

ULIDIA INTEGRATED COLLEGE
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Principal: Mr M Houston, B.Ed. (Hons), PQH(NI)
Chairperson Board of Governors: Mr I Cochrane

Grant Maintained Integrated College
Age Range: 11–19
Admission Number: 100
Enrolment Number: 620

OPEN DAY INFORMATION

Please refer to our website <https://ulidiacollege.com/admissions/year8/> for details.

RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS TO THE SCHOOL

The Board of Governors draws up the admissions criteria and delegates to the Principal and a selection committee (if required) the responsibility of applying the criteria.

Ulidia Integrated College is an intentionally Integrated school, Christian in ethos, committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful highly academic learning environment. We welcome Students of Protestant and Catholic backgrounds, all other faiths and none. This Integration is not only embraced but is fundamental to the rich and successful educational experience we provide.

The College is dedicated to supporting students of all abilities, and our Grammar and All Ability pathways offer an approach to learning that is tailored to each individual's pace and potential. Our aim is to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to flourish academically, socially, and personally. Ulidia Integrated College is truly a school for the whole family.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will follow the below outlined procedures precisely.

It is the sole responsibility of the parents/carers of prospective pupils to ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the Admissions Criteria of Ulidia Integrated College is included and uploaded on the **Online EA Transfer Application**.

NOTES OF INFORMATION

- In accordance with DENI regulations, all children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission will be selected for admission before any child not so resident may be selected.
- Parents should use the Online EA Transfer Application to provide as much information as possible to assist the College in the application of its criteria. This should include your child's preferred religious category (Catholic, Protestant or Other/None).
- **It is the responsibility of parents to designate students using the wording 'Catholic', 'Protestant' or 'Other/None' to categorise their child's religion on the Online EA Transfer Application.**

If religious affiliation is not clearly stated by using the wording 'Catholic', 'Protestant' or 'Other/None', the College will use the information provided on the Online EA Transfer Application to make the following presumptions:

- The applicant will be deemed Protestant if transferring from a controlled school;
- Catholic if transferring from a maintained school and
- Other/None if transferring from an Integrated school or preparatory school.

Through the application of the criteria the Board of Governors seeks to establish an overall balance between religious affiliations and academic abilities. These are the pre-eminent features which distinguish an Integrated school from all other schools.

- Our aim is to have an intake which is as close as possible to the ratio of 45% Catholic, 45% Protestant and 10% of pupils of other faiths or none (Other/None Category). The Board of Governors also seeks to affirm the all ability nature of the College, ensuring that each year group caters for all students, including the most academically able.
- NB: The provision of inaccurate, ambiguous or misleading information provided on, or uploaded to, any such application may prejudice the offer of a place and may subsequently lead to the withdrawal of a place awarded to any applicant who shall be deemed to have gained unfair and improper advantage by submitting such information. **The**

College Authorities reserve the right to authenticate and seek verification of the content of any application. In the case of a surname, the final decision will be based on the surname shown on the birth certificate, or any subsequent court order. The failure to provide verifying documents according to the required deadline may result in the inability of the College to offer a place.

ULIDIA INTEGRATED COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY TO YEAR 8 IN SEPTEMBER

Parents naming Ulidia Integrated College as a preference should include the following information on the Online EA Transfer Application:

A) A Statement of the preferred religious affiliation of the applicant, either:

Catholic (category 1), Protestant (category 2), Other/None (Please state, even if 'None') (category 3)

B) A Statement of the preferred learning pathway of the applicant, either:

Grammar Pathway or All Ability Pathway

35% of places are available for pupils wishing to apply for the Grammar Pathway. Parents of academically able pupils wishing to be considered for Grammar Pathway entry must **clearly indicate this on the Online EA Transfer Application. Supporting evidence of academic ability must also be uploaded.** This evidence may be one or more of the following suggested indicators –SEAG results; other standardised test results available from the child's primary school; a school report which reflects high academic ability; or other equivalent supporting evidence.

*Note: Evidence of higher academic scores **do not advantage an applicant's chances for entry.** Academic evidence is simply an indicator of the student's **suitability** for the Grammar Pathway and is not used for differentiating between or rank ordering applicants for Grammar Pathway entry. Confirmation of a place on either the Grammar or All Ability Pathway will **only** be determined by internal baseline testing and available data during the induction period following admission. Being offered a place through Grammar Pathway entry does not guarantee a pupil will begin on the Grammar pathway –final placement is subject to the baseline testing mentioned above.*

The remaining 65% of places will be allocated to the All Ability Pathway.

C) A Statement confirming if the transferring pupil has a brother, sister or foster brother/sister currently attending the College.

D) A Statement confirming if the transferring pupil has a parent/carer who is an employee of, or member of, the Board of Governors of Ulidia Integrated College or who is due to take up an appointment in the forthcoming academic year.

E) A Statement confirming if the transferring pupil is the first child* of the family to transfer to mainstream post-primary education since the establishment of Ulidia Integrated College in 1997.**

F) A Statement confirming if the transferring pupil is currently in Primary 7 of a Grant-Maintained Integrated primary school or a Controlled Integrated Primary School as defined in the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989.

G) A clear statement of your commitment to Integrated Education.

** Twins and other multiples who are the eldest in the family are treated as joint first children. In the case where a twin or other multiple is accepted onto the Grammar Pathway, the other sibling/siblings will be deemed to have met criterion 2.*

*** The Department of Education considers that "child of the family" covers: A child born to a married couple or to a couple in a civil partnership; A child born to a co-habiting couple; A child born to a single parent; A child of either/any of those people by a previous marriage, civil partnership or relationship; A child living with a couple who has been treated as a "child of the family" whether there is a marriage or a civil partnership or not; A child living with an individual, who has been treated as a "child of the family"; An adopted or fostered child; A situation where for example an orphaned cousin is being brought up with a family or individual; The child should be a child of the family as at the date of application.*

YEAR 8 ADMISSIONS – How we will process the information you provide:

The College will initially:

- Determine which Pathway (Grammar or All Ability) each applicant has applied for
- Starting with the Grammar Pathway, allocate each applicant to their declared religious affiliation
- Within each declared Pathway and religious affiliation, rank order each applicant according to the 'criteria for determining rank order' (see below)

The admissions criteria will then be applied within each of the three religious categories in the following order:

Application to Grammar Pathway (35% of available places)

- Step 1: Allocate equally from Catholics and Protestants until 30% Grammar places have been thus allocated or until either one or other of those Categories is exhausted.
- Step 2: Allocate, initially, up to 5% places from the Other/None category.
- Step 3: Allocating just one place at a time, starting at Category 1 and working in sequence through Categories 1, 2, and 3, allocate from those Categories which still have transferring pupils, until 35% places in total have been allocated.

Application to All Ability Pathway (65% of available places)

- Step 4: Those who applied for Grammar Pathway entry and were not admitted at step 3 will then be automatically included for selection through All Ability admission. The College will then allocate equally from Catholics and Protestants until 60% of the All Ability places have been thus allocated or until either one or other of those Categories is exhausted.
- Step 5: Allocate, initially, up to 5% places from the Other/None category.
- Step 6: Allocating just one place at a time, starting at Category 1 and working in sequence through Categories 1, 2, and 3, allocate from those Categories which still have transferring pupils, until 65% places in total have been allocated.

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING RANK ORDER

Notes:

- *In the case where an applicant meets both '3a' and '3b' criteria, they will only be credited once.*
- *Each remaining criterion will then be allocated a descending numerical value (criterion 2 being the highest score, criterion 6 the lowest score) for the purposes of rank ordering. Total scores are cumulative.*

If the number of applicants for a pathway exceeds the number of places available, the criteria listed below will be used in the following order to determine a rank order of applicants for each category:

1. Beginning with the Grammar Pathway, the Board of Governors in seeking to affirm the all ability nature of the College will ensure that each year group caters for students of all abilities, including the most academically able. Grammar Pathway Entry is available for a maximum of 35% of the intake. The College will strive for religious balance, both within the Grammar Pathway entry, the All Ability Pathway entry and the overall admissions number. *Please note that for this criterion only, all applicants are awarded '0' rank order points on applying for Grammar or All Ability Pathway to ensure there is no rank order advantage in applying to either pathway.*

2. Transferring pupils who have a brother, sister or foster brother/sister currently attending the College. Please note that all applicants including those with half-brothers/sisters and/or step brothers/sisters currently attending the College will only be admitted under this criterion if they reside at the same address. Names and dates of attendance must be stated.

3a. Transferring pupils whose parent/carer is an employee of, or member of, the Board of Governors of Ulidia Integrated College or who is due to take up an appointment in the forthcoming academic year.

OR

3b. Transferring pupils who are the first child* of the family***(see above for definitions)* to transfer to mainstream post-primary education since the establishment of Ulidia Integrated College in 1997.

4. Transferring pupils who are currently in Primary 7 of a Grant-Maintained Integrated primary school or a Controlled Integrated Primary School as defined in the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989.

5. Parents /Carers of transferring pupils who can demonstrate a commitment to Integrated Education.

(If Criterion 5 is to be deemed applicable to parents of transferring pupils, they are asked to clearly state their commitment to Integrated Education, as defined in Note 1 below, on the Online EA Transfer Application).

6. Pupils whose parent/carer has indicated a first or second preference for Ulidia Integrated College.

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion that can be applied at each stage of the process, selection for places will be on the basis of the initial letter of the legal surname (as shown on the birth certificate) of the child wishing to transfer, with the child being selected in the order set out below:

O J M c G M V F L B W D E Z T A M a c C H S U N R K Y P I X Q

The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters. These letters will also be used in the event of a tie occurring at any of the above admissions stages. In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the letter of the first forename appearing on **Online EA Transfer Application** will be used. Hyphenated surnames, consisting of two separate surnames will be treated as one complete word for selection purposes.

Note 1: Demonstration of commitment to Integrated Education (Criterion 5 above) will be measured *only* by meeting any one of the following:

- Membership or employee of the Integrated Education Fund, Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education, All Children Together, any Integrated Education Trust; and/or
- Membership of the Board of Governors or employee of any other Integrated School.
- Transferring pupils whose Parents / Carers were former pupils of Ulidia Integrated College; transferring pupils who have formerly had a brother/ sister or foster brother/sister enrolled in the college
- A clear statement of your commitment to Integrated Education

DUTY TO VERIFY

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on the **Online EA Transfer Application** or appended to the same by parents/carers. For verification purposes original documents are required and not facsimiles or photocopies.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide any requested verifying documents within the deadline set by the college will result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the College to offer a place. It is the responsibility of the Parents/Carers to ensure that:

- The **Online EA Transfer Application** and other necessary documentation are correctly completed and present
- All relevant information is included on or attached to the **Online EA Transfer Application** including the religion of the applicant, and any material relating to a grammar entry application.
- Any required verification documents are provided within specified deadlines.

YEAR 8 WAITING LIST POLICY

The College will only consider admissions commencing at the start of the academic year (unless in exceptional circumstances as determined by the Principal).

All applications for admission that were:

a) Initially refused, b) New applications and late applications received following the completion of the Transfer Process and c) Applications where new information has been provided will be placed on a waiting list that will be used in the event of a place becoming available.

Please note that rank order on the waiting list is not determined by the date the applicant joined the waiting list. When a space becomes available, the admissions criteria policy will be applied to all open applications. These applications will remain open until 1st May that academic year at which point the application is deemed to have lapsed.

Should there be more applications than places available the procedure outlined in the Admissions Criteria for entry of children to Year 8 will be followed. Parents/Carers who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after 1st September should write to the Principal's PA clearly stating this.

In the event of such application, the Board of Governors will only make an offer if there is a place available and the pupil's needs and Health and Safety considerations can be met.

If the application is made by an applicant who arrived in Northern Ireland after the transfer process has been concluded and the College's Admissions Committee determines that the applicant is suitable to be admitted, the College will then seek Department of Education approval to admit the applicant through an additional place. If such approval is given, the applicant will be admitted.

Further information about Ulidia Integrated College can be obtained from the College's website or the Principal's PA.

Applications and Admissions to Year 8

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2023/24	100+10 by TV ⁺	222	110
2024/25	100+30 by TV ⁺	165	130
2025/26¹	100+30 by TV ⁺	192	146

¹*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 any admitted on appeal and/or through ECB.*

***TEMPORARY VARIATION OF NUMBERS FOR YEAR 8 ADMISSIONS**

Should a temporary variation request be granted by the Education Authority, the college will admit equal numbers into the Grammar and All Ability Pathways and will seek to reflect its religious balance as published above.

ULIDIA INTEGRATED COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA (YEARS 9-12)

Full details are available from the Principal's PA in the College office on request.