



BANBRIDGE ACADEMY



# WELCOME

## Banbridge Academy

Transfer 2016 Information Evening





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# Banbridge Academy

Mr M Orr

Chairman

Board of Governors

Mr R McLoughlin

Principal

Dr H Evans

Vice Principal

Mr D McFarland

Vice Principal

Mrs L McMullan

Senior Teacher





# PROGRAMME

- Transfer Procedure
- Common Entrance Assessment
- Registration Arrangements
- Key Dates
- Admissions Criteria
- Further Information





# Roles in the Process

## Role of Department of Education

To determine Admissions Arrangements

To communicate details to schools

To set Admissions and Enrolment numbers

## Role of Education Authority (Southern Region)

To administer the process via Pupil & Parent Unit

Application Timeframe

Issue of Parents' Guide

Green Transfer Form

Statements of SEN





# Roles in the Process

## Role of Primary Schools

- Assist Parents with the procedure
- Assist completion of the Transfer Form
- Return Transfer Forms to Education Authority
- Support with Claims for Special Circumstances

## Role of Boards of Governors (Post-Primary)

- Statutory Admissions Authority
- Draw up & publish Admissions criteria
- Apply Admissions criteria
- Fill all places





# Overview

- No Department of Education Transfer Test
- Unregulated admissions system
  - Schools set own Entrance Tests
- Association for Quality Education (AQE)
- Common Entrance Assessment (CEA)





# Common Entrance Assessment

- Administered by AQE
- Takes account of KS2 Revised Curriculum for English & Mathematics. **Science is not included**
  - Specification available on the AQE website
- Coaching not required but old Transfer Test papers (without the Science) and past AQE papers (available on the AQE website) can serve as practice papers





# Common Entrance Assessment

- 3 x1 hr papers
- Best two papers count
- First Assessment : 7 November 2015
- Second Assessment : 21 November 2015
- Third Assessment: 28 November 2015







# Common Entrance Assessment

- Papers designed in consultation with teaching professionals at primary level
- Charge £46.00
  - Waived for those on Free School Meals
- Equal marks allocated to Maths & English
- No Science Items





# Taking the Test

- Tests held in Grammar Schools
- Not Primary Schools
- Nominate preference when registering
- Informed in advance of venue
- No bearing on eventual Post Primary school
- Familiarisation visit(s) arranged in October





# Marking

- Each paper marked three times
- By different markers
- Quality Assured
- Opportunity to apply for re-mark





## Results

- Best 2 out of 3 forms the final result
- Age standardised scores (as in Transfer Test)
- Issued to arrive on Saturday 30 January 2016





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# Registration Arrangements

- Registration forms from AQE office, Banbridge Academy or AQE website.
- Choice of test centre
  - NO bearing on application for a place but Test Centres allocated on a first come first served basis
- Detailed notes accompany registration form





# Registration Arrangements

- **Form returned to AQE office**
- No later than 11 September 2015
- Photocopy of Birth Certificate
- 3 Passport Photographs
- Cheque/Postal order/Banker's Draft for £46.00
- Letter from EA confirming FSME (if applicable)





# Application for Access Arrangements

- Section B on application form
- Give Brief Details
- Parent Sent an Access Application Form
- **Parental responsibility to return to AQE by deadline**
- Decision made by a panel of assessors
- Decision sent to parents
- Decision sent to test centre
- Appropriate arrangements made







# Registration

- Receive a laminated Admission Card
- Details of School Test Centre
- Information about the Test
- Participating Schools receive details of assessment applications





# Taking the Test in Banbridge Academy

- Accommodation in classrooms
- Pupils with others from same Primary School
- Invigilators will follow common AQE procedures (adapted from JCQ & CCEA)
- Instructions clearly announced
- Time elapsed announced





# PROGRAMME

- Transfer Procedure
- Common Entrance Assessment
- Registration Arrangements
- **Key Dates**
- Procedure in Banbridge Academy
- Admissions Criteria
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# January / February 2016

- Results Issued: 30 January 2016
- Application for re-marks
- Meetings with Primary Principals
- Transfer forms completed
  - Including details of Special Circumstances/Special Provisions
- Transfer forms sent to Education Authority





## March-May 2016

- Transfer Forms Processed
- Post-Primary schools receive forms
- Schools apply Admissions criteria
- Decisions are made
- Parents informed of allocated schools
- Appeals process opens





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# Banbridge Academy

- Unregulated system not our preferred option
- The current position is not of our choosing
- We would prefer a test run and administered by DE
- The Board of Governors will continue to have regard to the DE's Guidance





# Entry to Banbridge Academy

- Result of the **AQE** test will be the first criterion
- To improve the chances of your son/daughter gaining entry to Banbridge Academy in September 2016 he/she **must** sit the AQE test





# Admissions Criteria Transfer 2015

- **2016 will be published in advance**
- **Academic**, based on results from CEA
  - Rank order of test scores
- **Other criteria**
  - Brothers/Sisters currently at the school
  - Eldest child
  - Location of the Primary School
  - Tie Breaker based on date of birth







## Scores Admitted

- Don't make assumptions about scores
- No cut off score
- Rank order
- 184 Places





	13/14	14/15	15/16
Admissions No.	184	184	184
Applicants	245	227	249
Upper Score	125	125	129
Lower Score	99	99	102



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# Further Information

[www.aqe.org.uk](http://www.aqe.org.uk)

[www.banbridgeacademy.org.uk](http://www.banbridgeacademy.org.uk)

[www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)





# Finally

- Thank you for attending this evening
- We wish you well for the future
- Any questions? Please speak to me





# Our Vision & Commitment

*Our central aim is for everyone to be happy at school,  
known personally and cared for individually.*

Excellence in a caring and supportive environment,  
enabling all pupils to realise their full potential and  
become tolerant and confident adults.

*academically*

*personally*

*socially*

*physically*

*spiritually*

