
Belfast Royal Academy

per vias sapientiae



Freedom of Information
Publication Policy
2025-2028

Title	Freedom of Information Publication Policy
Summary	This policy explains what information the School has published or is likely to publish in the future
Purpose	One of the aims of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is that public authorities, including all maintained and voluntary grammar schools, should be clear and proactive about the information they will make public. To do this we must produce a Publication Scheme, setting out: • The classes of information which we publish or intend to publish; • The manner in which the information will be published; and • Whether the information is available free of charge or on payment. The Scheme covers information already published and information which is to be published in the future. All information in our Publication Scheme is available in paper form.
Operational Date	August 2022
Next Review Date	August 2026
Author	Head of Finance and Corporate Services
Frequency of Review by Author	Every 3 years

To be posted on School website	Yes
Date and version posted	28 th April 2026

BELFAST ROYAL ACADEMY PUBLICATION SCHEME

This is Belfast Royal Academy's Publication Scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Board of Governors is responsible for maintenance of this Scheme.

1. Introduction: what a Publication Scheme is and why it has been developed

One of the aims of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (which is referred to as FOIA in the rest of this document) is that public authorities, including all maintained and voluntary grammar schools, should be clear and proactive about the information they will make public.

To do this we must produce a Publication Scheme, setting out:

- **The classes of information which we publish or intend to publish;**
- **The manner in which the information will be published; and**
- **Whether the information is available free of charge or on payment.**

The Scheme covers information already published and information which is to be published in the future. All information in our Publication Scheme is available in paper form.

Some information which we hold may not be made public, for example personal information. This Publication Scheme conforms to the model Scheme for schools approved by the Information Commissioner.

2. Aims and Objectives

The school aims to:

- enable every child to fulfil their learning potential, with education that meets the needs of each child
 - help every child develop the skills, knowledge and personal qualities needed for life and work,

and this Publication Scheme is a means of showing how we are pursuing these aims.

3. Categories of information published

The Publication Scheme guides you to information which we currently publish (or have recently published) or which we will publish in the future. This is split into categories of information known as 'classes'. These are contained in section 6 of this Scheme.

The classes of information that we undertake to make available are organised into four broad topic areas:

- **School Prospectus** – information published in the School Prospectus.
- **Governors' Documents** – information published in the Governors' Annual Report and in other governing body documents.
- **Pupils & Curriculum** – information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.
- **School Policies and other information related to the school** - information about policies that relate to the school in general.

4. How to request information

If you require a paper version of any of the documents within the Scheme, please contact the school by telephone, email or letter. Contact details are set out below

Email: kholland303@bfsra.belfast.ni.sch.uk

Tel: 028 90 740423

Contact Address: 3-17 Cliftonville Road

Belfast

BT14 6JL

To help us process your request quickly, please clearly mark any correspondence "**PUBLICATION SCHEME REQUEST**" (in CAPITALS please). If the information you're looking for isn't available via the Scheme, you can still contact the school to ask if we have it.

5. Paying for information

Information published on our website is free, although you may incur costs from your Internet service provider. If you don't have Internet access, you can access our website using a local library or an Internet café. Single copies of information covered by this publication are provided free unless stated otherwise in section 6. If your request means that we have to do a lot of photocopying or printing, or pay a large postage charge, or is for a priced item such as some printed publications or videos we will let you know the cost before fulfilling your request.

Where there is a charge this will be indicated by a £ sign in the description box.

6. Classes of Information Currently Published

School Prospectus for Belfast Royal Academy – this section sets out information published in the School Prospectus.

Class	Description
School Prospectus	The statutory contents of the School Prospectus are as follows, (other items may be included in the prospectus at the school's discretion): • the name, address and telephone number of the school, and the type of school • the names of the head teacher and Warden of the Board of Governors • information on the school policy on admissions • a statement of the school's ethos and values • details of any affiliations with a particular religion or religious denomination, the religious education provided, parents' right to withdraw their child from religious education and collective worship and the alternative provision for those pupils • information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs • number of pupils on roll and rates of pupils' authorised and unauthorised absences • National Curriculum assessment results for appropriate Key Stages, with national summary figures • GCSE/GNVQ results in the school, locally and nationally • a summary of GCE A/AS level results in the school locally and nationally • the number of pupils studying for and percentage achieving other vocational qualifications • the destinations of school leavers¹ • the arrangements for visits to the school by prospective parents • the number of places for pupils of normal age of entry in the preceding school year and the number of written applications / preferences expressed for those places

School Prospectus Ben Madigan

Class	Description
School Prospectus	The statutory contents of the School Prospectus are as follows, (other items may be included in the prospectus at the school's discretion): • the name, address and telephone number of the school, and the type of school • the names of the Head Teacher and Warden of the Board of Governors • information on the school policy on admissions • a statement of the school's ethos and values • details of any affiliations with a particular religion or religious denomination, the religious education provided, parents' right to withdraw their child from religious education and collective worship and the alternative provision for those pupils • information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs • number of pupils on roll and rates of pupils' authorised and unauthorised absences • National Curriculum assessment results for appropriate Key Stages, with national summary figures • the arrangements for visits to the school by prospective parents

Governors' Annual Report and other information relating to the governing body - this section sets out information published in the Governors' Annual Report for Belfast Royal Academy and Ben Madigan and in other governing body documents.

Governors' Annual Report	The statutory contents of the Governors' annual report to parents are as follows, (other items may be included in the annual report at the school's discretion): • details of the governing body and their category of membership, clearly identifying the Warden, Vice-Warden and Secretary. • a statement on progress in implementing the action plan drawn up following an inspection • a financial statement, including gifts made to the school and amounts paid to Governors for expenses • a description of the school's arrangements for security of pupils staff and the premises • information about the implementation of the governing body's policy on pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and any changes to the policy during the last year • Arrangements made and facilities provided for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities to ensure they are no less favourably treated than other pupils. Article 8 of the 1996 order refers. • Description of the steps taken to implement special needs policies, in accordance with article 9 of the order. • a description of the arrangements for the admission of pupils with disabilities; details of steps to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favourably than other pupils; details of existing facilities to assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities; the accessibility plan covering future policies for increasing access by those with disabilities to the school • a statement of policy on whole staff development identifying how teachers' professional development impacts on teaching and learning • number of pupils on roll and rates of pupils' authorised and unauthorised absence • National Curriculum assessment results for appropriate Key Stages, with national summary figures FOR THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED: • GCSE/GNVQ results in the school, locally and nationally • GCE A/AS and vocational qualification results in the school, locally and nationally • the number of pupils studying for and percentage achieving other vocational qualifications • the destinations of school leavers¹ • a statement of the extent to which proposals in the post- inspection action plan have been carried into effect
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Scheme of Management	• The name of the school • The category of the school • The membership and proceedings of the Board of Governors • The management of the school • The functions exercised by the Board of Governors and Committees thereof, by the Principal and Bursar • The date the Scheme takes effect
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Minutes¹ of meeting of the governing body and its committees	• Agreed minutes of meetings of the governing body and its committees in relation to meetings held from March 2004 onwards.
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¹ Some information might be confidential or otherwise exempt from the publication by law – we cannot therefore publish this

Pupils & Curriculum Policies - This section gives access to information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum in Belfast Royal Academy.

Class	Description
The School Day, Uniform Regulations	Statement of the school's aims and values, the school's responsibilities, the parental responsibilities and the school's expectations of its pupils for example homework arrangements
Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy	Statement outlining acceptable and unacceptable use of the internet
Admissions Policy	Statement outlining criteria for admissions to Belfast Royal Academy
Anti-Bullying & Anti-Cyberbullying Policy	Statement outlining the policy for seeking to prevent bullying within the school and cyber bullying
Assessment Policy	Statement outlining the policy for assessment throughout the school
Bereavement Policy	Statement outlining the policy to assist pupils who have suffered a bereavement
Curriculum & Curriculum Complaints policy	Statement on following the policy for the secular curriculum subjects and religious education and Schemes of work and syllabuses currently used by the school and policy for making complaints about the curriculum
Relationships & Sexuality Education	Statement of policy with regard to sex and relationship education
Attendance Policy/ Literacy & Numeracy	Statement of policy re attendance of pupils / policy re improving literacy & numeracy within the school
Special Education Needs Policy	Information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs
Accessibility Plans	Plan for increasing participation of disabled pupils in the school's curriculum, improving the accessibility of the physical environment and improving delivery of information to disabled pupils.
Careers Education Policy	Statement of the programmes of careers education provided for Key 4.
Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy/ Pastoral Care	Statement of policy for safeguarding and promoting welfare of pupils at the school and outlining pastoral care arrangements within the school
Positive Behaviour & Pupil Discipline	Statement of general principles on behaviour and discipline and of measures taken by the head teacher to prevent bullying.

Policy	
Drugs Education and Discipline Policy	Statement of disciplinary sanctions to be imposed in the context of drugs offences and information on the Drugs Education programme in the school.
Medical Policy	Policy on medical issues relating to pupils involved in sports
Suspension & Expulsion Scheme	Policy relating to the Suspension and Expulsion of pupils

Ben Madigan Pupils & Curriculum Policies - This section gives access to information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.

Class	Description
Ethos Statement	Statement of the school's aims and values, the school's responsibilities, the parental responsibilities and the school's expectations of its pupils for example homework arrangements
Admissions Policy	Statement outlining criteria for admissions to the Preparatory Department
Anti-Bullying Policy	Statement outlining the policy for seeking to prevent bullying within the school
Relationships & Sexuality Education	Statement of policy with regard to sex and relationship education
Attendance, Marking, Literacy & Numeracy Policy, Teaching & Learning Policy	Statement of policy re attendance of pupils / policy re improving literacy & numeracy within the school
Special Education Needs Policy	Information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs
Accessibility Plans	Plan for increasing participation of disabled pupils in the school's curriculum, improving the accessibility of the physical environment and improving delivery of information to disabled pupils.
Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy / Pastoral Care Policy	Statement of policy for safeguarding and promoting welfare of pupils at the school.
Positive Behaviour Policy	Statement of general principles on behaviour and discipline and of measures taken by the head teacher to prevent bullying.
Drugs Policy	Statement of disciplinary sanctions to be imposed in the context of drugs offences and information on the Drugs Education programme in the school.
Medical Policy	Policy on medical issues relating to pupils involved in sports

School Policies and other information related to the school - This section gives access to information about policies that relate to the school in general.

Class	Description
Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) published reports referring expressly to the school	Published report of the last inspection of the school and the summary of the report.
Post-ETI inspection action plan	A plan setting out the actions required following the last ETI inspection
Charging and Remissions Policies	A statement of the school's policy with respect to charges and remissions for any optional extra or board and lodging for which charges are permitted, for example school publications, music tuition, trips
School session times and term dates	Details of school session and dates of school terms and holidays
Health and Safety Policy and risk assessment	Statement of general policy with respect to health and safety at work of employees (and others) and the organisation and arrangements for carrying out the policy
Complaints procedure	Statement of procedures for dealing with complaints
Performance Management of Staff	Statement of procedures adopted by the governing body relating to the performance management of staff and the annual report of the head teacher on the effectiveness of appraisal procedures
Staff Conduct, Discipline and Grievance	Statement of procedure for regulating conduct and discipline of school staff and procedures by which staff may seek redress for grievance
Crisis Response Plan/ Critical Incident Policy/Business Continuity Plan	Statement of procedures providing detailed guidance on measures to be taken in the event of emergencies
Data Protection Policy / Records Management Policy	Statement of Policy on issues relating to data protection and records management
Equal Opportunities Policy	Statement of Policy on how equality legislation is promoted within the school

Curriculum circulars and statutory instruments	Any statutory instruments, departmental circulars and administrative memoranda sent by the Department of Education to the head teacher or governing body relating to the curriculum
Publication Scheme	Provides details on classes of information held by the school.

7. Feedback and Complaints

We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have about the Scheme. If you want to make any comments about this Publication Scheme or if you require further assistance or wish to make a complaint, then initially this should be addressed to

The Head of Finance And Corporate Services, Belfast Royal Academy, 3-17 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, BT14 6JL

If you are not satisfied with the assistance that you get or if we have not been able to resolve your complaint and you feel that a formal complaint needs to be made, then this should be addressed to the Information Commissioner's Office. This is the organisation that ensures compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and that deals with formal complaints. They can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Or

Enquiry/Information Line: 01625 545 700

E Mail: publications@ic-foi.demon.co.uk .

Website : www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

