



St Patrick's Primary School & Nursery
Bunscoil Naomh Padraig
Coilleach Eanach

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P7 Pupils: Post Primary Placement notification - 21/05/22

Dear Parent;

Please see information that the Education Authority wishes to communicate regarding the notification of secondary school applications which will be issued tomorrow.

P.Quinn

An email will be issued to parents on the morning of Saturday, 21 May 2022 regarding the outcome of their Year 8 applications. Therefore, **parents do not need to log in to the online portal on 21 May to find out where their child has been offered a place.**

Depending on the outcome of their child's application parents will receive one of three emails:

1. Child is selected by the school of first preference; or
2. Child is selected by a school which is not the first preference; or
3. Child is not yet placed in a school.

Signposting within each email will guide parents to advice and support, where needed.

Please note that parents cannot indicate acceptance or refusal of a place offered via the online portal. The EA understands that confirmation of acceptance of a place is not usually requested by post-primary schools. If any post-primary schools do require confirmation, they will contact parents directly with instructions on how they should respond. Parents will be advised that the offer of a place may be conditional on providing the school with verifying information. Again, should a post-primary school require verification documents they will contact parents directly.

Admissions Helpdesk

The Admissions area of the EA website will be updated on the morning of Saturday, 21 May providing details on which schools have places remaining available, how to submit further preferences if a child has not yet been offered a school place, how to lodge an appeal and how to request a change of school preference.

An Admissions Helpdesk will be operating from 9am to 12 noon on Saturday, 21 May to assist parents who require support and to answer queries that cannot be clarified via the website information.

Independent Admissions Appeals Tribunals

Parents have a statutory right to appeal the decision of the Board of Governors of any school which had considered and not selected their child's application to an Independent Admissions Appeal Tribunal. An appeal can only be upheld if a Tribunal finds that the admissions criteria were not applied or not correctly applied and that if the admissions criteria had been correctly applied the child would have been admitted to the school. The Appeal Tribunal is unable to make any judgment on the content or perceived fairness of the criteria themselves.

Through development of the post-primary portal parents who wish to appeal a school's decision will be able to log into their account and submit an appeal(s) through the online application portal. This integrated and improved service will enable parents to better follow the progress of their appeal(s) and have an overview of the status through the different stages. Parents/guardians wishing to appeal will need to submit their form **by 4pm on Tuesday, 31 May 2022**. NB It is planned that all post-primary appeals will be heard via video or telephone conference call.

Parents will be guided on the remit of the Tribunal within the portal and further detailed information on the appeals process is accessible via the EA website at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/admissions-appeals>

Exceptional Circumstances Body

Parents can make an application to have their case heard by the Exceptional Circumstances Body (ECB) in situations where their child has not been admitted

to a specific post-primary school they consider that, for exceptional reasons, he/she must attend. Parents can access further information and the application via the NI Direct website at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/appealing-school-place-decision> There is no deadline for applications to the ECB.

If parents wish they may appeal a school's decision to the Independent Admissions Appeal Tribunal and also apply to the ECB at the same time. It is not necessary to await the decision of an Independent Admissions Appeal Tribunal before applying to ECB.

If you have any queries please contact digital@eani.org.uk or for queries regarding the admissions procedures please contact the Admissions Team by telephone on 028 9598 5595 or email postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk
