



LURGAN COLLEGE



ANNUAL INFORMATION 2025/26

Academic excellence in a caring environment



January 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am delighted that you are interested in finding out about Lurgan College and I hope that you enjoy reading our 2025/2026 Annual Information Booklet.

I trust that the information in this booklet will give you a flavour of the unique ethos and genuine family atmosphere that makes the College the truly special place that it is.

The school year 2023/2024, has once again been a very successful and encouraging one for our pupils, staff and governors. For the twenty-second year in a row a pass rate of 99% was achieved by College pupils in all subjects offered at Advanced Level where 86.8% of the pupils obtained 3+ A*- C grades ; grades A*, A and B accounted for 73% of the total grades achieved; 9 pupils secured at least 3 straight A*/A grades; at AS level 86% of all grades recorded were at grades A - C (including 13 pupils who achieved at least 3 A grades); 98.3% of Year 12 pupils achieved 7 or more GCSEs at grades A*- C including English and Maths; and a remarkable 27 pupils achieved 8 A*/A grades at GCSE (including 5 pupils who secured 11 straight A*/A grades).

The school's strong emphasis on academic achievement is underpinned by an effective, child centred system of pastoral care. We constantly look to build on existing outstanding practice, adapting and changing to meet the academic, physical, spiritual and emotional needs of our pupils and in so doing, rising to the challenge of our school motto *Meliora Sequor* - 'to follow better things'.

The academic success of the school was complemented by another pleasing year of extra-curricular provision, where our young people continue to excel outside the classroom. Our Music and Drama societies combined to produce the memorable production of 'Calamity Jane'. A number of pupils from across the school took part in the British Council's EU/UK Stronger Together Youth Action Project. In collaboration with partner schools from England, Spain, Greece and Ukraine, our pupils competed against teams from across Europe, finishing in a superb third place. In sport, 2023-24 saw the introduction of Boys Football with the U16 squad winning the Mid-Ulster League at the very first attempt. The 1st XI Girls Hockey team reached the semi-finals of the Stevenson Shield, whilst the U16 Boys Hockey team reached the Taylor Cup Final for the first time in the school's history. The school's Equestrian Team also enjoyed much success throughout the year, winning the TRI Schools League. Individually, a significant number of pupils gained representative honours in a wide range of sports including Rugby, Volleyball, Cricket, Athletics, Swimming, Golf and Football.

The College deeply values its close relationship with parents and guardians who form a crucially important link in ensuring that we realise our aims to meet individual pupils' needs. The Headmaster, Vice Principals and Heads of Year are always available, by appointment, to discuss a pupil's progress and pastoral well-being.

Please feel free to visit our website for more details or if you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact my PA, Mrs Herron.

I look forward to meeting you in the future.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

W K McCALLAN
HEADMASTER



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mr S A H Abraham (Chairman)
Mrs R Craig (Vice-Chair)
Mrs A Allen
Dr R Barr
Mrs G Cuthbert
Mr A Dunn
Mrs S Hanna
Mr B Hutchinson
Mr J Lyons
Mr P Maxwell
Dr H K McAllister OBE
Mrs Z C McCullough
Mr R McKeown
Mr P Weir
Mrs L Wylie

HEADMASTER

Mr W K McCallan MBE BA (Hons) PGCE PGDH (NI)

VICE-PRINCIPALS

Mr N Ross BSc (Hons) MSc PGCE
Mrs S Hanna BA (Hons) PGCE

SENIOR LEADERS

Mr A W Hamill BSc (Hons) PGCE PQH (NI)	Geography (HOD)
Mr R Uprichard BSc (Hons) MSc PGCE	Geography, Government & Politics, LLW, Careers
Ms E Hughes BSc (Hons) PGCE	Health & Social Care, LLW
Mrs S Duke MA (Hons) PGCE	English (HOD)

TEACHING STAFF

Mr B D Faith BA (Hons) PGCE	Mathematics (HOD)
Mrs S J Jenks BSc (Hons) PGCE	Physics (HOD), Chemistry, LLW
Mrs A Buttery BA (Hons) PGCE	French, Spanish, LLW
Mrs J Barbour BEd (Hons)	Art & Design, LLW
Mr W S Buttery BA (Hons) PGCE	French, Spanish (HOD), LLW, Business Studies
Mr D Irvine BEd (Hons) MED PCCEG PQH (NI)	Religious Studies (HOD)
Mr J Finlay BSc (Hons) PGCE	Chemistry (HOD)
Mrs K D Ward BA (Hons) MSc PGCE	Digital Technology/Computer Science/Information Technology
Mr G A Caldwell MA (Hons) PGCE	Business Studies, ICT (HOD)
Mrs J Abraham BMus (Hons) PGCE ALCM	Music, Religious Studies
Mr D Patterson BEng (Hons) PGCE	Technology and Design
Mrs R Briggs BSc (Hons) PGCE	Mathematics
Ms L Emerson MSc (Hons) PGCE	Physics, Careers, Tourism, LLW
Mrs C McTernaghan BA (Hons) PGCE	Nutrition & Food Science
Ms A Brackenridge BA (Hons) PGCE	French, English, Tourism
Ms M Wan BSc (Hons) PGCE	Mathematics, LLW, Careers
Mrs V Beattie BSc(Hons) PGCE	Physical Education (HOD), Business Studies
Mr P Weir BSc (Hons) PGCE	Physical Education, Business Studies
Mrs K Finnegan BSc (Hons) MED PGCE	Digital Technology/Computer Science/Information Technology
Mrs C Hinds BA (Hons) PGCE	English
Dr J McCallister BSc (Hons) PhD PGCE	Biology (HOD)
Mrs J O'Neill BA(Hons) PGCE PGDH(NI)	History (HOD), LLW
Mrs S Jones BSc (Hons) PGCE	Biology, LLW
Mrs S Campuzano BSc PgDip PGCE	Health & Social Care, Physics, Religious Studies
Mrs K Clements MSc (Hons) PGCE	Chemistry, Biology, LLW

SUPPORT STAFF

Office Staff:	Mrs K Herron Miss L Percival Mrs M Cairns	Technicians:	Mrs M Hand Mr J Gemmell Mrs P Smith
Classroom Assistants:	Mrs L Gough Mrs P Carson Mrs G Nelson Miss C Grant Miss R Leathem Miss H Gilmore	Building Supervisors:	Mr H King Mr M Ferguson
		Sixth Form Study Supervisors:	Mrs A Delport Mrs B McClure



LURGAN COLLEGE – A Brief History

As befitted a growing industrial town, Lurgan had a strong educational establishment from the mid-19th Century. The opening of the Model School in 1863 had been the culmination of a period of sustained growth in the Primary Sector. However, the town had no soundly established secondary school, which must have been regarded as a serious short-coming in a middle-class interest. One of the town’s leading citizens at the time, Samuel Watts, joint owner of one of the breweries, provided in his will for the endowment of such a school, which was to provide an English, Classical and Agricultural education for boys.

Watts died in February 1850, and the endowment, when it was established, amounted to some £9000. This was to be invested, and the accrued interest used to build the School. It was not until December 1872 that the Trustees considered they had sufficient money to proceed. The School commenced business in a house in Market Street during March 1873, the first Headmaster being Mr E Vaughan Boulger, of Dublin. The School buildings themselves, constructed on a site in the townland of Brownlowsderry, were not completed until August 1873, and were officially opened in October of that year.

Mr Boulger left Lurgan in December 1875, to be replaced by Mr W T Kirkpatrick from RBAI in Belfast. Under Kirkpatrick the school prospered academically and numerically, although not financially. On Kirkpatrick’s retirement in 1899, Mr. James Cowan, of Manchester G.S. took over the principalship. Under Cowan, the school faced problems of declining numbers, although he was responsible for the introduction of Science teaching in 1905. Another major development was the admission of girls in 1918. Mr Cowan retired in 1922, leaving a school of under thirty pupils.

The new Headmaster was Mr V M Harper, from Campbell College. He presided over a major expansion in the school. Two major building projects (in 1925 and 1929) coupled with an amalgamation with the Lurgan High School for Girls (1925) transformed the College from a struggling thirty pupil school to a thriving one hundred and fifty pupil establishment. The 1947 Education Act further increased enrolments and led to an increasing dependence on temporary buildings. In 1952 Mr Harper retired, to be replaced by his vice-principal, Mr J Trewsdale. Under Mr Trewsdale the school ceased to be an independent, endowed school, (the endowments were then inadequate for the needs of the College) and became a County Grammar School. A series of building

programmes beginning in 1955 and lasting until 1969 saw the provision of a modern suite of buildings well equipped to meet the needs of the area. In 1960 the new city of Craigavon was developing and with it a radical reform of education provision in the area. The Dickson Plan introduced a modified two-tier system, based on the Leicestershire Plan. The College became a 14-19 Grammar School under this scheme.

Mr Trewsdale retired in 1978 and was replaced by Mr N Eccles from Campbell College. The school suffered, in common with most other schools in Ulster, from a sharp decline in numbers in the early 80’s but this has been significantly reversed in recent years.

Mr Eccles retired in 1988 and was replaced by Mr W D Johnston, the second old boy of Royal School Dungannon to become Headmaster of Lurgan College. The Johnston era was characterised by an increase in pupil and staff numbers and a steady improvement in pupil performance in public examinations. The rise in pupil numbers in the senior school, however, was not reflected unfortunately in the Preparatory Department which closed in 2004. In his years as Headmaster Mr Johnston skilfully oversaw the introduction of GCSEs, Curriculum 2000 (changes in sixth form curriculum), Classroom 2000 (ICT provision) and the Local Management of Schools programme. Working with his Board of Governors, Mr Johnston played a significant role in planning and bringing to fruition the impressive renovation of the school’s reception area in 2005.

Mr Johnston was succeeded in 2005 by a third Royal School Dungannon old boy, Mr T D Robinson, who had previously been Vice Principal at Banbridge Academy. During the Robinson era pupil numbers rose sharply and the pupils excelled both in public examinations and on the sports field, winning the Ulster and All Ireland Girls’ Hockey Schools’ Championships on 3 occasions between 2011 and 2014. The school’s estate also developed with the provision of a new Sports Complex incorporating a pavilion and a state-of-the-art astro-turf pitch. Approval was given in 2018 for the construction of a new teaching block and sports hall under the SEP scheme.

Mr Robinson, following his retirement in 2022, was awarded an OBE in the 2023 King’s New Year Honours for Services to Education. He was succeeded by our current Headmaster, Mr W K McCallan MBE.

THE SCHOOL DAY

ASSEMBLIES

Monday
House Assembly (Whole House or small groups)
Tuesday
Years 11 and 12 School Assembly in the Assembly Hall Years 13 and 14 House Assembly (small groups)
Wednesday
No Assembly (Personal Development time with House Teacher)
Thursday
Years 13 and 14 School Assembly in the Assembly Hall Years 11 and 12 House Assembly (small groups)
Friday
Whole School in Assembly Hall

CLASS TIMES

Day	Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	Wed
Registration	9.00 – 9.10	9.00 – 9.30
Assembly	9.10 – 9.20	No Assembly
Period 1	9.20 – 9.55	9.30 – 10.05
Period 2	9.55 – 10.30	10.05 – 10.40
Period 3	10.30 – 11.05	10.40 – 11.15
Break	11.05 – 11.20	11.15 – 11.30
Period 4	11.20 – 11.55	11.30 – 12.05
Period 5	11.55 – 12.30	12.05 – 12.40
Period 6	12.30 – 1.05	12.40 – 1.15
Lunch	1.05 – 1.50	1.15 – 1.50
Period 7	1.50 – 2.25	1.50 – 2.25
Period 8	2.25 – 3.00	2.25 – 3.00
Period 9	3.00 – 3.35	3.00 – 3.35



PROVISIONAL TERM DATES 2025/26
(subject to change)

AUTUMN TERM 2025	
Y14 Induction Day	Friday 22 August 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 25 August 2025
Year 12 Induction Day	Tuesday 26 August 2025
Year 13 Induction Day	Wednesday 27 August 2025
Y11 Induction Day 1	Thursday 28 August 2025
Y11 Induction Day 2	Friday 29 August 2025
First Day of Term (for all)	Monday 1 September 2025
Half Term Holiday	Monday 27 - Friday 31 October 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19 December 2025

SPRING TERM 2026	
First Day of Term	Monday 5 January 2026
Half Term Holiday	Monday 9 - Friday 13 February 2026
Bank Holiday	Tuesday 17 March 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27 March 2026

SUMMER TERM 2026	
First Day of Term	Monday 13 April 2026
May Day Holiday	Monday 4 May 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 25 May 2026
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 30 June 2026



THE COLLEGE

The College, which stands in its own secluded wooded grounds on the outskirts of Lurgan, was founded in 1873 as an 11-18 Grammar Boarding School for Boys. After several changes and extensions, it became in 1968 a non-denominational, co-educational Senior High Selective Grammar School catering for pupils aged 14 to 19 and offering an academic education up to Advanced and Scholarship Level in a wide range of subjects.

The aims of the College are:

- 1. To maintain, develop and intensify the growth of the intellectual, spiritual, moral and aesthetic aspects of personality in all pupils;
- 2. To foster an interest in a wide range of extra-curricular activities including games and physical recreation and to encourage healthy competition in all activities, academic, cultural and physical;
- 3. To stimulate and develop attitudes and qualities of integrity, initiative, consideration, courtesy, self-confidence, independence and self-reliance in all pupils.

THE PUPILS

All pupils are encouraged to strive for high academic standards and achievement and are expected to contribute to the life of the College. Pupils normally enter the College at the age of 14 plus, transferring from Junior High, Grammar or Secondary Schools. Our GCSE courses are arranged to fit closely with those of Lurgan Junior High School, with whom we have close and effective liaison.

All pupils will be placed in one of the following Houses and will be in the care of a House Teacher.

BOULGER	COWAN	HARPER	KIRKPATRICK
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THE CURRICULUM

It is the policy of the Board of Governors that all pupils will be offered a broad and balanced Curriculum. A full version of the School's Curriculum Policy is available in the School Office for examination, if required, by parents of both current and prospective pupils.

In Years 11 and 12 most pupils study at least 10 GCSE subjects, after which all suitably qualified pupils may enter the sixth form to study for AS level in an appropriate number of subjects. Pupils who study Further Mathematics complete 11 GCSE subjects.

The following subjects are available for study at GCSE Level or equivalent:-

Art & Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Digital Technology, English Language, English Literature, Food and Nutrition, French, Further Mathematics, Geography, Health & Social Care (BTEC), History, Learning for Life and Work, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Studies, Spanish and Technology.

The following specifications are followed by pupils in Lurgan College:-

CCEA
N.I. Council for the Curriculum Examinations & Assessment
General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)
General Certificate of Education Advanced (GCE)

OCR
General Certificate of Education (GCSE) in Computer Science

PEARSON
BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Information Technology
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Computing
BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Engineering
BTEC Level 2 First Award in Health & Social Care

WJEC
Level 3 Applied Certificate in Tourism

During Years 11 and 12 all pupils are timetabled for an Applied GCSE in Learning for Life and Work which will include Personal, Social and Health Education, Citizenship and Employability/Careers Education. All pupils are also timetabled to study GCSE Religious Studies. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Studies and acts of collective worship after consultation with the Headmaster.

Pupils who obtain suitable GCSE passes will progress into Year 13 in September. In Year 13 they will study four subjects to AS Level and then take three of these on to A2 level in Year 14. Over the course of both Years 13 and 14, pupils will undertake a programme of Enrichment Classes, Physical Education and Games.

The following subjects are offered for study at post 16:-

GENERAL – Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Mathematics, Physics, Politics, Religious Studies and Spanish.

APPLIED – Art and Design, Engineering (BTEC Level 3 Extended

Certificate), Health and Social Care, Information Technology (BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate), Music, Nutrition and Food Science, Sports Science and Active Leisure Industry, Technology and Design and Tourism (WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma).

Complaints by parents in relation to the curriculum should, in the first instance, be addressed to the secretary of the Board of Governors who will bring the complaints to the attention of the Governors.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE (CEIAG)

The Careers department aims to deliver high quality careers guidance for all Lurgan College pupils. A careers programme exists for all four year groups. Building on the work of our colleagues in Lurgan Junior High School, our Year 11 programme explores aspects of contemporary employability, including labour market trends and the job application process. In Year 12, career planning is personalised through interviews with the NI Careers Service advisors.

Year 13 pupils are supported to explore a range of higher education routes through online research, open day visits, guest speakers and work experience placements. Year 14 pupils are supported in their final decision-making by a dedicated Careers teacher who supports their applications for higher education. Support is also provided to Year 14 candidates facing entrance tests and interviews; indeed all Year 14 pupils are equipped with interview skills through a dedicated day-long event.

Careers information is increasingly incorporated within curriculum subjects and links with employers have been actively developed.

HOMEWORK POLICY / CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT (COURSEWORK) TIMETABLE

We hope that all pupils will make the most of their opportunities and their abilities but it is unrealistic to expect or to hope for good results in external examinations without being prepared to work consistently hard. A pupil taking 10 or 11 GCSE subjects may find himself/herself undertaking projects, practical work, fieldwork or writing a large number of essays. Careful planning is, therefore, essential so that their work can always be completed to the best of their ability and on time. Pupils should set themselves a weekly routine of at least 15 hours of homework and/or private study after school hours and they should acquire the habit of working on their own initiative.

At GCSE we recommend that pupils should not spend more than 3 hours study per subject each week.

At AS/A2 Level we recommend that pupils should not spend more than 5 hours' study per subject each week.

This should allow pupils to cover all their subjects thoroughly each week.

If set homeworks do not occupy all the weekly allocation, pupils should use the time for project work, revision of notes already covered in class or for ongoing Controlled Assessment.

A number of GCSE and AS/A2 level subjects require Controlled Assessment to be completed during the school year. This Controlled Assessment may be in project form or the continuous assessment of a pupil's work either completed in class or at home. This clearly puts a very high premium on quality homework. For this reason, the College has drawn up a Controlled Assessment Timetable for Years 11, 12, 13 and 14 to inform pupils (and parents) when this work should be expected. Although these guidelines are flexible, they have been drawn up to help pupils plan their work so that it is done to the best of their ability and finished on time. Deadlines must be met and it is most important that pupils do not leave all their efforts until the last minute.

EXAMINATIONS POLICY

A copy of the Examinations Policy can be found on the school website. Parents/Guardians can obtain a copy from the school office upon request. The Policy is reviewed and amended annually, to meet any new JCQ regulations.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The school has a newly refurbished, state-of-the-art Sixth Form Study and Library area in which Years 13/14 pupils have a minimum of 10 periods of supervised study each week. While the timetabled subjects contribute to the development of pupils academically, physically, socially and morally, a programme of extra-curricular activities is provided to give all pupils an opportunity to develop self-confidence, individuality, aesthetic sensibility, leadership and initiative. By offering a broad range of activities, all abilities have an opportunity to become interested in something in which success and satisfaction may be achieved.

PUPIL DEVELOPMENT

Healthy competition in all activities, academic, cultural and physical, is encouraged. Contact with other schools is promoted through sporting, cultural and social activities.

Pupils are given the opportunity to take part in some form of service to the community.

While members of staff are in charge of societies (President), pupils are encouraged to fill positions of responsibility (chairman, secretary, committee) in which they receive guidance.

The importance of good manners, tidy appearance, cleanliness and clear speech is recognised. School uniform is worn by all pupils.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care in the school is led by a Vice-Principal who works closely with Heads of Year. The Learning Support Co-ordinator and Student Support Co-ordinator are also members of the Pastoral Care Team.

On entry to the school each pupil is assigned to a House Group which is under the care of a House Teacher. House Teachers monitor the academic and personal development of the pupils in their group. This

is complemented by the delivery of the House Time Schedule which focuses on our school vision of Be Ready, Be Kind, Belong. Heads of Year direct the work of the House Teachers and are responsible for establishing a holistic overview of the academic achievement, personal development and welfare of all the pupils in a year group during their time at the school.

The House system makes a valuable contribution to the provision of pastoral care. Pupils are encouraged to strive not only for their full academic potential, but also to develop socially and personally by participating in the wide range of House and extra-curricular activities.

The work of the Pastoral Care system is also complemented by a Links Counsellor and the Reach Mentoring Team who are available to support pupils when required.

The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being.

PARENTS

The school uses SIMS Parent App to ensure close liaison between the school and parents. This App enables parents to receive real-time information regarding their son's/daughter's journey through the College.

- Parents/guardians are able to view:
- Attendance records
 - Individual pupil timetables
 - Lurgan College's academic calendar
 - School Activities
 - Academic reports

Parents are also encouraged to take advantage of the many invitations to parents' meetings, entertainments and other functions in the College and are particularly encouraged to attend the Induction Afternoon for new pupils held in June.

SCHOOL MEALS

A cash cafeteria organised by the School Meals Service provides break and lunch for all pupils.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Army Cadet Force, Art, Book Club, Chamber Choir, Girls' Choir, Community Service, Computer Club, Debating, Drama & Music, Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Eco Club, Film Club, Magazine Club, Modern Languages Society, Politics, Public Speaking, School Band, Scripture Union and Young Enterprise.

SPORT

The College's sporting aims are:

- To contribute to the physical development of each pupil through the promotion of skills acquisition and competence in a range of physical activities;
- To contribute to the social education of the individual by providing opportunities for pupils to cooperate with one another and to share the value of sports and games through a sense of satisfaction and achievement of play;
- To promote in each pupil a love of, interest in and knowledge of physical activity and its contribution to the maintenance of lifelong personal health and fitness;
- To prepare pupils to make active, creative and purposeful use of their leisure time throughout their lives;
- To enable pupils to gain enjoyment and an aesthetic appreciation of movement through purposeful and progressive physical activity.

Pupils receive a generous time allocation in terms of Physical Education, namely one single and one double period in each year group.

Facilities for Physical Education include a FIH approved Astroturf hockey pitch, a Sports Pavilion, a Gymnasium, three rugby pitches, one all-weather hockey pitch which converts into a 200 m running track in the summer, two netball courts and three tennis courts. A new Sports Hall is planned for opening in 2026. Use is also made of the Craigavon Council facilities close to the school, namely South Lakes Leisure Centre and the Golf/Ski Centre. The school also avails of the cricket wickets at Waringstown, Lurgan and Donacloney Cricket Clubs.

The sports available to pupils include:

Athletics	Netball
Badminton	Orienteering
Basketball	Rugby
Cricket	Squash
Cross-Country	Swimming
Equestrian	Table Tennis
Football	Tennis
Golf	Tug of War
Hockey	Volleyball

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

All pupils are expected to uphold and maintain the good reputation of the College at all times, by considerate, courteous, mannerly and orderly behaviour. Any breach of good manners is a breach of School Rules. A full version of the Code of Conduct and further information on Positive Behaviour, School uniform etc. can be found in the Welcome Booklet which is available to all parents on request.

VOLUNTARY ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION

Parents are asked to make a voluntary annual contribution of £90 per pupil (up to a maximum of £120 per family) towards school funds. The Board of Governors commends this scheme to all parents as a vital means of enriching the extra-curricular programme of activities on offer.

CHARGING AND REMISSION POLICY

During the course of the school year the College provides a number of optional extras for pupils. An optional extra is defined as an activity which takes place wholly or mainly outside normal school hours and is not specifically required to meet the demands of a prescribed programme of study or any approved public examinations. These activities would include the Scripture Union house party, barbeque, theatre visits, sporting tours and various other school trips both residential and non-residential.

Where evening, holiday or weekend activities such as the SU house party, barbeque, theatre visits etc. are arranged, it is the policy of the Board of Governors to levy a charge on the parents of pupils participating in such provision. This charge will be based on the full per capita cost including the cost of transport. The Board of Governors may, at their discretion, subsidise part of the cost of a particular activity out of school funds or Trust Funds and then levy a charge on parents based on the residual per capita cost. In every case parents will be advised in advance of the proposed cost and their prior agreement obtained before any charge is made.

Where the school sports clubs organise tours, the Board of Governors will pay the approved cost of providing transport within Northern Ireland.

The Board of Governors will also pay the approved cost of providing transport within Northern Ireland for trips organised by other school societies such as the Art Club, Modern Languages Society or Politics Society when these take place in the evening, at weekends or during a holiday period.

The Board of Governors will not pay the examination entry of a pupil for a subject for which that pupil has not been fully prepared by the School. If parents wish to have a pupil's examination results rechecked or remarked, they will be required to pay the full cost of the charges incurred in meeting the request. In addition, parents will be responsible for any expenses incurred by pupils re-sitting examinations.

Parents may also be asked to pay, in whole or in part, for the cost of replacing a broken window, a defaced, damaged or lost text book or other item of equipment/furniture where such loss or damage is a result of their child's behaviour.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA 2025/2026

ADMISSION TO YEAR 11

The lodging of an application for a place at Lurgan College (the School) is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the pupil concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school, including the School’s Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy. Information in relation to this may be obtained from the School.

If the School is stated as the second, third or fourth preference to any other school it is highly unlikely that the school(s) stated in preference to Lurgan College (the “preferred school(s)”) will have decided whether to offer that child a place by the date on which the Admissions Committee of Board of Governors of Lurgan College decide on admissions to the School (“the admissions date”). On the admissions date the Admissions Committee is not able to consider second, third or fourth preference applications which have not already been decided on by the preferred school(s). As the number of children admitted on the admissions date is equal to the school’s admission number, no further places will be available after that date.

The Education Authority of Northern Ireland operates an on-line system of application for admission to the School (the “on-line system”). This system involves all applications and supplemental information being uploaded to an on-line portal (the “Portal”) available on the Education Authority’s website.

With regards to the EA On-line system:

- all references to “applications” or “applying” to the School shall be taken to mean doing so via the Portal;
- all applications and any supporting information must be uploaded to the Portal before it is closed at **4pm on Friday 2nd May 2025**;
- the Admissions Committee will not be able to consider any documents or information not uploaded to the Portal.

In the event of more applications being received for admission to Year 11 in September 2025 than there are places available, the following criteria for admission will be applied until the School’s admissions number is met. The application of the criteria below is subject to the rules on Special Circumstances and Special Provisions set out below.

In accordance with statutory requirements, in applying the criteria and sub-criteria set out below, any child resident in Northern Ireland at the time of the proposed admission to the School will be selected for admission to the School before any child not so resident.

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application. 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 school to offer a place.

CRITERION 1

The Admissions Committee of the Board of Governors (the ‘Admissions Committee’) will select children on the basis of rank order, with higher scores preceding lower ones; those children with a better academic achievement will achieve a higher place in the rank order than children with a lesser academic achievement. Selection will be based on the following evidence:

1. For children attending Lurgan Junior High School (LJHS): academic evidence from the Summer Year 9 assessments and the March/April Year 10 Transfer examinations taken whilst attending LJHS. In a contingency situation, which interferes with LJHS being able to hold March/April Year 10 Transfer examinations, academic evidence will be taken from continuous assessment and/or standardised data generated by LJHS.

Such evidence will be provided to the School by LJHS on or before **Friday 2nd May 2025**.

2. For children who do not attend LJHS and do not meet the criteria for ‘Special Provisions’: the Admissions Committee will consider all available evidence about the level of academic ability of each of those children. Such evidence must be of sufficient detail and quality to allow the Admissions Committee to place her/him in the rank order as referred to in this criterion. The evidence must always include the most recent report provided by the child’s transferring school (if such a report exists) and may include an assessment of the child’s academic ability provided by the head teacher of the child’s transferring school.

If it is deemed necessary, the Admissions Committee may also request an assessment of the child’s abilities to be carried out by a qualified educational psychologist [or other suitably qualified person or body] approved by the School. If such an assessment is carried out, the child will be considered on the basis of this assessment as well as the academic evidence, as set out in the preceding paragraph, made available to the School. The admissions criteria will then be applied to that child in the same manner as to all other children seeking admission to the School.

By way of example only, the Admissions Committee may request such an assessment in the following circumstances:

- Where the available academic evidence is not of sufficient detail and quality to allow the Admissions Committee to place the child in the rank order;
- Where the child does not meet the criteria for ‘Special Provisions’ but is currently attending a school outside Northern Ireland.

It is the parents’/guardians’ responsibility to ensure that the School is provided with the necessary information about their child’s performance as referred to above. This information/report must be provided to the School no later than **4pm on Friday 2nd May 2025**. This information must be uploaded via the Portal and the Admissions Committee will not be able to consider any other documents or information apart from this.

If, on the application of this criterion, two or more children tie for the last available place, the following admissions sub-criteria will be applied to the children in the order given below. The Admissions Committee will apply these criteria on behalf of the Board of Governors.

SUB-CRITERION 1

Preference will be given to a child who, at the time of application, attends Lurgan Junior High School.

SUB-CRITERION 2

Preference will be given to a child who, at the time of application, has a child of the family** enrolled at the School OR who, at the time of application, is the eldest child of his/her family eligible to apply for admission to the School.

** The School 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.

SUB-CRITERION 3

Preference will be given to a child for whom the School is the nearest suitable, non-denominational grammar school.

SUB-CRITERION 4

A child will be selected for admission on the basis of the initial letter of his/her surname (as entered on his/her birth certificate) in the order set out below:

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

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames, the alphabetical order of the initial letter of the first of the forenames (as entered on his/her birth certificate) will be used.

SUB-CRITERION 5

Preference will be given to an older child, as established by the date of birth entered on his/her birth certificate.

SUB-CRITERION 6

A child who is selected through the use of a computerised random selection programme will be selected for admission to the School.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If a child’s place in the rank order referred to in Criterion 1 has been adversely affected by medical or other problems which have impacted on his/her academic performance, documentary evidence of these special circumstances must be provided to the School by the child’s parents/guardians no later than **4pm on Friday 2nd May 2025**. **This evidence must be uploaded via the Portal and the Admissions Committee will not be able to consider any other evidence apart from this.**

This evidence must include:

1. Precise details of this problem, with independent evidence to corroborate its existence and its effect on the child’s academic performance;
2. If the problem is of a medical nature, appropriate medical certificate(s). In particular, where a medical problem was one of short duration which affected the child during examinations, the School will require the production of evidence that the child was examined by a medical practitioner in relation to the illness at the time of the examination;
3. If it exists, evidence of the child’s academic performance in Years 8, 9 and 10;
4. If appropriate, accredited assessments, including assessments by qualified educational psychologists.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Special Provisions apply to:

- Children whose parents/guardians wish them to transfer from schools outside Northern Ireland; parents/guardians must include educational evidence such as the child’s academic performance in Years 8, 9 and 10.
- Children who have received more than half of their education to date outside Northern Ireland; parents/guardians must include educational evidence such as the child’s academic performance in Years 8, 9 and 10.
- Children, who because of a serious medical or other issue, were unable to participate in any educational assessment. Parents must indicate to the School the precise reason why the pupil did not participate in any educational assessment. This must be supported by appropriate independent verifiable documentary evidence such as required at 2, 3 and 4 above.

Parents/guardians who wish their child to apply to the School under Special Provisions must provide the appropriate documentary evidence to the School no later than **4pm on Friday 2nd May 2025**. **This evidence must be uploaded via the Portal and the Admissions Committee will not be able to consider any other evidence apart from this.**



NOTES ON SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES/SPECIAL PROVISIONS

On the basis of the evidence provided by the parents/guardians, the Admissions Committee will, in its absolute discretion, decide if a child has been affected by Special Circumstances or is one to whom Special Provisions apply. **The Admission Committee will assess children in either of these categories based on the medical and academic evidence made available to the School.** It is, therefore, important that those seeking such qualification make sure that the relevant material and evidence (**including all relevant evidence of academic ability**) is submitted, setting out clearly the reason for these Special Circumstances or Special Provisions to apply. The onus is on parents/guardians to ensure that the above information is provided via the portal to the School by the relevant date and time. Failure to provide such information by the relevant date will result in the Admissions Committee being unable to consider the application for Special Circumstances or Special Provisions.

If it is decided that a child has been affected by Special Circumstances or is subject to Special Provisions, the Admissions Committee will determine,

on the basis of all available evidence, the level of academic ability of that child and place her/him in the rank order referred to in Criterion 1. The Admissions Committee may also request an assessment of the child's abilities to be carried out by a qualified educational psychologist [or other suitably qualified person or body] approved by the School. If such an assessment is carried out, the child will be judged on the basis of this assessment as well as the medical and academic evidence made available to the School. The admissions criteria will then be applied to that child in the same manner as to all other children seeking admission to the School.

Please note that judgement of the importance of the documentation forwarded in support of Special Circumstances or Special Provisions will be at the discretion of the Admissions Committee. The existence of Special Circumstances or Special Provisions does not in itself lead to automatic admission to the School. Each case is considered on its own merits by the Admissions Committee.

ADMISSION TO YEAR 13

Admission will be based on:

- Evidence of educational attainment based on externally validated examinations. A minimum of 3 Grade B and 5 Grade C GCSE passes (or 11 points – A* = 4 points; A = 3 points; B = 2 points; C* = 1.5 points; C = 1 point) are required. English Board 9-1 equivalences will be accepted. It is preferable to have GCSE grades A*, A or B (or English Board equivalences) in those subjects to be taken at Advanced Level;
- The availability of places in chosen subjects or courses;
- The availability of places in Year 13;
- The overall enrolment number of the College.

In the event of there being more applicants than places, applicants will be ranked according to their total points score in GCSE, worked out on the basis of A* = 4 points; A = 3 points; B = 2 points; C* = 1.5 points; C = 1 point. Short Course GCSE grades will be awarded half the above points. Places will be offered in descending order subject to the above criteria.

All pupils resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school will be selected for admission before any child not so resident.

Criteria for allocating the final place where point scores are tied are as follows:

1. Child of the family* already enrolled at the School OR eldest child of the family eligible to apply for admission to the School;
* The School 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.

2. Initial letter of surname (as entered on birth certificate) in the order set out below:

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

3. In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames, the alphabetical order of the letters of the forenames (as entered on birth certificate) will be used;
4. If applicants are still tied, then priority will be determined amongst them by a method of computerised random selection leaving a clear audit trail.

All applications for places must include full details of results obtained at GCSE and be received by the school office staff by **1.00 pm on Thursday 21 August 2025.**

The Department of Education may, on request, increase the number of pupils that the school can admit to its Year 13. Places that become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the basic eligibility criteria for sixth form study and shall be allocated in the order determined by the criteria to be applied in the order set down below:

1. Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in Lurgan College;
2. Pupils from other schools where admission to an extra place at Lurgan College has been agreed by the Department of Education*.

*Parents should note how the Department of Education will, in response to a school's request, increase the school's enrolment number in order to allow an extra post -16 pupil to enrol. DE will first check whether there is another school or schools of a type suitable for that pupil within an hour's journey of where the pupil lives. If there is, DE will then check whether this other school or schools may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue. If these checks find that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue - then DE will agree to a school's request for an extra place.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL OF A TYPE THAT IS SUITABLE FOR A PUPIL?

To determine this, DE first considers all schools to be one of 4 types: (i) denominational (ii) non-denominational (iii) Integrated and (iv) Irish-Medium. A school requesting an extra place for a post-16 pupil will belong to one of these 4 types and DE will consider any other school from this same type as suitable for the pupil. DE will also consider as suitable for the pupil any school of the same type as that attended by the child in Year 12.



ENROLMENT

The College enrolment in October 2024 was as follows:-

YEAR	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
11	64	64	128
12	59	65	124
13	53	59	112
14	49	60	109
TOTAL	225	248	473

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED				NUMBER OF PUPILS ADMITTED TO YEAR 11	
1st Preference	2nd Preference	3rd Preference	TOTAL	TOTAL	YEAR
157	28	69	254	115	2006/07
139	30	70	239	115	2007/08
148	42	94	284	117	2008/09
157	46	68	271	115	2009/10
142	36	73	251	117	2010/11
146	36	93	275	118	2011/12
144	39	76	259	117	2012/13
162	40	111	313	115	2013/14
140	41	84	265	106	2014/15
149	44	74	267	115	2015/16
146	43	74	263	116	2016/17
149	81	0	230	122	2017/18
173	76	99	348	118	2018/19
165	78	60	303	116	2019/20
191	85	38	314	127	2020/21
187	-	-	187	129	2021/22
164	1	-	165	119	2022/23
164	4	-	168	126	2023/24
162	2	-	164	126	2024/25

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE RATE

The average attendance in the school during 2023/2024 was 91.03%.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS 2023/2024

The following is a summary of the 2024 GCSE and A Level results obtained by College pupils.

YEAR 12 PUPILS

Number of Pupils in Year 12 on 31 October 2023	120
Number of these with a statement of special educational needs	5

GCSE RESULTS 2024

% Entered for 7 or more Subjects	% Achieving Grades A*-C			% Achieving Grades A*-G		% Achieving No Grades
	7 or more	5 or more	1-4	5 or more	1-4	
100%	98.3%	99.1%	100%	100%	100%	0%

SUMMARY OF GCSE EXAMINATION RESULTS

Entries	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U
1146	70	387	386	179	96	25	2	1	0	0

Grades A* - G	100%
Grades A* - C	97.6%
Grades A* - A	39.9%

GCSE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance Indicator	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C	100	N/A	99	N/A	99.2	N/A	100	97.6	99.1	N/A
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (inc Eng & Maths)	100	N/A	99	N/A	99.2	N/A	100	95.9	98.3	N/A
% Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C	97	N/A	98	N/A	98.5	N/A	100	94.4	98.3	N/A
% Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (inc Eng & Maths)	97	N/A	98	N/A	98.5	N/A	100	93.6	98.3	N/A



GCSE RESULTS BY SUBJECT

Subject	Number Entered	Number of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades										% A* - C
		A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U	
Art	12	2	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Biology	88	5	24	37	13	8	1	0	0	0	0	98.86
Business Studies	46	0	9	19	12	4	2	0	0	0	0	95.65
Chemistry	58	3	21	10	12	8	4	0	0	0	0	93.1
Computing	16	1	5	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	100
Digital Technology	10	3	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	90
English Language	115	4	34	46	25	6	0	0	0	0	0	100
English Literature	96	6	31	29	24	6	0	0	0	0	0	100
Food & Nutrition	34	1	12	15	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	100
French	36	2	4	4	9	12	5	0	0	0	0	86.11
Further Maths	25	3	11	5	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	96
Geography	41	0	17	11	6	4	3	0	0	0	0	92.68
Health & Social Care	26	8	8	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	100
History	46	2	21	16	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	97.83
LLW	114	2	36	51	17	7	0	1	0	0	0	99.12
Mathematics	115	9	44	50	7	4	1	0	0	0	0	99.13
Music	5	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Physical Education	22	0	12	6	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	90.91
Physics	50	4	16	15	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	100
Polish	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Religious Studies	111	13	43	26	13	12	3	1	0	0	0	96.4
Science (SA)	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Spanish	59	1	20	17	12	8	0	0	1	0	0	98.31
Technology	19	0	4	9	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	94.74

TARGETS

The following GCSE targets have been agreed for 2024/2025:

Target	Published Target 2023/24	Achieved % 2024	Agreed Target 2024/2025
5 A*-C at GCSE	100%	99.1%	100%
7 A*-C at GCSE	95%	98.3%	95%

YEAR 13 AND YEAR 14 PUPILS

Number of Pupils in Years 13 and 14 on 31 October 2023 227
Number of these with a statement of special educational needs 3

AS LEVEL RESULTS 2024

Number of Pupils in Y13 (AS)	% of Those Pupils Achieving	
	3 or more passes at Grades A-C	2 or more passes at Grades A-E
117	70.09%	100%

AS LEVEL RESULTS BY SUBJECT

Subject	Number Entered	Number of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades						%	%
		A	B	C	D	E	U		
Art	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	100	100
Biology	42	12	8	9	8	1	4	90.5	69.1
Business Studies	45	5	17	13	6	4	0	100	77.8
Chemistry	26	9	3	9	2	3	0	100	80.8
Digital Technology	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
English Literature	16	9	3	4	0	0	0	100	100
Food & Nutrition	18	5	4	7	0	2	0	100	88.9
French	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	100	100
Geography	33	7	6	11	7	2	0	100	72.7
Health & Social Care	27	7	18	2	0	0	0	100	100
History	29	4	10	10	2	2	1	96.6	82.8
Mathematics	20	10	3	5	1	1	0	100	90
Further Maths	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Music	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	100	60
Physics	13	4	2	5	1	1	0	100	84.6
Politics	19	9	6	4	0	0	0	100	100
Religious Studies	10	5	4	0	0	1	0	100	90
Spanish	5	1	2	2	0	0	0	100	100
Sports Science	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	100	100
Technology	7	2	5	0	0	0	0	100	100
Tourism	30	12	10	7	0	0	1	96.7	96.7

GRADES A-E 98.4%
GRADES A-C 85.9%
GRADES A 32.6%

A LEVEL RESULTS 2024

Number of Pupils in Final Year of A Level Course	% of Those Pupils Achieving	
	3 or more passes at Grades A*-C	2 or more passes at Grades A*-E
106	86.8%	100%

A LEVEL RESULTS BY SUBJECT

Subject	Number Entered	Number of Pupils Entered Achieving Grades							%	%
		A*	A	B	C	D	E	U		
Art	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Biology	28	1	6	7	8	3	3	0	100	78.6
Business Studies	35	1	5	18	10	1	0	0	100	97.1
Chemistry	15	1	2	10	1	1	0	0	100	93.3
Digital Technology	9	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	100	100
English Literature	22	0	4	7	9	2	0	0	100	90.9
French	5	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	100	80
Geography	20	2	1	8	7	2	0	0	100	90
Health & Social Care	38	0	11	23	4	0	0	0	100	100
History	23	1	1	9	8	4	0	0	100	82.6
Mathematics	15	2	10	1	1	1	0	0	100	93.3
Music	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	66.7	66.7
Nutrition & Food Science	18	2	6	6	4	0	0	0	100	100
Sports Science	22	1	9	10	2	0	0	0	100	100
Physics	6	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	100	100
Politics	9	0	3	4	2	0	0	0	100	100
Religious Studies	10	1	3	5	1	0	0	0	100	100
Spanish	10	2	2	5	1	0	0	0	100	100
Technology	6	0	3	1	2	0	0	0	100	100
Tourism	17	4	6	4	3	0	0	0	100	100

SUMMARY OF A LEVEL EXAMINATION RESULTS

Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
319	29	80	124	67	14	4	1

GRADES A*- E 99.7%
GRADES A*- C 94%
GRADES A*- A 34.2%

A LEVEL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance Indicator	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average	Lurgan College	N.I. Grammar School Average
% Achieving 3+ A Levels at Grades A*-C	84.1	N/A	81.2	N/A	71.43	N/A	82.2	83.8	86.8	N/A
% Achieving 2+ A Levels at Grades A*-E	100	N/A	99	N/A	100	N/A	100	99.6	100	N/A

TARGETS

The following A Level targets have been agreed for 2024/2025:

Target	Published Target 2023/24	Achieved % 2024	Agreed Target 2024/2025
2 A*-E at A Level	100%	100%	100%
3 A*-C at A Level	87%	86.8%	85%

DESTINATIONS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS 2023/2024

Year 14 Leavers 2023/24	Destinations of Year 14 Leavers			
	Higher Education	Further Education	Employment/ Apprenticeship	Other
106	87%	3%	10%	-

Total Number of Leavers 2023/24		Destinations of all School Leavers				
		Higher Education	Further Education	Another School	Job Skills/ Employment	Other
Male	51	37	6	0	6	2
Female	79	55	16	0	7	1





LURGAN COLLEGE

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