

**STRANDTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NORTH ROAD**  
**BELFAST**  
**BT4 3DJ**



**Controlled Primary School**  
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**Principal: Mrs V Hutchinson B.Sc(Hons), PGCE, M.Sc.**  
**Vice Principal: Miss W Bailie**

**Enrolment Number: 1044**  
**Admissions Number: 261**

### **Introduction**

The school caters for children in the Year 4-7 age range. The school is part of an infant and junior school collaborative comprising of Strandtown, Dundela, Belmont and Greenwood. The four schools provide very high standards of education, working closely together to provide continuous high quality, breadth and balance. There are nearly two thousand pupils in the four schools.

Strandtown Primary School opened in 1931, boasting extensive grounds that provide a community facility as well as catering for a well-developed physical education programme and our large number of sporting clubs and teams. The grounds provide a focus for practical and environmental education. The school has had significant investment and a new 12 classroom extension was completed in May 2019.

The school has a very active and well-developed musical tradition with more than 200 children receiving on-site instrumental tuition.

The school has a Christian ethos welcoming pupils from all faith and community groups in the east of the city. A high emphasis is placed upon pastoral care. The school aims to provide a safe, happy, caring and stimulating environment and nurture pupils' self-esteem within a culturally rich and diverse school community where the needs of others are acknowledged and accommodated. There is a high level of involvement from parents and local community representatives. Parents express very high levels of satisfaction in the education, standards and care for pupils. The Board of Governors is representative of the community, takes a keen interest in the pupils and is very supportive of the staff.

The application procedure opens on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 12 noon. Applications can be emailed to info@strandtown.belfast.ni.sch.uk or posted to Strandtown Primary School, North Road, Belfast, BT4 3DJ. All postal applications must be received in school by this date. For any missing postal applications proof of postage will be required. Closing date for applications for Year 4 is 12 noon on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Letters of offer will be sent by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024. A birth certificate and verification of address will be required when returning an acceptance of place by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024.

### **ADMISSIONS CRITERIA**

The Board of Governors has drawn up the school's admissions criteria and has delegated to the Principal its function and responsibilities in relation to the application of these criteria and the admission of pupils to the school.

#### Admissions to Year 4 in September 2024

Children of Year 4 age, (i.e. children born on or between 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016 and 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 inclusive) will be admitted to the school. In the event of the school being oversubscribed the Governors will select children for admission to Year 4 using the admission criteria set out below.

The criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set down. Should the number of children who satisfy the requirement of any criterion exceed the number of places available, the remaining criteria will be applied successively to the children which caused the number of places to be exceeded, until all places have been allocated.

1. Children transferring from our traditional feeder schools Belmont, Dundela and Greenwood and for whom an application form has been lodged by the application deadline will be admitted first. All pupils from the three schools will be considered together. Should the school be oversubscribed then the following sub-criteria will be applied in the preference order below:

- a. children who have a brother/sister, half-brother/half-sister, or other child living at the same address, who currently attends Strandtown Primary School. (Indicate name and year group)
- b. children who had a brother/sister, half-brother/half-sister, or other child living at the same address, who attended Strandtown Primary School and are at present in years 8, 9 or 10. (Indicate name used and years attended Strandtown PS, present school, and year group)
- c. children who have a brother/sister, half-brother/half-sister, or child living at the same address, who attends Belmont, Dundela or Greenwood Primary Schools. (Indicate name used, present school, and year group [either Year 1 or 2])
- d. children whose permanent residence at the time of application is the shortest distance from the school. Distance will be determined by a straight line measurement generated electronically using the computer programme provided by Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland. Should children's homes be equi-distant then the names of those to be considered are drawn by lot and the order recorded so that the next place is given to the first name drawn and so on.

Should any places remain within the admissions threshold then the names of the applicants who do not fulfil criteria (a) to (d) are drawn by lot and the order recorded.

2. If further places remain in the admissions number then children from other schools wishing to be enrolled in Year 4 will be considered. Only children for whom this is the closest controlled school will be considered. Priority will then be given to children whose permanent residence is the shortest distance from the school. Distances will be determined by a straight line measurement generated electronically using the computer programme provided by Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland.

Should children's homes be equi-distant then the names of those to be considered are drawn by lot and the order recorded so that the next place is given to the first name drawn and so on.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on the application form. Children who are resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school will be considered before those who are not a resident. The original birth certificate and proof of residential address continue to be required for all acceptance of offers and should be provided directly to the school.

#### Waiting List (Year 4)

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 all applications for admission to Year 4, that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the above published criteria applied. This waiting list will be in place until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024. Should a vacancy arise in Year 4 the school will contact you in writing if your child gains a place in the school by this method. After this date parents should notify Strandtown PS, in writing, that they wish their child to be placed on a waiting list until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

#### Verification of your address must be submitted with application

The applicant's "home" must be understood to mean the normal residence of the parents of applicant and "parents" must be used in the sense given to it by the Education and Libraries (N.I.) Order 1986 namely that it "includes a guardian and every person who has the actual custody of the child".

#### Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Application Form. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within deadlines set by 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 Form.

#### Admissions to Year 5 to 7

From Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 all applications for Year 5 to Year 7 for September 2024 will be considered for children for whom this is the closest controlled school.

Priority will then be given to children whose permanent residence is the shortest distance from the school. Distances will be determined by a straight line measurement generated electronically using the computer programme provided by Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland.

Should two or more children for whom home is equi-distant be being considered for fewer remaining places then lots will be drawn, the order recorded and the first name drawn be offered the next place and so on.

#### Waiting list (Year 5 to 7)

After 1<sup>st</sup> September parents should inform the school in writing if they wish their child's name to remain on or be placed on a waiting list. All children on the waiting list at the time of the vacancy will be treated equally and the published criteria applied. This waiting list will be in place until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

#### Verification of your address must be submitted with application.

The applicant's "home" must be understood to mean the normal residence of the parents of applicant and "parents" must be used in the sense given to it by the Education and Libraries (N.I.) Order 1986 namely that it "includes a guardian and every person who has the actual custody of the child".

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#### **Applications for Admission to Year 4**

	<b>Number of Applications Received</b>	<b>Number of Pupils Admitted</b>
2019	241	241
2020	243	243
2021	243	243
2022	242	242
2023	247	247