

ST CECILIA'S COLLEGE

Bligh's Lane

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Website/online prospectus: www.stceciliacollege.com

Principal: Mrs MJ O'Carolan BA(Hons), PGCE, MBA, PQH

Chairman of the Board of Governors: Mr Pat Armstrong

Voluntary Maintained

All-Ability School

Girls Age Range: 11 – 18

Admissions No: 129

Enrolment No: 825

Roll: 860

Open Day

Thursday 9th January 2025

Principal's Address - 5pm and 6.15pm

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

The Board of Governors draws up the Admissions Criteria and delegates to an Admissions Sub-Committee, which includes the Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference herein to the term the Board of Governors includes any Committee or Sub-committee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the Admissions Criteria set out herein.

ST CECILIA'S COLLEGE - ADMISSIONS CRITERIA – 2025/2026

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria, punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 28 January 2025 at 12 noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 20 February 2025 at 12 noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon (GMT) on 20 February 2025 and up to 4pm on 25 February 2025 will be treated as a late application.

As currently required by the law, priority will be given to applicants normally resident in Northern Ireland, before applicants who normally reside elsewhere. In the event of over-subscription, the following criteria, which was drawn up by the Board of Governors of St Cecilia's College, will be applied in the order set down, to select applicants for Year 8 entry in 2025/26.

1. Applicants whose sister(s), half-sister(s), stepsister(s) or foster sister(s) are presently or were formerly enrolled at the school **and** who have chosen St Cecilia's College as their **first preference** school.

*Please note that for criterion 1 you are required to provide in the Admissions Criteria Notes section of your online / written application the **full name and date of birth** of the sister(s) or equivalent (as defined above) whether referring to a present or past Applicant(s). If the sister(s) or equivalent is currently at St Cecilia's College, you are asked to indicate "yes" at the "**Sister at School**" option.*

2. Applicants who presently reside in the following parishes (in no particular order) who have chosen St Cecilia's College as their **first preference** school.

Ardmore

Claudy

Culmore

Faughanvale and Lower Cumber

Glendermott/Waterside: (St Columb's-Chapel Road, Immaculate Conception-Trench Road, St Mary's-Newbuildings)

Holy Family: (Ballymagroarty)

Our Lady of Lourdes: (Steelstown)

St Mary's: (Creggan)

Strathfoyle: (StrathFoyle/Enagh Lough)

Templemore: (St Eugene's, St Columba's, Long Tower)

Three Patrons: (St Patrick's- Pennyburn, St Brigid's-Carnhill, St Joseph's-Galliagh)

*Please note that for criterion 2 you are required to provide in Admissions Criteria Notes Section of your online/written application the **name of the parish** that the applicant resides in from the list provided above.*

3. Applicants presently resident in the above-named parishes (in no particular order) who have chosen St Cecilia's College as their **first preference non-selective school**.

*Please note that for criterion 3 you are required to provide in the Admissions Criteria Notes section of your online/ written application the **name(s) of the selective / grammar school(s)** chosen ahead of St Cecilia's College to validate your eligibility for this criterion. Please also provide the **name of the parish** the applicant resides in.*

4. Applicants presently resident in the above-named parishes (in no particular order) **and** who have placed **at least one non-selective school** ahead of St Cecilia's College.

*Please note that for criterion 4 you are required to provide in the Admissions Criteria Notes section of your online/ written application the **name(s) of the non-selective school(s)** chosen ahead of St Cecilia's College to validate your eligibility for this criterion. Please also provide the **name of the parish** the applicant resides in.*

5. Applicants who are presently resident in other parishes in Northern Ireland.

*Please note that for criterion 5 you are required to provide in the Admissions Criteria Notes section of your online / written application the **name of the parish** the applicant resides in.*

The permitted admission number for Year 8 as determined by the Department of Education for the academic year 2025/26 is 129.

In the event that the school would exceed its permitted admission number by accepting all applicants qualifying for selection using the final criterion so required, then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of initial letter of the surname (as appears on the birth certificate), in the order set out below:

J, T, Y, U, S, F, V, I, R, B, Z, E, X, D, Ní, O', K, L, Q, A, W, G, P, N, MAC, M, MC, O, C, H

The order was determined by a random selection of letters, witnessed by the Board of Governors. 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 2 identical surnames, the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used.

When considering which applicants should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the online/ written application. Parent(s) / Guardian(s) should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's Admissions Criteria is stated on the online/ written application or attached to it.

Applicants should note that where an address and/or child age information contained within an application qualifies an applicant for admission, then that information will be required to be verified. To enable the Board of Governors to verify this, applicants, towards the end of the admissions process, will be asked to provide:

A The Applicant's Birth Certificate in order to verify the date of birth and their name

and

B Any two of the following original documents to credibly verify address at which the applicant is normally resident:

- a bank, post office, credit union or building society statement (or equivalent) which shows the address at which the child is normally resident;
- a current utility bill (e.g. Electricity, Gas, Television Licence, Telephone) which shows the address at which the applicant is normally resident;
- a letter awarding Child Benefit or Tax/Universal Credit in respect of the child or another letter relating to this benefit;
- the applicant's Medical Card.

PARENT(S) / GUARDIAN(S) ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO HAVE SUCH DOCUMENTS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS UPON REQUEST.

Admissions Criteria for entry September 2025

Please note that other original documents deemed by the school to be equally capable of verifying applicant information, or other equally capable means of verification, will be considered at the discretion of the Board of Governors. If, therefore, applicants are unable to provide the specific documents listed above then they should contact the school to establish how they can verify applications to the satisfaction of the school.

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

Upon receipt the school will take a copy of the documents but will retain this copy only until the admissions procedure (including Appeals Tribunals) is complete. The provision of these documents is essential if we are to offer your child a place at St Cecilia's College. By law, St Cecilia's College Board of Governors, like others, has a duty to verify the important information within a child's application in order to ensure that it has applied its Admissions Criteria correctly and that the admissions process is accurate and fair. If applicants do not provide the requested documents by the deadline given, then the school must regrettably withdraw the place currently allocated to the child. Similarly, if the documents provided fail to verify the information within the application that has currently qualified the child for a place at St Cecilia's College, then this place will be withdrawn.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by Post-Primary Schools can result in the withdrawal of a place and the inability to offer a place on the part of any school nominated on the applicant's application.

Should a vacancy arise after 10 May 2025, all applications for admission to Year 8 that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the published criteria applied. Parent(s) / Guardian(s) must inform the school, in writing, if they wish their child's name to be added to the waiting list. This waiting list will be in place until 27 June 2026.

St Cecilia's College will contact you in writing if your child gains a place in the school by this method.

NUMBERS OF APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2022/2023	140	168	145*
2023/2024	129	160	137*
2024/2025	129	164	135*

*includes statemented pupils

ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR ENTRY TO YEARS 9 – 12

Please complete an AP1 form, available from the Education Authority website and contact the school directly.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/admissions-guides/transfer-between-schools/applying-for-a-transfer>