

Transfer 2026

SEAG

School Entrance and Assessment Group

<https://seagni.co.uk>



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Since 2023 there has been a new single test provider

- ▶ The Test is produced by GL Assessment. They previously produced the GL Tests used by Post Primary Schools.
- ▶ ■Used in all 63 Post Primary Grammar Schools
- ▶ ■This includes all local Grammar schools (including Lagan College 35% intake via tests, CCMS schools and Controlled schools).
- ▶ ■Full list at <https://seagni.co.uk/guidance-for-parents/member-schools>



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Should my child sit the tests?

- ▶ It is the only way for most children to gain access to a selective school.
- ▶ Selective schools/Grammar schools are not the be all and end all. There are good local schools who admit children without using tests.
- ▶ Children with a Statement of Educational need are transferred via an alternate route.



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What do the tests involve?

- ▶ SEAG Transfer Tests - two tests usually in November.
- ▶ The 2026 SEAG Exam dates are not currently available on the SEAG website but last year they took place on:
 - ▶ Saturday 15th November 2025
 - ▶ Saturday 22nd November 2025
- ▶ In 2025 the cost to enter was £20 or FREE if on Free School Meals
- ▶ There are familiarisation questions before the tests making the testing period a little longer for each examination

- ▶ Both tests are based on the Key Stage 2 Curriculum-English and Mathematics at Level 5 which is the top level we work at in Primary School.



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The Format

Section 1 – The Practice Test (similar to the old GL test)

- 5 English (or Gaeilge) literacy questions
- 5 Maths questions
- These *Practice Questions* are designed to help pupils settle before the Main Test begins
- Note that the *Practice Test* is not assessed

Section 2 – The English (or Gaeilge) Literacy Main Test

- 28 questions (Q1-Q28)
- **Q1-5:** Punctuation Exercise (5 multiple choice questions)
- **Q6-10:** Grammar Exercise (5 multiple choice questions)
- **Q11-15:** Spelling Exercise (5 multiple choice questions)
- **Q16-28:** English (or Gaeilge) Comprehension.
- Pupils read a passage and answer 13 questions
 - **Q16-Q22:** multiple choice style
 - **Q23-Q28:** free response style

Section 3 – The Maths Main Test

- 28 questions (Q29-Q56)
 - **Q29-Q52:** multiple choice
 - **Q53-Q58:** free response

Registering for SEAG

- ▶ **School does not register your child.**
 - Registration usually opens in May and closes mid September.
 - Only pupils who are registered can sit the Entrance Assessment.
 - May require a copy of your child's birth certificate
 - Apply early to get the test centre of choice.
 - This is simply an exam test centre. You do not need to want to attend this school.
 - Make sure you have a friend at the same test centre.
- ▶ **Access Arrangements need to be included in the registration form and should be based on your child's normal way of working in school.**



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Other Considerations

- ▶ Statemented pupils & SEN
- ▶ Access arrangements may be needed. These will be decided by an Access Panel.
- ▶ These may include: Extra time (25%), movement breaks, small/individual room or a prompter etc may be made available
- ▶ Documentary evidence must be included in the application:
 - from a recognised professional - medical or Ed.Psych.
 - from the school via the Principal - evidence that special arrangements are compatible with the pupil's normal way of working in school

Additional information will be available from SEAG via an Access Policy on their website closer to registration.



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SEAG Scores

- ▶ You will be able to access your child's results from a secure area on the SEAG website.
- ▶ **The Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)** is the overall outcome from the Entrance Assessment, based on the 56 English (or Gaeilge) Questions in Papers 1 and 2 and the 56 Maths questions in Papers 1 and 2. The Total SAS is the sum of the English (or Gaeilge) SAS and the Maths SAS.
- ▶ **The Total SAS range will be 138-282 with a mean (or average) of 200.**
- ▶ Outcomes are also given as one of six **Bands**.
- ▶ The Bands are designated as **Band 1, Band 2, Band 3, Band 4, Band 5 and Band 6** and Cohort* Percentiles are used to determine the borderline for each Band.
*Cohort means all those who take the SEAG Entrance Assessment in a given year.



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Schools & Grades

- ▶ We cannot give you the score that normally gets you into a certain school.
- ▶ The Standardised Scores we do in school will not be directly comparable to the scores you get from SEAG.
- ▶ What we can say is that this is a process that starts now. Some children will score high scores from the first test and some build their scores up over time.
- ▶ Scores which stay in the low percentages are unlikely to be high enough to gain entry into a Grammar School.



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What will happen in school in P6?

- ▶ Before half term, four 30 minute tests for all children to complete
 - Mini tests to begin with to teach the skills and how to do a test.
- ▶ After half term, one test per week on a Tuesday which will be marked and fully discussed on a Wednesday.
- ▶ Normal teaching -the children are covering certain parts of the Numeracy and Literacy curriculum at an accelerated speed.
- ▶ Non-transfer pupils will complete work targeted to improving key skills in Literacy & Numeracy.



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Between Now & November 2025

- ▶ Application forms returned to SEAG online - date to be confirmed.
- ▶ SEAG process applications, confirm the test centre and will communicate directly with parents.
- ▶ If you are planning to apply for Access Arrangements please see SEAG website for details of evidence required.
- ▶ Term 1 in P7 -there are likely to be familiarisation events at the test centres.



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School tests/Tutors

- ▶ We do not give advice on using tutors as they are expensive and it is your money.
- ▶ If tutors are being used, we are happy for them to look at practice papers for areas to work on.
- ▶ All tests are returned to school signed by you once you have looked at them.
- ▶ We use tests from On Target and The Transfer Test for SEAG. DO NOT USE THESE.
- ▶ Tutors must not use the school tests with children. They are paid a considerable fee, they can source other material.
- ▶ Materials we use in school will be copied for you.



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Who to see

- ▶ Mr Migan/Mr Bryer - curriculum/class questions.
- ▶ Mrs Wood - SEN enquiry, including Access Arrangements
- ▶ Mrs Gamble/Mrs Wood - Transfer to Post Primary questions and P7 questions.

Useful websites

- ▶ <https://seagni.co.uk>
- ▶ Education Authority - www.eani.org.uk
- ▶ Post Primary School Websites
- ▶ <https://thetransfertutor.co.uk/>
- ▶ Videos and Worksheets for maths:
www.corbettmathsprimary.com



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Thank you for listening!