



BANBRIDGE ACADEMY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016



BANBRIDGE ACADEMY



Contents

Foreword	4
Staffing Annual Report	5
Attendance	6
2015/2016 Financial Report	7
Use of School Funds	8
School Hours and Holidays	9
The Curriculum	10
Public Examinations	16

Chairman of Board of Governors
Mr M Orr

Principal
Mr R S McLoughlin

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Foreword

From Chairman Mr M Orr

It is with great pleasure that I preface the Governors' Annual Report for the year 2015/2016 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, BSc, MEd, PQH (NI)

Board of Governors:

Chairman

Mr M Orr

Parents' Representatives:

Mr W Campbell

Ms E Corbett

Mr M McNeill

Mr A McGowan

Teachers' Representatives:

Mr T Acheson

Miss J Greenlee

EA Representatives:

Mrs J Dobson

Mr W F Gillespie

Mr D Livingstone

Mr J Mathers

Mr M Orr

Mr T Shields

DENI Representatives:

Mrs S Henning

Mr M Hudson

Mr H Widdis

Mrs J Anderson

STAFFING

Teaching Staff (including Principal)	78.8
Teaching Ratio	16.75 : 1
Office Staff	7
School Nurse	1
Technicians	6
Ancillary:	
Caretakers	2
Part-time cleaners	20
Groundsman	1
Foreign Language Assistants	3
Study Supervisor	1



Attendance

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

School attendance during the year was 96.6%. 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 2015/16

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
DE REF NO: 541-0013

Pupils: 1320

Accrued Carry Over to 2015/2016	£	£
		-15,910

INCOME 2015/2016

Budget Allocation	5,265,806
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Additional Allocation

Educational Maintenance	1,650	
Entitlement Framework	8,648	
Superannuation Allowance	140,546	5,416,650
		5,400,740

EXPENDITURE: 2015/2016

Salaries: Teaching	4,151,474	
Salaries: Non Teaching	656,777	
Light, Heat & Water	77,243	
Maintenance: Buildings	13,018	
Maintenance: Equipment	4,256	
Maintenance: Grounds	44,616	
Books & Practice Materials	72,355	
Teaching Requisites	8,637	
Printing, Stationery & Advertising	38,841	
Postage & Telephone	11,254	
Cleaning & Laundry	10,338	
Hire of Equipment/Facilities	30,569	
School Vehicle Expenses	28,912	
Travel & Subsistence	5,546	
Examination Fees	92,914	
Miscellaneous Expenses	109,624	
School Income	-2,793	
		5,353,581
Carry Over to 2016/17		47,159



School Fund 2015/16

September 2015 - August 2016

	£	£
Opening Balance at 1 September 2015		-32,406
Deficit reduction from savings	25,154	
Income		
Parental Contributions	54,810	79,964
		47,557
Expenditure		
Extra and Co-curricular Expenses	26,322	
Affiliation/Entry Fees	2,075	
Grants to Visits/Trips	1,405	
Hospitality	223	
Insurance	1,976	
Lost Property	105	
Miscellaneous	2,182	
St John's Ambulance	600	34,889
Closing Balance at 31 August 2016		12,668



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 10.00am to 12.00 noon approximately.

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

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

The school was 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 was confirmed with parents at the beginning of the academic year.

Provisional Holiday List 2015/2016

Term 1

Induction Days	Wednesday 26 - Friday 28 August
First Day of Term (All Pupils)	Tuesday 1 September
Prize Day	Friday 23 October
Mid Term Break	Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October
End of Term	Friday 18 December

Term 2

First Day of Term	Monday 4 January 2016
Mid Term Break	Monday 15 & Tuesday 16 February
Bank Holiday	Thursday 17 March
End of Term	Friday 18 March

Term 3

First Day of Term	Monday 4 April
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 May
Bank Holiday	Monday 30 May
End of Term	Thursday 30 June

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 - Key Stage 3

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.

Pupils begin their GCSE Short Courses in ICT and Religious Studies in Year 10.

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	3	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	2	2	2
Languages			
French	5	4	3
German or Spanish	-	4	4
Religious Studies	2	2	2
Personal Development, Employability, Citizenship [LLW] & Careers Education.	2	2	1
ICT	2	-	2
TOTAL PERIODS	45	45	45



The Curriculum - Key Stage 4

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, German, 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; Home Economics; Moving Image Arts; a second Modern Language; Music; Religious Studies (Full Course); Technology and Design; Physical Education; Information and Communication Technology

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 - Years 13 & 14

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; Citizenship; Drama and Theatre Studies; Economics; English Literature; French; Geography; German; Government and Politics; Health and Social Care; History; Home Economics; Information and Communication Technology; Mathematics; Further Mathematics; Music; Physics; Religious Studies; Spanish; Sport and Physical Education; Technology and Design; Psychology; Software Systems Development and Art and Design (Photography).

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 Years 13 and 14.

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 Japanese 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.

7. Collaborative Courses

A number of courses are provided in collaboration with the Southern Regional College.



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, 13 and 14 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 through the Short Course (starting in Year 10) or through the 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.



The Curriculum

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;
- 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 extra-curricular 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; Eco Schools; Modern Languages Cine Club; TASK; Leo Club, Warhammer Club.

Educational visits and exchanges are an important part of extra-curricular 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 regular 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 2016 are set out in the following tables.

YEAR 11 GCSE RESULTS 2016

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	A*-G
Information Technology (Short Course)	190	28	90	42	21	4	4	1	0	0	181	190
Religious Studies (Short Course)	190	34	40	50	35	14	12	5	0	0	159	190

KEYSTAGE 3 RESULTS 2016

	English	Maths
Level 7	104	109
Level 6	83	75
Level 5	7	10

	English	Maths
Level 7	53.6%	56.2%
Level 6	42.8%	38.7%
Level 5	3.6%	5.1%



Public Examinations

GCSE RESULTS 2016

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	A*-G
Art & Design	40	17	11	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	40	40
Biology	74	18	40	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	74	74
Business Studies	53	6	20	14	8	2	3	0	0	0	48	53
Chemistry	74	28	37	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	73	74
Computer Science	26	5	10	6	4	1	0	0	0	0	25	26
Design and Technology	53	7	16	19	10	1	0	0	0	0	52	53
Economics	14	2	5	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	14	14
English Language	183	35	80	51	16	1	0	0	0	0	182	183
English Literature	182	42	78	42	15	4	1	0	0	0	177	182
French	84	23	12	23	13	9	4	0	0	0	71	84
Geography	68	13	18	20	10	5	1	0	0	1	61	67
German	56	20	5	8	13	8	2	0	0	0	46	56
History	91	24	27	21	14	4	1	0	0	0	86	91
Home Economics	31	9	13	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	31	31
Mathematics Further	52	38	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	52
Mathematics	183	77	57	34	14	1	0	0	0	0	182	183
Moving Image	8	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
Music	14	3	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	14
Physics	74	24	33	15	2	0	0	0	0	0	74	74
Religious Studies	47	22	18	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	47	47
Spanish	64	25	14	12	9	4	0	0	0	0	60	64
Science Double Award	216	28	64	76	39	9	0	0	0	0	207	216

Number of Year 12 Pupils on 31st October 2016 184

Number with a statement of Special Educational Needs: 0

GCSE RESULTS 2016 SUMMARY

% Entered for 7 or more subjects	% 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
100	100	96.2	97.3	0



Public Examinations

A LEVEL RESULTS 2016

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A* – C	A* – E
Art & Design	8	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	8	8
Biology	57	9	21	9	9	5	4	0	48	57
Business Studies	26	1	7	10	6	1	0	1	24	25
Chemistry	49	9	20	6	6	3	5	0	41	49
Design & Technology	21	2	8	10	1	0	0	0	21	21
Drama	6	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	6	6
Economics	7	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	7	7
English Literature	36	5	17	8	5	1	0	0	35	36
French	14	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	12	13
Geography	20	1	6	7	4	1	1	0	18	20
German	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	3
Health and Social Care	9	0	1	2	3	1	1	1	6	8
History	36	6	12	11	4	3	0	0	33	36
Home Economics	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Information Technology	22	0	8	6	3	4	1	0	17	22
Mathematics Further	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4
Mathematics	64	15	29	10	4	3	3	0	58	64
Music	6	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	6	6
Photography	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	3
Physics	33	0	10	7	7	4	3	2	24	31
Politics	27	2	12	5	4	2	2	0	23	27
Psychology	29	4	9	5	3	4	2	2	21	27
Religious Studies	18	0	10	3	4	1	0	0	17	18
Spanish	9	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	9	9
Sport/PE Studies	6	0	2	1	1	2	0	0	4	6

A LEVELS 2016 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
168	77.4	99.4	100



Public Examinations

PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS¹ 2011/12 to 2015/16 – Grammar Schools

Performance Indicator	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (or equivalent) ¹	99	97	100	97	100	97	97	97.8	97.3	N/A
% Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (or equivalent) ¹	97	92	97	93	96	92	96	93.6	96.2	N/A
% Achieving 3+ A levels at Grades A*-C (or equivalent) ¹	78	77	78	77	83	76	81	77	77.4	N/A
% Achieving 2+ A levels at Grades A*-E (or equivalent) ¹	99	99	99	99	99	100	98	99.7	99.4	N/A

¹Excludes pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs.



Public Examinations

YEAR 13 AND 14

OTHER EXAMINATIONS

Name of Awarding Body	Qualification	Number in Final Year of Course	% Achieving Qualification
CACDP	Sign Language BSL Unit 1	27	100

SCHOOL LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS 2015/2016 (FROM YEARS 12, 13 & 14)

Number of Leavers 2015/16: 213

% of Leavers to:

Higher Education	Further Education	Another School	Job Skills	Employment	Other
78 ¹	16	3	1	1	1

¹This figure represents the % of all School Leavers entering Higher Education from Years 12-14 in 2015/2016. In practice, only Year 14 students enter Higher Education directly. In 2015/2016, 97% 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: 96.5%



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