



# Rathfriland High School



# 2023 Prospectus

"Big Enough to Deliver, Small Enough to Care"





Rathfriland High School's

# MISSION STATEMENT

‘To instil, through the teaching and learning within the school, the pursuit and realisation of excellence alongside values, attitudes and beliefs which foster self growth, self confidence and an appreciation of cultural identity coupled with an understanding and acceptance of diversity.’

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The content of the Prospectus is accurate as of January 2023.  
The school reserves the right to make alterations as it sees fit.



## WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Primary 7 Pupils,

Welcome to Rathfriland High School's prospectus. The school, which was founded in 1961, delivers high quality education in a caring and supportive environment. Located at the heart of the community, we welcome pupils of all abilities and have a proven record of delivering academic outcomes consistently above the N. Ireland average, together with excellent pastoral care, in a family-like atmosphere.

The school prides itself on being 'Big Enough to Deliver, Small Enough to Care'. This means we can offer a diverse curriculum of over 30 subjects at GCSE or equivalent level. We are proud of our pupils' achievements in public examinations, performing on average 13% higher than the N. Ireland average over the period 2016-2019 (Prior to alternative awarding arrangements due to Covid 19). The school also achieved exceptional GCSE examination results in 2022, with 81.4% of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE or equivalent grades at A\*-C. This maintains our status as a topflight non-selective school with GCSE results among the best for schools of our type.

Although our enrolment has grown significantly in recent years to our current 366 pupils, our size ensures your child will quickly become known to our dedicated staff and they will receive first class pastoral care from subject teachers, form tutors, year tutors and senior staff. They will also have access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities from football, hockey, athletics, and cross country to crochet club, Scripture Union, choir, and our equestrian club. There is truly something for everyone and pupils are encouraged to participate to broaden their skills, make new friends and develop as individuals.

Our mission statement highlights the pursuit of excellence in our learning and teaching, but recognises the importance of values, attitudes, and beliefs in reaching this goal. These are instilled through forming close partnerships with our parents and setting high expectations for engagement, conduct, respect, and tolerance. This ensures a safe and orderly environment, which fosters academic and personal development.



Rathfriland High School is a community in which staff, pupils, parents, and governors work together to enable each child to realise their potential. In 2015 our provision was quality assured by the Education and Training Inspectorate and was assessed as 'Very Good'

I hope this prospectus is useful in providing you with further information about our school. Please view our 'Interactive Virtual Tour', which can be found on our website at [www.rathfrilandhigh.co.uk](http://www.rathfrilandhigh.co.uk)

Alternatively, please feel free to contact me at the school to discuss any issues relating to your child's transfer to post-primary education.

Kind regards,  
I Matthews  
**PRINCIPAL**

## Head Boy and Head Girl

I was presented with both the privilege and the honour of becoming Head Girl at Rathfriland High School. For me, getting selected to be Head Girl was a very unexpected surprise, but one that is extremely appreciated, and a role that I have the pleasure to take on to the best of my ability.

Throughout my time at Rathfriland High School I have had fantastic memories, with the wide range of opportunities and support provided by staff, which has influenced and encouraged me to be the person I am today. I have thoroughly admired the variety of subjects available and extra-curricular activities, as well as the opportunity to get involved in educational experiences and drama events, such as the school production, which have majorly helped shape and build my confidence during my time at Rathfriland High School.

Here at Rathfriland High School I have especially benefited from the devoted and caring teachers and other members of staff, who have all made an impact on my school experience. They have all supported and motivated me to work on and develop my skills and to aim high to achieve the very best I can.

I have made many amazing friends and memories at Rathfriland High School that I will cherish, but it is sad to acknowledge that my five years at Rathfriland High are coming to an end. I hope to continue to have a positive influence on school life and show the admiration I have for this school. Rathfriland High School was the perfect choice of secondary school for me, and I strongly believe it lives up to its motto "Big Enough to Deliver, Small Enough to Care".

*Ruby Wilson* - Head Girl 2022 - 2023

In September 2022 I was honoured to be appointed Head Boy of Rathfriland High School. I count it a great privilege to be given this position and look forward to having the opportunity to give something back to this great school. I hope to take on this role with responsibility and represent the school to the best of my ability.

I have always believed that I made the right choice when I decided to go to Rathfriland High School. All the teachers and other members of staff show dedication, compassion and commitment to all students and have given me great support throughout my time here. I have really benefited from their encouragement and expertise which has helped me achieve my potential.

Rathfriland High School offers a large range of subjects for students of all abilities and provides a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to suit everyone's interests. I am so grateful for all the opportunities I have been given to develop new skills and grow in confidence during my time here.

It is hard to believe that this is my final year at Rathfriland High School and as I look back on my time here, I have many great memories of the friends I have made and the experiences I have enjoyed! I will always be pleased to say that I attended Rathfriland High School which really is "Big Enough to Deliver, Small Enough to Care."

*Edward Toal* - Head Boy 2022-23





Our School Aims . . .

To enable each pupil to develop his or her potential to the full – mentally, intellectually, emotionally, physically, morally and socially, thus equipping each pupil to fully contribute to the community in which he/she lives.



To enhance pupils' self-esteem, self-discipline and self-confidence, thus encouraging them to take responsibility for themselves and their activities;



To motivate pupils and make learning a worthwhile and enjoyable experience;



To encourage life-long learning;



To promote tolerance of the views and opinions of others and to be aware of other people's needs and be positive contributors to the community;



To encourage pupils to adopt a healthy lifestyle by involving them in activities and interests which promote mental and physical well-being.





Governors and Staffing

**Board of Governors 2019 - 2023**

Mr I McConnell Chairman | Mr A Kinley Vice-Chairman | Mr I Matthews Secretary  
Mrs H Wilson | Rev P Cleland | Rev S Burke | Mr W Walsh | Mrs D McCartan | Mrs S Bennett

**Teaching Staff 2022 - 2023**

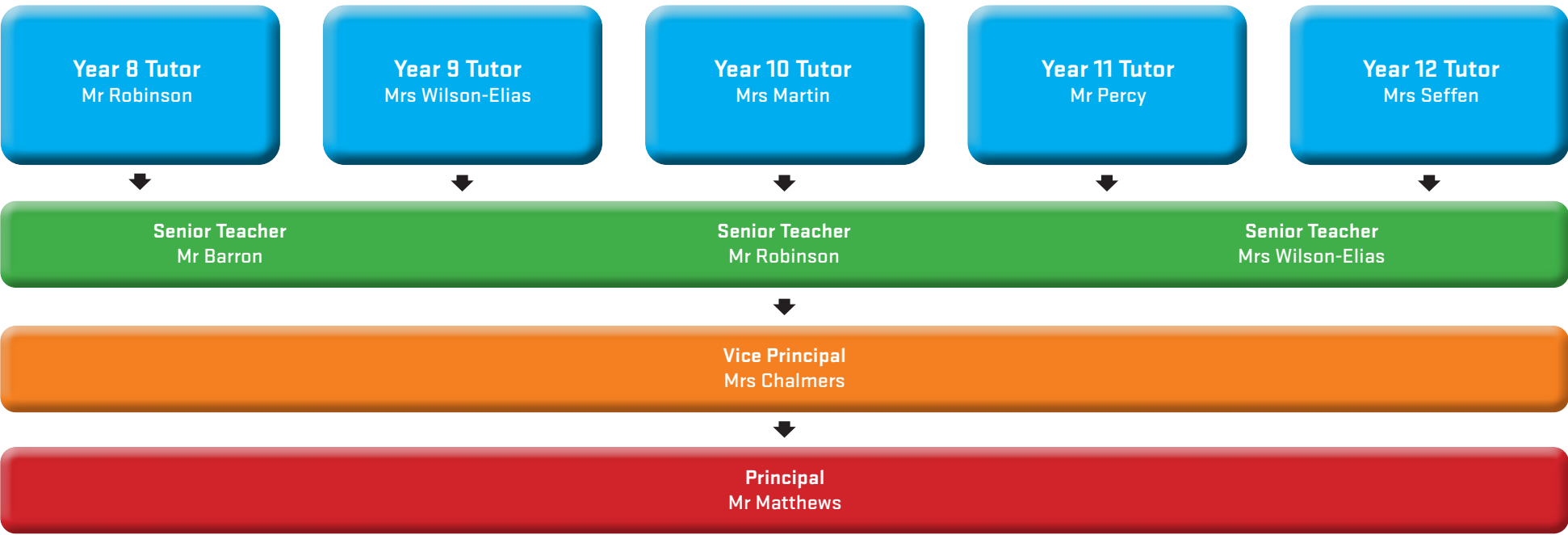
Mr I Matthews (Principal) Med, Bed (Hons), PQH(NI), CTeach(Leadership)	Mr J Richardson MSc, BSc(Hons), PGCE	<b>Classroom and Domestic Assistants:</b> Mrs H Ervine Mrs J Heenan Mrs L Johnston Mrs E Kernaghan Mrs D Kinley Mrs L Laffin Mrs J Martin Mrs D Morrison Mrs S Sloane Mrs A Rogers	
Mrs R Chalmers (Vice Principal) MSc, BEd, PQH(NI)	Mrs S Seffen BA (Hons), PGCE		
Mr D Barron (Senior Teacher) BSc(Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)	Mrs C Stevenson BA(Hons), PGCE		
Mr P Robinson (Senior Teacher) MEd, BSc, PGCE, PGCert	Mrs C Tumilty (4 day) BA(Hons), PGCE		
Mrs D Wilson-Elias (Senior Teacher) BEd	Mrs E Wallace (2 day) BSc(Hons), PGCE		
Mr D Allen BEng, PGCE	Mrs H Wilson BA (Hons), PGCE	<b>Building Supervisor:</b> Mr S Heenan	
Mrs L Annett (4 day) BEd (Hons)	<b>Clerical Staff:</b>		<b>Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants:</b> Mr S Heenan Mrs L Johnston Mrs L Laffin Mrs J Martin Mr R Stoops
Ms J Aschettino (3½ day) BA(Hons) French, BA(Hons) Language, PGCE	Mrs J Cantley		
Miss H Brady BTh (Hons), PGCE	Mrs J Stoops		
Mrs L Budde (4 day) BEd (Hons)	Mrs L Laffin		
Mrs V Fitzpatrick (4 day) BSc(Hons), PGCE	<b>Technicians:</b>		
Mrs L Gough (4 day) BEd	Mr T Donaldson	<p>Rathfriland High School is a Controlled Secondary School catering for Boys and Girls aged 11 – 16 years of age. The expected enrolment for September 2023 is 368</p>	
Ms S Groves (3 day) BSc (Hons), PGCE	Mr S Heenan		
Mrs C Hanna (4 day) BSc(Hons), PGCE	Mrs A McDowell		
Mrs L Hare BA(Hons), PGCE			
Mrs L Hawthorne (4 day) BMus, PGDE, DipLCM			
Mrs L Martin (4 day) BSc(Hons), PGCE			
Ms C McAllister BA(Hons), PGCE			
Mr J Percy BSc (Hons), PGCE			



# Pastoral Care

## Pastoral Organisation

Pupils are placed in a Form Class with a Form Teacher and a Year Tutor. The Year 8 Tutor is Mr P Robinson, Senior Teacher.



Parents with concerns regarding their child’s welfare or progress should first make contact with the Year Tutor.

If concerns continue then contact a Senior Teacher who may inform the Vice Principal and/or the Principal if further action is needed.

## Form Teachers and Year Tutors

During time with Year Tutors and Teachers school rules are highlighted, the reasons behind them explained and why they are important in contributing to an ordered and safe school community. Academic progress, Merit Awards, Attendance, Behaviour and Uniform are also monitored.

Rathfriland High School adopts a positive approach to behaviour, expecting pupils to behave in a responsible manner both to themselves and by showing consideration, courtesy and respect for other people. This standard of behaviour is expected from all pupils at all times, both inside the school as well as on their way to and from school.

# Pastoral Care

## School Counsellor

The pastoral guidance given by Year Tutors and the Senior Teachers is supported by the School Counsellor. The Counsellor is fully qualified and works in school one day a week.

## Working with Parents

The co-operation of parents is sought actively in relation to maintaining high standards of behaviour with regard to pupil attendance, punctuality, personal appearance, and the correct wearing of full school uniform. They should also ensure that their child is properly equipped for school including school bag, pens, pencils, PE kit and that they supervise homework.

The following policies help support Pastoral Care in our school:

- Anti-Bullying
- Child Protection
- Attendance
- Positive Behaviour and Discipline
- Pastoral Care
- Substance Abuse
- Special Educational Needs
- Relationships and Sexuality Education
- Health and Safety
- Health and Wellbeing

The Anti-Bullying and Child Protection Policies are available via the school website. Parents who wish to receive a copy of any policy are welcome to contact the school.





The Curriculum

Key Stage 3 Curriculum Table

Subject	Year 8	Number of Periods	Year 9	Number of Periods	Year 10	Number of Periods
Art & Design	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
Careers Education					✓	1
Drama	✓	1	✓	1	✓	1
English	✓	6	✓	6	✓	6
Geography	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
History	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
Home Economics	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
ICT	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
Learning For Life & work	✓	1	✓	1		
Literacy	✓	1	✓	1	✓	1
Form Period	✓	1	✓	1	✓	1
French	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
Music	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
Mathematics	✓	6	✓	6	✓	6
Numeracy	✓	1	✓	1	✓	1
Physical Education & Games	✓	4	✓	4	✓	4
Personal Development	✓	1	✓	1	✓	1
Religious Education	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2
Science	✓	5	✓	5	✓	5
Technology & Design	✓	2	✓	2	✓	2

For the first three years in Rathfriland High School pupils follow the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Classes are streamed going into Year 10 for all subjects. After parental, pupil and teacher consultation, choices are made towards the end of Year 10. All pupils in Rathfriland High School follow examination courses to GCSE, BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate, BTEC Level 2 First Award, OCN NI and Essential Skills. Pupils, depending on choices made, have the opportunity to study up to 9 GCSEs or equivalent. Results are consistently well above Northern Ireland averages for a school of our type.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Table

Subject	Years 11 & 12 Statutory	Option Choice	Number of Periods
Art & Design GCSE		✓	4
Business & Communication Systems GCSE		✓	4
Business Studies GCSE		✓	6
BTEC First Certificate in Children’s Care, Learning & Development		✓	6
BTEC Level 2 Extended Cert. Countryside and Environment		✓	6
BTEC Level 1 Level 2 First Award Engineering		✓	6
BTEC Level 1 Level 2 First Award in Creative Digital Media		✓	6
BTEC Level 1 Level 2 First Award in Sport		✓	6
BTEC Level 1 Level 2 First Award in ICT		✓	4/6
Careers Education			1
BTEC Construction		✓	6
English GCSE/Essential Skills	✓		5
English Literature GCSE		✓	4
Games	✓		2
Geography GCSE		✓	4
Health and Social Care GCSE		✓	4
History GCSE		✓	4
Home Economics: Food and Nutrition GCSE		✓	4
Taught Personal Development	✓		1
Form Period			1
French GCSE		✓	4
Music GCSE		✓	4/6
Mathematics GCSE/Essential Skills	✓		5
Further Maths GCSE		✓	4
Motor Vehicle & Road User Studies GCSE		✓	6
Occupational Studies Single/Double Award		✓	9
Prince’s Trust Award		✓	3
Religious Education GCSE		✓	4
Statutory Requirement Religious Education	✓		1
Science - Double Award		✓	8
Science – Single Award		✓	4
Science – Occupational Studies	✓		4
Technology & Design GCSE		✓	4
Technology – Occupational Studies		✓	3/4
OCN NI Vocational Skills		✓	4
OCN IN ICT		✓	4

Special Needs Education, Homework and Religious Education

Special Needs Education

The progress of all pupils is monitored throughout the year through a process of formal testing, assessment, reviews and reports. Our aim is to ensure that prompt intervention strategies are put in place when deemed necessary.

Those pupils identified as having a Special Educational Need will benefit from Individual Education Plans drawn up according to their statement of need.

Staff provide help and support as required to meet the individual needs of the pupil and facilitate teaching and learning in the key areas of reading, writing, communication skills and mathematics, enabling pupils to achieve.

Emphasis is placed on the skills in which the pupil already has confidence and these are built on in a caring atmosphere to encourage each child to overcome particular difficulties.

The School follows the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) legislation.

Homework

An annual Key Stage 3 Homework Timetable is drawn up and each pupil is provided with a homework diary to enable an accurate record to be kept for both the pupil and parents.

The school sees homework as an integral part of the learning process and to this end homework is regularly set and marked.

Homework provides an opportunity for pupils to:

- Develop good work habits and study skills
- Complete work done in class
- Extend work done in class
- Practice skills learned in class

Homework may take any of these forms:

- Oral work • Reading
- Writing • Practical
- Research • Projects • Coursework

How can parents help?

- Parents are asked to encourage pupils by checking that homework set is completed and handed in on time.
- Provide a quiet place to work.
- Encourage a routine for homework.
- Sign Pupil Planner weekly.

Religious Education

During the week pupils attend collective acts of worship in the morning conducted by Senior Staff supported by local clergy. The content of the morning assembly is centred on Christian teaching thus supporting the ethos of the school.

Religious Education is taught to all classes with Years 8 to 10 following the guidelines set out in the core syllabus for Religious Education in Northern Ireland. In Years 11 and 12 pupils follow external examination courses as appropriate and a course ensuring compliance with the statutory requirements.

Any parent wishing to absent their children from collective worship and/or Religious Education classes should arrange to meet with the Principal.







## Banbridge Area Learning Community

Rathfriland High School works in partnership with 6 other schools in the Banbridge area and the local Southern Regional College to provide a broader curriculum offer compliant with the Entitlement Framework. This allows the school to offer subjects to BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate level, equivalent to 2 GCSE passes A\* - C grades and BTEC Level 2 First Awards which are the equivalent to 1 GCSE pass at A\*-C level. Double Award Occupational Studies is also available and carries an equivalence of 2 GCSE subjects. The current curriculum offer to pupils is 11 general subjects and 20 applied subjects.

## Careers and Reporting

### Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Young people leaving Rathfriland High School are faced with challenges and choices that are, in many ways, very different from those faced by previous generations.

The high quality programme at Rathfriland High School enhances effectiveness and raises achievement by maximising an individual's potential, promoting positive attitudes to learning, raising aspirations, increasing motivation and linking learning to the world of work.

CEIAG provision consists of 5 core components:

- 1. Careers Education**  
Discrete Careers Education takes place at Key Stage 3 and 4.
- 2. Development of Employability Skills**  
Meaningful learning opportunities are provided which give the pupils the skills that they will be able to use in their lifelong learning process.
- 3. Work Related Learning Experiences**  
All Year 12 take part in work experience for 1 week which enhances employability skills and gives relevance to their learning programme.
- 4. Careers Information**  
High quality careers information enables pupils to make informed decisions regarding their careers planning and management. Pupils can avail of various resources such as ICT, the school library, guest speakers and external visits.
- 5. Careers Advice and Guidance**  
The Careers Service NI provides direct support to pupils in school.

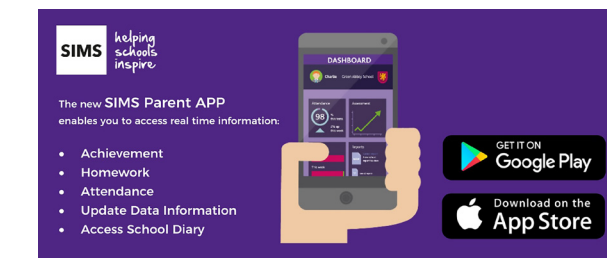
### Reporting

Parents are informed of their child's progress through regular class assessments and homework marking and will receive 2 Reports outlining progress throughout the year via the Parents App. A full written report is available in June of each year.

These assessments are used to ensure that pupils are placed in classes appropriate to their needs and ability. Pupils may be transferred to a more appropriate class depending on their performance and needs. December assessments in Year 10 are particularly significant for forthcoming GCSE class formation.

### Communication with parents

The SIMS parent App allows parents to access information on their child's conduct/achievements/attendance and academic performance. Up to date information on school dates, letters and events is also available. This information can be accessed by mobile phone/ App or an online portal.



## Leavers Destinations







## Sport

### Aims

Physical Education at Rathfriland High School provides a broad and balanced educational experience which seeks to promote the “spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils at the school.” It is the desire of the PE Department to provide a PE curriculum which is both exciting and challenging and contributes towards sporting ability at all levels. Through this it is hoped that pupils will continue to participate in physical activity once they leave school.

### Sports Curriculum

Key Stage 3 PE – 1 or 2 periods for PE and 2 periods games

Key Stage 4 PE – 2 periods for games

Option at GCSE level to study BTEC First Level 2 in Sport

### Sports Offered

Athletics | Badminton | Basketball | Cross-Country  
Dance | Gymnastics | Hockey | Netball  
Rugby | Soccer | Table-Tennis | Tennis | Volleyball

### Sports Facilities

1 3G pitch  
1 Gymnasium  
1 Fully equipped Fitness Suite  
1 Football pitch  
1 Hockey pitch  
1 Athletics track  
1 Netball court  
4 Tennis courts



## Extracurricular Activities

There are a wide range of clubs and activities in Rathfriland High School which pupils are encouraged to join including:

- Athletics and Cross Country
- Choir
- Crochet
- Cultural Visits
- Dance
- Drama
- Equestrian Club
- Football – boys and girls
- Hockey
- Homework Club
- Music Tuition - brass, woodwind, guitar, voice, piano, strings, drum-kit
- Netball
- Rugby
- School Band
- School Newsletter
- Ski Trip
- Scripture Union
- Theatre Trips
- European Trips
- Various Subject Support Sessions
- Science Events

*Musical photographs courtesy of CLP Events 2022*





Admissions Criteria - [Admissions Number: 76 | Enrolment Number: 380]

The lodging of an application is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school including any code of conduct or discipline policy of the school. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school.

Admission to Year 8  
(either in September 2023 or during the course of the 2023/2024 school year)

In selecting children for admission, children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school will be selected before any child not so resident.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the Transfer Form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school’s admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Form or attached to it.

- 1. Children who attend one of the following primary schools:-  
Ballydown | Bronte | Cumran | Dromara | Drumadonnell | Iveagh | Newcastle | Windsor Hill
- 2. Children for whom Rathfriland High School is the nearest controlled secondary school.
- 3. Other children.

In the event of over-subscription within any of the above 3 criteria the following sub-criteria will be applied as appropriate, in the order indicated, to determine which children should be admitted:-

- i. Children who at the date of application, have a **child of the family**\* currently enrolled at the school and children of present permanent members of staff;
- ii. Children who, at the date of their application, are the eldest child of the family eligible to apply for admission to the school; are the sibling of an eldest child whose admission to Year 8 at the time of the transfer procedure was refused on a previous year due to oversubscription; are 5 years younger than their next sibling; where the family has moved residence from another area; or where an older sibling cannot attend a mainstream school.
- iii. Those pupils who live closest to the school (as the crow flies) measured by a data agency using door to door measurements.

Sub-criterion (iv) then (v) then (vi) will be used as the deciding factor should over-subscription occur within sub-criterion (i) or (ii) or (iii).

- iv. Children who, at the date of application, are the eldest as established by date of birth as entered on a Birth certificate.
- v. Children will be selected for admission on the basis of initial letter(s) of surname (as entered on Birth Certificate) in the order set out below:

W T S Y O Mac V M c D E I U G F M N Z B J H X P A Q C R K L

This order was determined by random selection. In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used.

- vi. Children will be ranked for acceptance on the basis of a computer based process, which will make use of

- \* Please note the board of governors consider a ‘**Child of the family**’ to cover:
  - A child born to a married couple or to a couple in a civil partnership;
  - A child born to a co-habiting couple;
  - A child born to a single parent;
  - A child of either/any of those people by a previous marriage, civil partnership or relationship;
  - A child living with a couple who has been treated as a “child of the family” whether there is a marriage or a civil partnership or not;
  - A child living with an individual, who has been treated as a “child of the family”;
  - An adopted or fostered child;
  - A situation where for example an orphaned cousin is being brought up with a family or individual;

The child should be a child of the family as at the date of application.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that where an address contained within a Transfer Form qualifies it for admission, then the information may be verified. The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Transfer Form. Applicants will be notified directly by the school should any such verification be required.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by the school can result in the withdrawal of a place and the inability to offer a place on the part of any school nominated on the applicant’s Transfer Form.

**WAITING LIST:-** The school does not operate a waiting list.



Rathfriland High School Year 8  
2022-2023

Admissions Table

Year	Number of Applications	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions * *- includes statemented pupils
2020 - 2021	66	85	87
2021 - 2022	66	69	70
2022 - 2023	66	72	74

Annual Attendance Rate  
in 2021-22 the Average Daily rate of Attendance was 90.1%



# EXAMINATIONS

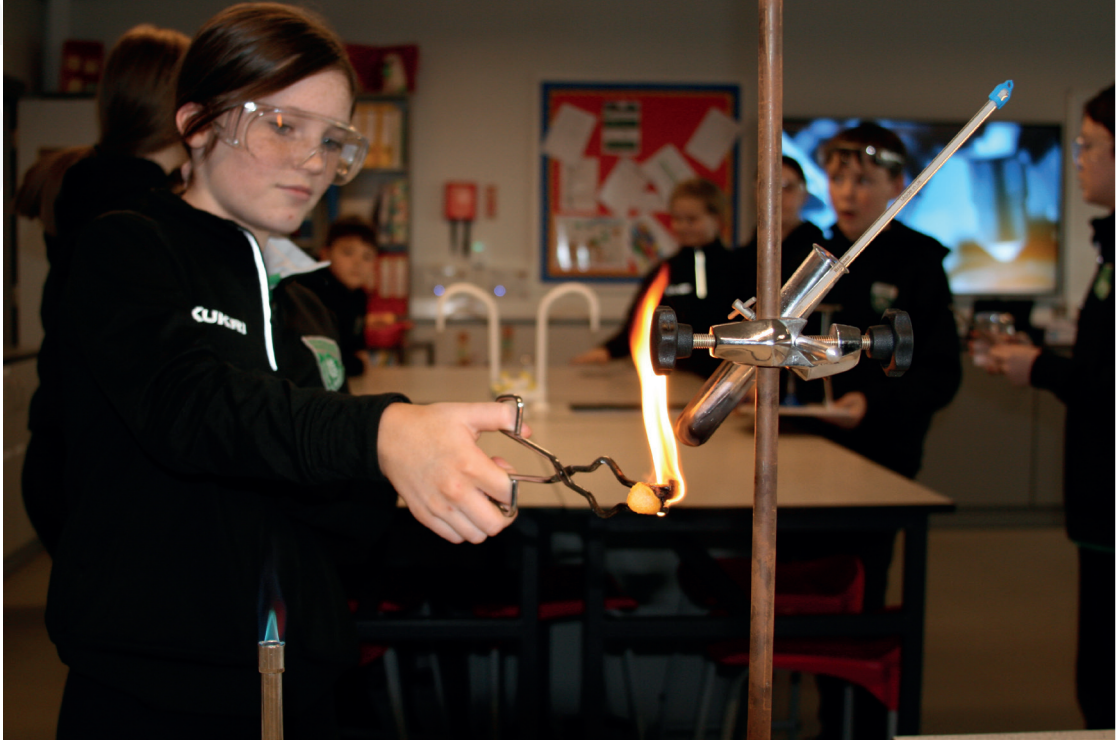
## EXAMINATIONS RESULTS

GCSE RESULTS SUMMARY	2022
Pupils achieving 5+ A* to C in at least 5 subjects	97 %
Pupils achieving 5+ A* to E in at least 5 subjects	100 %
Pupils achieving 5+ A* to C in at least 5 subjects (Including English and Maths)	81.4%
% of pupils gaining no grades at A* to G	0 %

Exam Board	Subject	Number Entered	Number Successful
OCN	Mathematics Essential Skills Levels 1/2	11	9
OCN	English Essential Skills Levels 1/2	13	13
OCN	Vocational Skills	9	9
OCN	ICT	13	13
CCEA	Occupational Studies Single Award	39	33
CCEA	Prince's Trust Achieve Award Level 2	15	15

Performance in Public Examinations 2019 - 2020 to 2021 – 2022

Performance Indicator	2019 - 2020		2020 - 2021		2021 - 2022	
	School	NI Average	School	NI Average	School	NI Average
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A* - C (or equivalent)	97	Not Available	97	Not Available	97	Not Available





Examinations Entry

2022 GCSE RESULTS BY SUBJECT Number of pupils entered and achieving grades:

Subject	Total	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U	X
Art	16	1	8	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	
Business Studies	7	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	
Bus Com Sys	25	5	5	7	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	
Construction	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Eng. Literature	25	0	3	17	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	
English	53	0	6	20	18	9	0	0	0	0	0	
French	10	0	1	1	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	
Geography	25	4	2	10	5	1	3	0	0	0	0	
H&S	12	0	2	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	
History	18	1	4	3	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	
Home Ec	10	0	1	2	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	
Maths	54	4	9	18	11	11	1	0	0	0	0	
Maths Further	23	2	4	2	2	5	0	2	5	1	0	
Music	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
MVRUS	18	0	3	4	4	0	2	2	1	2	0	
RE	20	1	3	6	4	2	3	1	0	0	0	
S.A Science	29	1	5	7	9	7	0	0	0	0	0	

Subject - AQA	Total	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	X	X
Technology	17	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0

Subject	Total	**	*A	AA	AB	BB	B1	C1	C2	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG	U
Double Award Science	23	3	2	4	0	3	4	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

BTEC First Level 2 Certificates

Subject	Total Entries	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Level 1
BTEC Sport	13	2	0	3	7	1
BTEC IC&T	17	1	2	2	11	1
BTEC Media	2	0	0	2	0	0
BTEC Engineering	2	0	1	1	0	0
BTEC C&E	22	13	1	4	4	0
BTEC Childcare	15	3	1	4	3	4

Charging and Remissions Policy

Education in Rathfriland High School is provided free of charge for all lessons and activities connected with the child's entitlement under the Education Reform Order. Payment may be required for board and lodging on an overnight trip, though charges will be remitted to those parents on Income Support or Family Income Supplement.

In Technology and Home Economics, pupils may purchase completed products or produce. The charge made will reflect school provided components or ingredients. The school will, as it has done in the past, appeal to parents from time to time for voluntary donations but it is stressed that no child will be disadvantaged in any way if parents choose not to make a contribution.

The School may take part in 'optional extras' which are not connected with the School's formal curriculum, such as visits to the theatre or trips abroad. Charges will be made for these but it is again stressed that failure to participate in these will not affect a child's performance at school. Written parental consent will be required before a child participates in school trips.

School Fund

This is a voluntary contribution which we hope parents will support. The rate is £25 per family for 2022 - 2023.

This money helps us to meet expenses which are not fully paid for by the Department of Education or the Education Authority. Such items include travelling expenses of sports teams, running costs of the school minibus, subsidising the cost of school outings and/or educational visits and supplementing the purchase of books and equipment. A copy of the School Charging Policy is available from the school.







## School Uniform

The wearing of school uniform is compulsory and develops equality of self-esteem whilst assisting in the promotion of good order and discipline.

### Girls

<b>Blazer</b>	Black blazer with school badge
<b>Skirt</b>	Black skirt with double inverted pleats
<b>Shirt</b>	White long-sleeved blouse
<b>Tie</b>	School Clip on tie or prefect tie
<b>Jumper</b>	Black v neck jumper (optional)
<b>Shoes</b>	Black shoes, low heeled
<b>Socks or Tights</b>	Black knee socks or black tights
<b>Coat</b>	Plain black coat
<b>Scarf</b>	School scarf or plain black scarf

### PE

<b>Blouse</b>	School PE shirt
<b>Skirt</b>	School skirt
<b>Socks</b>	Black socks or white ankle socks
<b>Shoes</b>	Gym shoes

### Outdoor Jackets

Please note that coats should be worn over school blazers and they should be BLACK and not have large or coloured logos emblazoned on them.

- Jewellery - one stud in the lobe of each ear may be worn. In the interests of Health/ Hygiene & Safety, dangling earrings are not permitted. Nose and brow piercing are forbidden.
- Make-up and nail varnish must not be worn.
- Hair style and general appearance should be of a standard traditionally acceptable to the school.
- Girls must wear regulation school skirts. These must not be altered – shortened, taken in etc.
- Girls must wear flat heeled black shoes.

## School Uniform

### Boys

<b>Blazer</b>	Black blazer with school badge
<b>Trousers</b>	Black trousers
<b>Shirt</b>	White long-sleeved shirt
<b>Tie</b>	School Clip on tie or prefect tie
<b>Jumper</b>	Black v neck jumper (optional)
<b>Shoes</b>	Black shoes
<b>Socks</b>	Black socks
<b>Coat</b>	Plain black coat

### PE

<b>Shirt</b>	School rugby shirt
<b>Shorts</b>	Black shorts
<b>Socks</b>	Emerald green hooped socks
<b>Shoes</b>	Gym shoes
<b>Boots</b>	Football boots

### Suppliers

Uniforms can be purchased from Robin Fields (Banbridge), SD Kells (Banbridge) and S.M. Shoes (Rathfriland). School badges for blazers and jumpers are available from the school. The school PE Uniform and tracksuit may be purchased from Donaghy's in Banbridge. The school tracksuit and is an optional item.

### Clothing Grant

The Education Authority provides assistance with the purchase of school uniform to those parents who are eligible. Applications can be made online via the Education Authority.

**It is very important that all articles are clearly marked with pupil's name in indelible ink.**





# The Rathfriland High School Way

## Our Values

Respect  
Trust  
High Expectations  
Safety  
Inclusivity  
Tolerance

## Our Rewards / Recognitions

Praise  
Achievement points  
Prize Night Recognition  
Certificates  
Website Recognition  
Merits System  
Student Council

## Our Rules

1. Be Safe
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Prepared



## Our Rights

1. To learn and teach without unnecessary interruption
2. To be safe
3. To be heard

## Our Learning Habits

Punctuality and attendance  
Respectful attitude  
On-task behaviour  
Tidy appearance  
Meet deadlines  
Correct equipment

## Our Positive Behaviours

Exceptional class work  
Good or improved effort  
Improved behaviour  
Participation in class  
Success in assessments  
Assisting Staff  
Helping out at school events  
Extracurricular activities

## Drug Education and Child Protection Arrangements

### Drug Education

The school's pastoral care system, the delivery of the Northern Ireland Curriculum and the school policy on Substance Abuse ensures that the well being of our pupils is paramount. Through our teaching, pastoral procedures and specific health related events; our pupils are enabled to make healthy, informed choices by providing them with knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills.

The school takes seriously its responsibility with regard to the issue of drugs awareness and in line with Department of Education advice and regulations we are continually developing our policies and strategies in this area of the School Curriculum. Drugs related issues are built into the curriculum through the school's Learning for Life and Work classes whilst the teaching programmes of Science, Religious Education and Home Economics in particular highlight specific topics.

### Child Protection

Rathfriland High School aims:

- To seek to provide a safe, pleasant and regulated environment for all children.
- To ensure the safety and welfare of pupils.
- To foster a caring atmosphere where pupils feel valued and able to voice their concerns.
- To develop an awareness amongst all school staff of potential signs of abuse in children.
- To establish clear procedures to be followed in a case of suspected abuse.
- To comply with relevant legal requirements and implement relevant DE guidance.

Mrs Chalmers the Vice Principal is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection in school. Mr Matthews and the Senior Teachers, Mr Robinson and Mrs Wilson-Elias, are the Deputy Designated Teachers for Safeguarding.





## Anti-Bullying

Rathfriland High School believes that its pupils have the right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied.

This school has a clear policy on the promotion of good behaviour where it is made clear that bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour. It is wrong and will not be tolerated.

It is important that pupils and parents are fully aware that any bullying complaints will be dealt with firmly, fairly and promptly. Bullying is not an inevitable part of school life or a necessary part of growing up, and it rarely sorts itself out. It is clear that certain jokes, insults, intimidating/threatening behaviour, written abuse and violence are to be found in our society. No one person or group, whether teacher or pupil, should have to accept this type of behaviour. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed, will a child be able to benefit fully from the opportunities available at Rathfriland High School.

### What can Pupils do if they are being Bullied?

- Remember that their silence is the bully's greatest weapon
- Tell themselves that they do not deserve to be bullied, and that it is wrong!
- Be proud of who they are; it is good to be an individual
- Try not to show that they are upset, it is hard but a bully thrives on someone's fear
- Stay with a group of friends/people, there is safety in numbers


- Be assertive shout "No", walk confidently away, go straight to a teacher/member of staff/Year Tutor
- Do not fight back - it may make things worse
- Always try to tell an adult they trust straight away - they will get immediate support

### What action is taken by Rathfriland High School when Bullying is suspected?

- Talk to the suspected victim, the suspected bully and any witnesses. If any degree of bullying is identified, the following actions will be taken:
- Help, support and counselling will be given to both the victim and the bully.
- When bullying is identified the incident is recorded in the Bullying Log and Pastoral Records for future reference and disciplinary steps are followed as required.



## Year 8 Impressions of RHS

 Isaac Groves - Bronte  
Hello, my name is Isaac Groves, and I came from Bronte Primary School. At first I didn't know who to talk to, but I have made three new friends. The teachers are very nice, and I like spellings, Technology, PE, Games, Maths and Science. I go to after school rugby. I have enjoyed it so far, bye!



 Hollie Lyons - Bronte  
Hi, my name is Hollie Lyons, and I came from Bronte Primary School. I like Rathfriland High School so far. My favourite subjects are Art, Maths and French. I've made lots of new friends and everyone is so nice. I knew my way around school in the first two weeks. I go to the canteen every day for lunch and the food is lovely. I also love to stay after school for hockey once a week.



 Cara-Lily Hillis - Drumadonnell  
Hi, my name is Cara-Lily Hillis. I came from Drumadonnell Primary School. On the first day the halls were a maze, but over time I've settled in. All the teachers were really welcoming, and I've made many new friends. So far my favourite subjects are English, Art and PE. I like English because I've always had an interest in stories. I love Art because I'm a bit of an artist if I don't say so myself. PE is one of my favourites because I always love a good run!




 Emily Foster - Iveagh  
Hi, my name is Emily Foster, and I came from Iveagh Primary School. On the first day of Rathfriland High School I was very nervous, but after a few days I learnt my way around the school. So far my favourite subject is Home Economics as I love to cook and bake. All the teachers are very welcoming to me.



 Clint Stafford - Iveagh  
Hi, I'm Clint Stafford, I came from Iveagh Primary School. So far I have loved Rathfriland High, some of my favourite subjects are Technology and Home Economics. At the start of the year, it took me a while to find each class, but after a bit of time it was easy to find my way. All the teachers here are really nice and will always help out. At the start I thought I would make barely any friends, but after a couple of weeks I had made a great bunch of friends.



 Jonah Malcolmson - Drumadonnell  
Hi, my name is Jonah Malcolmson. I came to Rathfriland High School from Drumadonnell Primary. So far I've been having a great time. On my first day I was excited but nervous at the same time, but mostly excited because of the big variety of subjects. My favourite subjects are PE, English and Technology. I also enjoy staying after school for football on Mondays. I have really enjoyed my time at Rathfriland High School.







Established 1961

**CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY  
INSPIRING THE FUTURE**

## **RATHFRILAND HIGH SCHOOL**

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