school and the parents may agree that entry at a lower level would optimise their academic potential.

Courses in Physical Education, Games, Learning for Life and Work (Personal Development, Employability, Citizenship) and Careers Education are also provided.





The Curriculum

1. Advanced Levels

Advanced Level courses are organised into AS (Advanced Subsidiary) undertaken in Year 13 and A2 in Year 14. AS and A2 combined constitute an A Level. Subjects are chosen from the following list: Art and Design; Biology; Business Studies; Chemistry; Digital Technology; Drama and Theatre Studies; Economics; English Literature; French; Geography; Government and Politics; Health and Social Care; History; Mathematics; Further Mathematics; Music; Nutrition and Food Science; Physics; Religious Studies; Spanish; Sport and Physical Education; Technology and Design; Psychology and Software Systems Development.

Pupils choose at least 3 A Level subjects, or with guidance a combination of 4 subjects.

Classes in minority subjects will be reviewed annually, and if student demand is low, some subjects may not be available every year.

2. Careers Education

Classes in Careers Education are available in the Sixth Form.

3. Physical Education and Games

All pupils will have at least 3 periods of physical activity per week.

4. Enrichment Programme

Throughout the year there will be a Life Skills programme involving guest speakers to address pupils on a variety of social topics.

5. Other Courses

Sign Language classes, a programme of Community Care, Young Enterprise and Chinese are also available.

6. Private Study

Pupils undertake private study when not in class. Private study is supervised for pupils in Years 13 and 14.





The Curriculum

CAREERS EDUCATION

The importance of helping pupils to choose the right career on leaving school is recognised. Every effort is made to raise pupils' awareness of opportunities in the many types of careers available to them.

Pupils have time-tabled careers classes in Years 10, 12, and the Sixth Form which prepare them to make informed choices. In Years 10 and 12 pupils also consider options in Further and Higher Education and develop their study skills and presentation skills. Each pupil in Year 12 is offered an interview by the Careers Officer from the Careers Service (NI).

In Year 13, pupils consider opportunities in Higher Education and are helped to make realistic choices in relation to their academic potential. The Careers Department organises a Work Shadowing Scheme and facilitates participation in a Higher Education Awareness Day. Visits are organised to familiarise pupils with particular careers and attendance at University Open Days is encouraged.

Training in Interview Skills is provided and each Year 14 student is given a practice interview in preparation for Higher and Further Education. In Years 13 and 14 interviews are also available with the Careers Officers. Pupils have access to reference materials (including online resources) in the Careers Library. Careers staff are available for consultation by pupils and parents (by appointment) and presentations are given at Parents' Evenings.

LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK (LLW)

LLW is a discrete Learning Area in the Revised Curriculum. It comprises of Personal Development, Employability, Local & Global Citizenship and Home Economics. It seeks to enable pupils to develop their potential in all aspects of their lives. LLW reflects and contributes to the whole school ethos. It is central to the whole curriculum and is consistent with the school's pastoral care provision. LLW is about values, attitudes, skills and is concerned with the holistic development of an individual, not just the learning of knowledge. It is hoped that as a result of this new module of work we will encourage pupils to become more confident, independent and participative citizens who can make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives. They will develop skills that can be employed and transferred across a range of contexts.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Non-denominational Religious Studies is available to all pupils between the ages of 11 and 16. The course follows the Northern Ireland Programme of Study.

All pupils are assessed in a GCSE course in Religious Studies, either the Short Course or Full Course.

Parents may remove their children from Religious Studies classes on the grounds of conscience and for these pupils the school will make alternative provision.

Assemblies are held daily.

The school places strong emphasis on the non-denominational nature of its intake and ethos.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The school's Special Educational Needs Policy conforms to the Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs.

Arrangements for pupils with Special Educational Needs are made through consultation with the pupils and their parents, the appropriate staff in school and the EA.

A copy of the school's policy is available on request.

SPORTS EDUCATION

The aims of sport in Banbridge Academy are:

- to promote the physical, social and emotional development of pupils through directed activity;
- to provide opportunities to experience a range of sports and sports activities both within the curriculum for Physical Education and as extra-curricular activities;
- to promote the benefits of sport and sports activities in terms of healthy lifestyles and physical well-being;
- to encourage and develop skills in a variety of sporting and creative activities;
- to create an awareness of the benefits of teamwork;



The Curriculum

- to encourage pupils to continue participation in physical activities on leaving school.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school places a very strong emphasis on the value of extracurricular activities as a contribution to the education of its pupils, particularly in developing social skills, self-esteem, initiative and the ability to work as part of a team.

Games provided include: athletics, badminton, cricket, cross-country running, football, golf, hockey, netball, rugby, soccer, squash and tennis. Sports Day is held towards the end of May each year. Pupils selected for teams are expected to make participation a priority. Parents are very welcome to attend matches. Exemption from Games and Physical Education will be granted only on medical grounds or for another sufficient reason, as a result of prior arrangement with the Principal.

Clubs and Societies operate largely at lunch-time and after school and pupils (under staff guidance) are encouraged to take a leading part in their management. These include: Charity Committee; Chess Club; Choirs (Junior and Senior); Debating Societies (Junior and Senior); Drama Society; Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme; Orchestra; Scripture Union (Junior and Senior); Young Enterprise; Junior Cooks' Club; BAYS; Ski Club; Modern Languages Cine Club; TASK; Warhammer Club.

Educational visits and exchanges are an important part of extracurricular activities. Pupil-exchanges with schools in France, Germany and Spain are organised. Numerous other field trips and educational visits are arranged. There is an annual ski trip to a European resort.

The Dramatic Society stages productions. A school magazine is produced annually and the Music Department arranges public performances each year.

CURRICULUM CONCERNS

Concerns relating to the curriculum should be addressed in the first instance to the Principal.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Detailed information on the curriculum and other policies of the school are available to parents from the Principal on request.

MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum in Banbridge Academy is reviewed annually. The curriculum is supported by appropriate methods of assessment, recording and reporting progress to parents.





Public Examinations

GCSE

Most pupils in Year 12 are entered for 9 GCSE subjects. Some pupils, in consultation with parents, are entered for only 8 subjects. The majority of subjects are provided through NICCEA and pupils are entered at Higher Level. In a small number of subjects pupils will be entered, with the agreement of parents, at a lower level.

A Level

All pupils are entered for examinations in a minimum of 3 A Level subjects.

Examination results for the summer of 2024 are set out in the following tables.



Public Examinations

GCSE RESULTS 2024

Subject	Entries	A*(9)	A(8&7)	B(6)	C*(5)	C(4)	D(3)	E	F	G	U	A*-C	A*-G
Art & Design	32	8	13	5	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	32	32
Biology	88	18	33	20	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	88	88
Business Studies	47	3	16	18	6	3	0	0	0	0	1	46	46
Chemistry	88	27	38	13	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	88	88
Computer Science	26	6	12	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	26	26
Digital Technology	23	4	12	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	23	23
Double Award Science	200	21	61	62	31	20	1	2	1	1	0	195	200
Economics	10	0	1	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
English Language	188	49	85	41	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	188	188
English Literature	188	31	86	46	21	2	2	0	0	0	0	186	188
Food & Nutrition	23	9	10	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	23
French	46	9	20	7	3	4	3	0	0	0	0	43	46
Further Mathematics	66	36	23	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	66
Geography	76	13	35	14	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	76	76
History	83	18	24	16	12	8	2	1	2	0	0	78	83
Mathematics	188	64	72	45	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	188	188
Motor Vehicle Studies	20	0	4	10	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	20	20
Moving Image Arts	8	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
Music	7	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7
PE	24	2	7	9	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	24	24
Physics	88	18	34	20	13	3	0	0	0	0	0	88	88
Religious Studies	51	8	30	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	51
Spanish	129	17	36	25	27	14	7	2	0	1	0	119	129
Technology & Design	39	8	12	17	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	39

Number of Year 12 Pupils on 31st October 2023 188

Number with a statement of Special Educational Needs: 4

GCSE RESULTS 2024 SUMMARY

Number of Year 12 pupils	% Entered for 5 or more subjects	% Achieving Grades A* - C in 7 or more	% Achieving Grades A* - C in 5 or more	% Achieving No GCSEs
188	100	98.9	98.9	0



Public Examinations

A LEVEL RESULTS 2024

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A* - C	A* - E
Art & Design	14	1	6	5	2	0	0	0	14	14
Biology	56	2	12	20	8	12	2	0	42	56
Business Studies	37	1	6	12	10	6	2	0	29	37
Chemistry	56	5	15	17	12	5	1	1	49	55
Design and Technology	17	2	8	5	2	0	0	0	17	17
Digital Technology	14	0	2	5	4	2	1	0	11	14
Economics	6	1	2	2	0	1	0	0	5	6
English Literature	43	7	11	18	7	0	0	0	43	43
French	6	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	5	6
Geography	36	6	10	8	8	2	2	0	32	36
Health & Social Care	14	0	8	5	1	0	0	0	14	14
History	37	0	11	10	13	3	0	0	34	37
Mathematics	58	15	15	14	12	1	1	0	56	58
Mathematics Further	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Music	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	3
Nutrition and Food	11	1	2	5	3	0	0	0	11	11
Physics	32	2	10	9	8	2	1	0	29	32
Politics	28	1	7	13	1	5	1	0	22	28
Psychology	21	3	4	8	5	0	1	0	20	21
Religious Studies	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
Spanish	12	0	5	1	5	1	0	0	11	12
Sports Science	7	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	6	7
SSD	17	2	7	6	1	0	1	0	16	17

A LEVELS 2024 SUMMARY

No. of Pupils in Final Year of A Level Course	% Achieving 3 or more passes at Grades A – C	% Achieving 2 or more passes at Grades A – E	% Achieving 1 or more passes at Grades A – E
175	77.1	100	100



Public Examinations

PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS¹ 2019/20 to 2023/24 – Grammar Schools

Performance Indicator	2019/2020		2020/2021		2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average
% Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (or equivalent) ¹	98.0	N/A	98.4	N/A	99.5	N/A	99.0	94.4	98.9	-
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (or equivalent) ¹	100	N/A	99.5	N/A	100	N/A	100	97.6	98.9	-
% Achieving 3+ A levels at Grades A*-C (or equivalent) ¹	91.6	N/A	92.1	N/A	90.7	N/A	89.9	83.8	77.1	-
% Achieving 2+ A levels at Grades A*-E (or equivalent) ¹	100	N/A	100	N/A	100	N/A	100	99.6	100	-

¹ Excludes pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs



Public Examinations

SCHOOL LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS 2023/2024 (FROM YEARS 12, 13 & 14)

Number of Leavers 2023/24: 217

% of Leavers to:

	Higher Education	Further Education	Another School	Job Skills	Employment	Other
Year 12 - 14	75.11%	14.93%	4.07%	4.07%	0.45%	1.36%
Year 14	94.32%	0%	0%	3.98%	0.57%	1.14%

This figure represents the % of all School Leavers entering Higher Education from Years 12-14 in 2023/2024 . In practice, only Year 14 students enter Higher Education directly. In 2023/2024, 94.32% of Year 14 Leavers secured a place in Higher Education.

Annual attendance rate (all pupils)

Total days attended by all pupils on roll as a % of total possible days of attendance: 95.9%



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