

CULLYBACKEY COLLEGE

44 Pottinger Street, Cullybackey
Ballymena, BT42 1BP
Telephone: 028 2588 0771
Fax No: 028 2588 1440
Email: info@cullybackeycollege.ballymena.ni.sch.uk
Website: www.cullybackeycollege.org.uk
Principal: Mr D Donaldson B Ed, M Ed PQH
Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mr J. Gracey

Controlled Secondary School

Age Range of Pupils: 11-18 years
Admissions Number: 130
Enrolment Number: 700

The school will be open for visits by parents and pupils:-

Day	Date	Time
Monday	12 January 2026	7.30 pm
Tuesday	13 January 2026	7.30 pm

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 8

Respective functions of the Board of Governors and Principal in relation to Admissions to the school

The Board of Governors formulate, apply and review the Admission Criteria while the Principal administers the criteria.

In accordance with the Department of Education Regulations, should the college be oversubscribed, the Board of Governors will consider the acceptance of pupils in keeping with the following:-

- 1 Pupils who attend the following primary schools:- Ballykeel, Ballymena, Braidside Integrated, Broughshane, Buick Memorial, Camphill, Carnaghts, Carniny, Clough, Cloughmills, Drumard, Dunclug, Duneane, Fourtowns, Garryduff, Gracehill, Groggan, Harryville, Hazelbank, Kilrea, Kirkinriola, Knockahollet, Longstone, Maine Integrated, Moorfields, Portglenone, Randalstown Central, Rasharkin, St Paul's, The Diamond.

Should the college be oversubscribed at this point then preference will be given in order to pupils:

- i) who have a brother or sister, stepbrother/stepsister currently enrolled at Cullybackey College.
- ii) who are the eldest/only child in their family.
- iii) who have had a brother or sister, step brother or step sister previously enrolled at Cullybackey College in the past 10 years.
- iv) for whom Cullybackey College is the nearest non-grammar school.

- 2 Criteria (i)-(iv) will next be applied in order to pupils who attend other primary schools.

In the event of a tie, places will be allocated by date of birth, starting with the youngest until all places have been allocated.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that all the relevant information is submitted to the college, particularly in relation to criteria (i), (ii) and (iii).

Applicants should note that they may be required to produce documents to verify information pertinent to the college's admission criteria. Original documents will be required - fax or photocopies will not be accepted.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide verifying documents by the required deadline may result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the college to offer a place.

During the admissions procedure, when applying the criteria, punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 27 January 2026 at 12 noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 19 February 2026 at 12 noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon (GMT) on 19 February 2026 and up to 4pm on 24 February will be treated as a late application.

Admissions after 1 September 2026.

Should a place become available the above criteria will be applied to written applications.

Applications and Admissions to Year 8

Year	Admissions Number	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023-24	130	119	113
2024-25	130	118	113
2025/26*	130	105	104

**The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 includes all Year 8 children admitted to the school including those who have a statement of special educational needs and/or may be attending SPiMS.*

(SPiMS = Special Provision in Mainstream School).

Criteria for admission to Years 9 – 14: Please contact the school for further information