



DOMINICAN COLLEGE BELFAST

Criteria for Admission to Years 9 & 10

Pupils will be **considered** for admission to the College provided that all the criteria below are satisfied:

1. Their admission would not cause the school's enrolment number, as set by the Department of Education, to be exceeded. (This number is currently 1050).
2. Their admission would not cause the maximum number of pupils in a practical class, as set by the Department of Education, to be exceeded. (This number is currently 20).
3. Their admission would not cause the maximum number in any year group, as set by the Board of Governors, to be exceeded. (This number is currently 156).
4. Their admission would not, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, prejudice the efficient use of resources.
5. The Applicant has an acceptable disciplinary record.
6. The Applicant has an acceptable attendance record. (Applicant's will be expected to: have an attendance record consistent with the NI Grammar School average; provide an official record of their attendance as recorded on SIMS for the whole of their post-primary education to date).
7. The academic ability of the applicant is of a standard equivalent to that of the pupils with whom she would be taught i.e. the applicant has achieved a GL Assessment grade (or comparable AQE Grade) which is at least equivalent to the lowest* grade attained by a pupil admitted in the year to which the admission is sought.
8. The applicant has demonstrated sufficient academic ability to follow the full school curriculum. This will be assessed using:
 - a. All academic reports pertaining to the applicant's post-primary education
 - b. The outcome of an Entrance Examination approved by the Board of Governors

**** Where a pupil has had her transfer grade raised, by the Board of Governors of Dominican College, for the purpose of applying admissions criteria, arising out of a claim for special consideration, then the higher grade will be taken as the grade attained by the pupil for the purpose of applying the criteria for admission to years 9 & 10.***

In the event of there being more applicants than places within the school or a particular year group the following criteria will be used in the order given:

1. Applicants with a higher GL Assessment grade (or comparable AQE Grade)
2. Applicants who have a sibling currently enrolled at Dominican College.
3. Applicants who have had a sibling enrolled at Dominican College.
4. Applicants who have moved into the school's catchment area from another town or district.
5. Applicants who are entitled to free school meals.*
6. Applicants whose reason for application is based on being bullied or being extremely unhappy at the current school, but not being the cause of behavioural problems at school provided that the reason is supported by a letter from the Principal of the current school.
7. If after consideration of the above criteria there remain more applicants than places available, places will be allocated by date of birth (Original Birth Certificate must be provided) Priority will be given to the oldest applicant.
8. If after consideration of date of birth there remain more applicants than places available, places will be allocated in alphabetical order first by surname and then by forename if required.

**** "entitled to Free School Meals" will mean applicants who are listed on the Education and Library Board/ESA register as entitled to Free School Meals at the date of application.***