ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY TO FORMS II-V 2027/2028

1. The Board of Governors delegates to an Admissions Panel, comprising of the Principal, three Vice-Principals, and Senior Teacher with responsibility for School Admission, the application of the admissions criteria to Forms II-V.

2. The School will normally only consider applications for a place commencing at the beginning of the academic year.

3. Admissions to Forms II, III, IV and V will be within the limit set by the School in order not to exceed the overall Enrolment Number or the Admissions Number for Form I (Year 8) agreed with the Department of Education or the limit for numbers in science classes in Form II, III, IV and V.

4. Candidates who wish to transfer into Forms II, III, IV and V should complete an online application form and should note that applications received after the closing date (Wednesday 5th May 2027) will not be considered.

   The link to the online form is: https://forms.gle/7LNBbASBJFhLgAw19

5. Candidates are required to provide a copy of their most recent school report by Wednesday 5th May 2027. If a school report is not received by Belfast Royal Academy by this date the candidate's application will not be considered.

6. Academic ability is the first criterion for entry to the school, and those seeking admission will be asked to show that they have the capacity to cope soundly with the academic demands of the grammar school. Candidates will come into school for an Assessment Day on Wednesday 9th June 2027. Academic ability will be assessed as follows:

   6.1. All prospective candidates will be given a short Mathematics test.
   6.2. All prospective candidates will be required to write a short essay and complete a short English grammar exercise.
   6.3. Candidates who wish to enter Forms III and IV may be required to complete a short Science test.
   6.4 Candidates who wish to enter Forms III and IV may be given a Modern Language Speaking and Listening assessment and will complete a short written task.
   6.5 All prospective candidates may be interviewed by teachers from various Departments, who will assess present and potential achievement.
   6.6. A rank order of candidates will be drawn up and places offered, where vacancies are identified, to candidates whose performance in the tests indicates that they have the ability to make academic progress in courses which are distinctly academic in content and bias.

   For candidates with a Special Educational Need (verified by supporting documentation provided by the deadline – Wednesday 5th May 2027*), 25% extra time will be allowed for the written Mathematics and English assessments. Parents should make the school aware of any Special Educational Need by completing the relevant section of the online application form, referred to in point 4 above.

* Examples of appropriate supporting documentation would be:

- written confirmation of current special educational need by the present school's SENCO on headed notepaper;
- a psychological assessment carried out at the request of the candidate's primary and/or secondary school by a qualified psychologist;
- an assessment by a medical doctor of physical or medical requirements.

7. In the interest of successful transition to a new school, as well as GCSE Subject Choices, transfer to Form V, the year of the principal public examinations, is unlikely to be considered.

8. Belfast Royal Academy reserves the right to contact the candidate's present school for a reference before a place is offered.

9. In the event of a place being offered, proof of age and identity will be required.

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