

# HOLYWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



**P6 Parent Information**  
**May 2022**

# Timetable 2022 - 2023

**4 May 2022**

Applications open for 2021/22 Entrance Exam in AQE & GL

**23 September 2022**

Application process closes

**November & December 2022**

AQE or GL Entrance Assessments in Post Primary Schools

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (GL – 2 Assessment papers)**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (AQE – Test 1)**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (AQE – Test 2)**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 (AQE – Test 3)**

# Timetable 2022 – 2023 (cont.)

## January & February 2023

Open Days/ Evenings in most Post Primary Schools.

Please keep an eye on grammar and secondary school websites and social media pages for this information

## **\*\*February 2023\*\***

Provisional date for AQE & GL Entrance Assessments results to be published is Saturday 4 February

## **By mid February**

Parents complete an online Transfer application for their P7 child

\* This process is slightly different for pupils who have a SEN statement \*

## **May/June 2023**

**Notification of Post Primary School placements**

N. B. We await final dates for the above to be confirmed by DE/ EA

# Common Entrance Assessments (CEA) 2022 - 2023

Please refer to AQE website [www.aqe.org.uk](http://www.aqe.org.uk)

e.g. **AQE Process**

**Timeline**

**Registration / Administration (costs £60)**

(No charge for children who are eligible for FSM)

**A Guide for Parents** (e.g. Special Access / Provision)

**CEA Format**

**\*\*Each paper will be one hour and ten minutes long \*\***

**REGISTRATION from 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022  
& CLOSES ON 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 at 4:00pm**

# How to Register for the AQE Assessments

- Complete online registration form at: <https://aqe.org.uk/>
- A 5 digit code is provided confirming payment of £60 fee or proof of entitlement to FSM is required.
- An electronic copy of your child's birth certificate is to be uploaded.
- A digital passport photo is required



Welcome to AQE Ltd

THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE COMMON ENTRANCE  
ASSESSMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND

**Post Primary Transfer Consortium  
(runs GL Assessment)  
2022-2023**

Please refer to [www.pptcni.com](http://www.pptcni.com)

**Information for Parents**

**Timeline**

**Registration / Administration ( no charge)**

**A Guide for Parents**

**GL Format**

**REGISTRATION DATE FROM WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY &  
CLOSES ON FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER (2.00 P.M.)**

# How to Register for the GL Assessments

- Complete online registration form at:  
<https://pptcni.com>
- A copy of your child's birth certificate must be provided.
- A passport photo is required

## Where will the tests take place?

- Pupils will sit the assessments in participating grammar schools. (Test Centres)
- Parents should nominate the preferred Test Centres on the Registration Form.
- Sitting the Assessments in a particular school does not imply a decision to apply to that school nor does it bring any advantage in the application process for Year 8 school places .



## 2022/23 Assessment content

- Both AQE and GL have provided information regarding the content and areas within their assessments which our P6 teachers are referring to.
- Details of these specifications are available on the GL and AQE websites.
- While some topics have been removed from the assessments, these are still key areas of the NI Curriculum that will be covered during P6 & P7 at HPS in readiness for your child going into Year 8.

## 2022/23 Adjustments

- From September we will be using the existing past papers from AQE, making allowances for the areas which will no longer be tested.
- We have adjusted our planning in light of the confirmed content specification.
- We will continue to provide extra revision on the topic areas which the children find most challenging.
- We are also working in partnership and using a similar approach to the other schools in the North Down area

# NI Curriculum



All children in the remainder of their P6 year and during their P7 Year will be taught at levels appropriate to their ability ie: differentiated work.

**The main curricular areas taught are listed below.**

# [www.nicurriculum.org.uk](http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk)

## Key Stage 2

### Key Stage 1 & 2 Areas of Learning

- LL Language and Literacy
- MN Mathematics and Numeracy
- A The Arts
- WAU The World Around Us
- PD MU Personal Development & Mutual Understanding
- PE Physical Education
- RE Religious Education

**Overview**  
of the Key Stages 1 and 2 Curriculum



**Skills and Capabilities**  
Cross-Curricular Skills, Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

**Connected Learning**  
Similar skills are being developed and reinforced right across the curriculum

**Assessment Arrangements**  
for Key Stages 1 & 2

Assess  
& Progress

STEM  
Works!

Using ICT Key  
Stage 1 & 2

Task &  
Exemplification  
Library

living  
learning  
together



[www.nicurriculum.org.uk](http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk)

**On a daily basis, children  
engage in active learning  
contexts**

**across all areas of the  
curriculum to develop:  
Cross-Curricular Skills  
Thinking Skills and  
Personal Capabilities.**

# NI Curriculum (cont.)

Teachers **assess your child's progress** in these areas in different ways, for example:

- classroom observation
- discussion and asking questions
- classwork
- homework
- class tests
- assessment activities.



# Independent learners

It has been and will continue to be our priority to support the needs of your child. We will teach them at a level appropriate to their understanding in preparation for them to progress to a post primary school which meets their needs and abilities and as they move towards becoming **INDEPENDENT LEARNERS.**



**School work must be supported by homework (e.g use of Google Classroom).**

**Approximately 45-55 minutes (without distractions!)**

➤ **Spellings / Vocabulary**

➤ **Mental Maths**

➤ **Written Homework (Maths/English)**

➤ **\*\*\*Learning Facts including table facts is of huge importance \*\*\***

➤ **Factual Quizzes – for revision and reinforcement of key topic areas**

➤ **Reading**

**\*\* To ensure good home / school links we expect all homework to be completed and to be of a high standard.\*\***



## **NI Curriculum (cont.)**

**Please continue to refer to your child's Fact Books / information sheets provided by their class teacher which show clearly the areas for ongoing development and consolidation purposes.**

**Please encourage your child to read for enjoyment as much as possible. This helps extend their vocabulary and understanding.**



# Summer Packs

Summer Packs - Fairfield's -  
currently available to purchase from the school office.

(No obligation to buy!)

We do a range of P6 Windmill Press,  
P6 & P7 HPS produced & AQE past papers.

PLEASE **DO NOT** DO ANY  
PREVIOUS AQE OR HPS PRODUCED  
PAPERS AT HOME, BEFORE WE  
COMPLETE THEM IN SCHOOL.

# Post Primary School Considerations

[www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk)



**Study  
admissions  
criteria  
very  
carefully**

A screenshot of the Education Authority website's 'Post-Primary Admissions' page. The page has a white background with a blue header. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'Enter keywords...' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is the 'ea Education Authority' logo and a navigation menu with links for 'I WANT TO', 'ABOUT US', 'SCHOOLS', and 'PARENTS &amp; YOUNG PEOPLE'. The main content area is titled 'Post-Primary Admissions' and contains a paragraph explaining that at age 11, children transfer from primary to post-primary education, and parents can express a preference. It also mentions a Department of Education (DE) Advice leaflet. Below this is a 'Checklist' section with four steps: 1. Read all information carefully, 2. Download and read the parental guide, 3. Receive an application form from the child's primary, 4. Check school criteria, and 5. Complete application form and return. To the right of the main content is a sidebar titled 'OTHER PAGES IN:' with a sub-section 'Admissions' containing several blue hyperlinks: 'Contact Details - Admissions', 'Post-primary process advice for parents of children in primary 6', 'Post-Primary Admissions', 'Pre-School Admissions', 'Primary Admissions', 'Apply for a School Place or Transfer Between Schools', 'Admission to Senior High Schools (14+)', 'Transfer between schools', 'Search for School Criteria', and 'Admission Appeals'.

**The EA uploads details about all the criteria for schools in N.I. in  
December 2022 / early January 2023**

# Post Primary School Considerations

Post Primary Schools are hoping to be able to offer face-to-face tours in Term 2 of Primary 7.

(January / February 2023)

Virtual tours may also be uploaded on Post Primary School websites.

**In the meantime....**

**Seek views of parents / children attending the schools you may be considering.**



# Post Primary School Considerations

**Travel** - provision of home to school transport.

**Schools' policies** on homework, uniform, discipline, etc.

- The **variety of extra curricular activities** available in schools.

**Some schools have school fees. Bursaries are available. Discuss this directly with the schools** e.g. Campbell, Rockport & RBAI

# Post Primary School Considerations



- The range of subjects & public examinations taken at schools (eg GCSEs) and their pupils' success in these exams.
  - Pastoral support
  - Sport / Music / Drama / Technology opportunities
- The arrangements schools make for pupils who may require additional individual support.
- **Your own, and your child's impression of a school is equally important** as you begin to formulate possible choices of post primary schools.

# Post Primary Schools that are regularly considered by HPS families

**BANGOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL \***      **BLOOMFIELD COLLEGIATE \***  
**CAMPBELL COLLEGE \*\***      **GLENLOLA COLLEGIATE \***  
**LAGAN COLLEGE \***      **METHODIST COLLEGE \***  
**OUR LADY & ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE \***  
**RBAI \***      **STRATHEARN SCHOOL \***  
**SULLIVAN UPPER SCHOOL \***      **VICTORIA COLLEGE \*\***

**ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL <sup>0</sup>**      **ASHFIELD GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL <sup>0</sup>**  
**PRIORY INTEGRATED COLLEGE <sup>0</sup>**      **ROCKPORT SCHOOL <sup>0</sup>**

**Bangor Academy <sup>0</sup>**      **Grosvenor Grammar School \***  
**Hunter House College \***      **Regent House School \***  
**Strangford College <sup>0</sup>**      **Wellington College \* \***

Currently ....

**\* = AQE ASSESSMENT**      **\* = GL ASSESSMENT**

**\*\* = EITHER AQE & GL ASSESSMENT**

**<sup>0</sup> = NO ASSESSMENT REQUIRED**

# **AQE SCHOOLS 2022/23**

**FAMILIES FROM HPS CONSIDER**

**(in alphabetical order)**

**Bangor Grammar**

**Bloomfield Collegiate**

**Campbell College\***

**Glenlola Collegiate**

**Grosvenor**

**Methodist College**

**Regent House**

**RBAI**

**Strathearn**

**Sullivan Upper**

**Victoria College\***

**Wellington College\*** \*GL Assessment also



# **GL Assessment 2022/23**

**FAMILIES FROM HPS CONSIDER**

**Lagan College**

**Our Lady & St. Patrick's College**

**Campbell College (& AQE)**

**Victoria College (& AQE)**

**Wellington College ( & AQE)**

## Useful websites:

# THE TRANSFER TEST

[www.thetransfertest.com](http://www.thetransfertest.com)

ALSO.....

[www.thetransfertutor.co.uk](http://www.thetransfertutor.co.uk)

**\*REGISTRATION Forms available \***



# The Transfer Application



**DENI make available electronically an  
'Advice to Parents' booklet.**

**The final details and layout of how online  
choices applications are submitted via the  
Education Authority Admissions portal will  
be confirmed with parents and primary  
schools during Term 1 & Term 2 of your  
child's P7 year.**

# The Transfer Application (cont.)

**List choice of schools in order of preference**

**ALL RELEVANT CRITERIA MUST BE EVIDENT ON THE APPLICATION PRIOR TO THE FINAL SUBMISSION**

**No additional information can be included on these forms after the closing date of applications.**

**\*\*Please study the admissions criteria of all schools very carefully.**

**PARENTS must ensure all information is included and accurate.\*\***



## TERM 1 P7

In addition to ongoing communication between home and school, Parent-Teacher consultations are scheduled for early in Term 1 of P7. These consultations take place a number of weeks before timetabled P1-P6 consultations.

Mrs Hart & Mrs Riddall will discuss your child's progress and if appropriate at that stage, potential post primary school considerations can also be discussed.

# Partnership

This is a partnership between  
Parent - **Child** - Teacher

**Our focus is always on your children.**

In addition to addressing the important areas of your child's well-being and social development, we will give you a realistic professional account of how your child's abilities present to us and also how you can support their educational progress.



## TERM 2 P7

In January and February 2023, P7 parents will also be offered the opportunity to have a further discussion with HPS staff about post primary school choices.

We will also assist families by providing any additional paperwork required from the school, before a Year 8 application is submitted online by parents on behalf of their child.

## **And finally .....**

**CONTINUE TO LISTEN AND TALK TO YOUR CHILD AS YOU SUPPORT THEM THROUGH THIS NEXT STAGE IN THEIR EDUCATION .**

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER**

**(relaying pastoral information to school is equally important)**

**The staff team will assist HPS families through this transition stage as post primary school choices are made. We will guide parents and pupils towards making decisions not solely based on experiences from the past, but on the world we live in now.**

**Thank you for your continued support.**