

Belfast Model School for Girls

Achievement for All



Sixth Form Entry Policy

Agreed by Board of Governors: March 2010 To be reviewed: 2013

Rationale

The Belfast Model School for Girls is committed to enabling young people to continue their development from Key Stage 4 to an appropriate Sixth Form course. The post-16 curriculum is flexible and adapts to changing curricular opportunities that provide suitable courses for our students. Opportunities are provided to enable the students to learn in a challenging and supportive environment.

Purposes

- To ensure that the students select a post-16 pathway that meets their interests, needs and aptitudes.
- To maximise student potential and opportunities by providing careers guidance and offering different paths of study.
- To enable the young people to learn effectively, collaboratively and independently.
- To ensure progression pathways for 6 Form students

Guidelines

- Planning for 6th Form Courses in September starts the previous February after the mock exams with a series of special assemblies and questionnaires for Year 12. Before we can run a particular course in the 6th Form, we carry out market research to ascertain the number of students intending to return to school and courses they plan to study.
- Subject blocks are established on the basis of the information gleaned from a preliminary trawl of Year 12 pupils.
- At Sixth Form level we operate a consortium with the Boys' Model School in order to maximise choice for prospective 6th formers in each school. A wide range of courses is offered at different levels including, AS, A2, AVCE, Certificate and Diploma. These courses may be one or two years.
- An Options Booklet giving details of post-16 courses and options is distributed to Year 12 pupils. The Vice Principal (Curriculum) and Head of Sixth Form collaborate in co-ordinating subjects options for prospective students.
- Decisions about the Sixth Form curriculum are made on the basis of pupil choices and numbers, staffing, timetabling and government policy. There is no guarantee that any subject will be offered in a particular year.

ENTRY INTO YEAR 13

Places in the 6th form are limited by DENI, therefore competition is keen every year.

Criteria for entry are as follows:

- 1) GOOD EXAM RESULTS
 - a) GCSE/L2 mean score of 5.0 in at least 6 subjects for entry to 3 AS courses.
 - b) Some subjects require a grade C in English and/or Maths.
 - c) GCSE/L2 mean score of 4.5 in at least 4 subjects for entry to a L3 course
Students achieving GCSE ICT must offer at least 1 other GCSE subject grades A-C in order to take 3 AS subjects.
 - d) For entry to a 1 year level 2 course at least 16 points are required.

Points are allocated as follows :

A*:8 A:7 B:6 C:5 D:4 E:3 F:2 G:1 ELC (gold) 0.5

- 2) Good effort and performance grades in mock exams
- 3) Good attendance and punctuality to registration and subject classes in Year 12 (above 85%).
- 4) A good record of behaviour in Year 11/12 (Year Heads, Assistant Year Heads and school reports are consulted).
- 5) The approval of the relevant HoD and/or subject teacher
- 6) Attendance at interview in August with the Vice Principal/Head of Sixth Form after the GCSE results are published. Parents may attend this interview.

ENTRY INTO YEAR 14

- 1) At least 2 AS passes or equivalent in Year 13.
- 2) Good attendance and punctuality to registration and subject classes in Year 13 (above 85%)
- 3) Good behaviour record in Y13.

These policy Guidelines are translated into action through other policies and procedures, for example:

Curriculum Policy

Behaviour Management Policy

Attendance Policy

GCSE subjects

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>
<i>A*</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>ELC (gold)</i>	<i>0.5</i>
<i>L2 awards</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Occ. Stds (L2)</i>	<i>5 (SA)</i> <i>10(DA)</i>
<i>(L1)</i>	<i>3 (SA)</i> <i>6 (DA)</i>
<i>BTEC</i>	<i>10 (pass)</i> <i>12(merit)</i> <i>14(distinction)</i> <i>16(distinction*)</i>

Please note:

- GCSE/L2 mean score of 5.0 in at least 6 subjects for entry to 3 AS courses
- GCSE/L2 mean score of 4.5 in at least 4 subjects for entry to a L3 course
- At least 16 points are required for entry to a 1 year level 2 course