

**St. Malachy's College
Belfast**



**CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION
TO SIXTH FORM**

*All Pupils hoping to enter Sixth Form in St Malachy's College
must meet all General and Subject Specific Criteria*

FEBRUARY 2016

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO SIXTH FORM

GENERAL CRITERIA

ACADEMIC

- (i) Pupils must have demonstrated, by their preparation for GCSE, their ability and interest in working towards good A-level grades.

Consideration of a pupil’s preparation for GCSE will take account of school reports and/or weeks on report and the pupil’s full compliance with arrangements for controlled assessment/coursework in those subjects where it is an integral part of the course.

- (ii) Pupils should have achieved a minimum of seven GCSE subjects at Grades A*-C.
- (iii) Pupils must have 12 GCSE points or higher in order to be considered for admission.

The table below indicates how many points are awarded to each grade at GCSE level.

Grade	A*	A	B	C
Points	4	3	2	1

- (iv) Pupils should satisfy the Subject Specific Criteria for each A level subject.
- (v) Pupils who wish to study four subjects at AS level must have at least 4 Grade A passes at GCSE level.
- (vi) Where a subject is over-subscribed (i.e. where there are more pupils wanting to take the subject than there are places available), criteria will be applied, with preference given to those pupils who originally opted for the subject when choices were made in February. After that, pupils will be ranked according to their GCSE marks. Pupils with higher GCSE marks will have preference.
- (vii) The number of places available for external applicants will be dependent on the number of existing pupils progressing to Year 13 (see Appendix A).
- (viii) Pupils with a Statement of Education Needs (Stage 5) will be considered on an individual basis

ATTENDANCE

Pupils must have an attendance rate in Year 12 of at least 95%. Those pupils who have not achieved an attendance rate of 95% must have submitted medical evidence (e.g. doctor’s certificate) for such absences. (For 2016, the period January – June will be used for Year 12 attendance)

BEHAVIOUR

Pupils must have observed school rules especially with regard to punctuality, conduct, and adherence to uniform regulations, respect for staff, fellow pupils and school property. Consideration of a pupil’s behaviour will take account of his achievement (merit) and behaviour (demerit) profiles, the number of weeks on report, detentions and/or suspensions.

The Principal may review applications by individual Pupils who do not meet the above criteria. Parents/Guardians can use the College’s Complaints Policy to appeal decisions regarding admission to Sixth Form.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC CRITERIA

A LEVEL SUBJECTS ON OFFER	EXAM BOARD	ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS – MINIMUM GCSE GRADES
Applied Business*	CCEA	B in English Language and B in Mathematics
Art and Design	CCEA	B in Art and Design or a high degree of aptitude, ability and motivation for Art
Biology	CCEA	<u>Double Award Pupils:</u> AB in Double Award Science with at least 75% in the Biology component and C in Mathematics <u>Biology GCSE Pupils:</u> B in Biology (not including controlled assessment), B in Chemistry and C in Mathematics
Business Studies	CCEA	B in GCSE Business Studies, if studied, and B in English Language and B in Mathematics (must have a minimum of 15 GCSE points).
Chemistry	CCEA	<u>Double Award Pupils:</u> AB in Double Award with at least 75% in the Chemistry component and A in Mathematics <u>Chemistry GCSE Pupils:</u> B in Chemistry (not including controlled assessment) and A in Mathematics
Computing/Software Systems	WJEC	A in Mathematics and B in Further mathematics or with a high degree of aptitude, ability and experience in Programming (All must have a minimum of 20 GCSE points)
Drama and Theatre Studies	AQA	B in GCSE Drama, if studied and B in English Language and/or English Literature with a proven interest in Drama
Economics*	CCEA	B in Mathematics and B in English Language (must have a minimum of 20 GCSE points)
English Literature	CCEA	B in English Language and a B in English Literature with a minimum grade B performance in English Literature Units 1 and 2 (must have a minimum of 15 GCSE points)
French	CCEA	A in French and B in English Language
Further Mathematics	CCEA	A* in Mathematics with A in GCSE Further Mathematics
Geography	CCEA	B in Geography with B in English Language
Health and Social Care*	CCEA	B in English Language or English Literature and a C in Mathematics
History	CCEA	B in History and B in English Language and B Literature
Home Economics*	CCEA	B in Home Economics, B in English Language/ Lit and B in Mathematics
Irish*	CCEA	A in Irish and B in English Language
Journalism*	CCEA	B in English Language or English Literature Or Students with a grade C may be accepted if they have a good record of meeting deadlines
Mathematics	CCEA	B in Further Mathematics Or students without Further Mathematics - A in GCSE Mathematics and T4 Raw Score of 60+
Moving Image Arts*	CCEA	B in relevant GCSE (MIA, Art, ICT or English)

Music*	CCEA	B in Music or a high degree of aptitude, ability and experience in Music
Sports Science	CCEA	B in GCSE PE including a ' B ' in Unit 3 (Theory) and B in English Language/Literature. In addition BC in Double Award Science with a strong score in the Biology module is highly desirable.
Physics	CCEA	<u>Double Award Pupils:</u> AB in Double Award Science with at least 75% in the Physics component and A in Mathematics. <u>Physics GCSE Pupils:</u> B in Physics with at least 75% in the Physics component (not including controlled assessment) and A in Mathematics GCSE Further Mathematics is highly desirable.
Politics	CCEA	A in English Language, B in English Literature and B in Geography or History. (Minimum 15 GCSE points)
Religious Studies	CCEA	B in RE and B in English Language and B English Literature
Sociology*	WJEC	B in History and B in English Language Or students without GCSE History - A in English Language or Literature
Spanish	CCEA	A in Spanish and B in English Language
Technology and Design	CCEA	B in GCSE Technology and Design, if studied or a high degree of aptitude and interest in Technology

These are the minimum entry requirements and are subject to change. Additional subjects may be offered in 2016. Specific marks/percentages above refer to CCEA specifications. Results from other examination boards will be given equal consideration.

* Indicated Potential Collaborative Subjects

Where classes are oversubscribed, additional academic criteria may be applied.

The Principal may review the subject specific criteria on an individual basis.

APPENDIX A

**CRITERIA FOR ANY EXTRA PLACES MADE AVAILABLE BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR ADMISSION INTO YEAR 13**

The Department of Education may, on request, increase the number of pupils that the school can admit to its Year 13. Places that become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the basic eligibility criteria for Sixth Form Study in St Malachy's College and shall be allocated in the order determined by the criteria to be applied in the order set down.

1. Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in St Malachy's College.
2. Pupils from other schools where admission to an extra place at St Malachy's College has been agreed by the Department of Education.*

* Parents should note how the Department of Education will, in response to a school's request, increase the school's enrolment number in order to allow an extra post-16 pupil to enrol. DE will first check whether there is another school or schools of a type suitable for that pupil within an hour's journey of where the pupil lives. If there is, DE will then check whether this other school or schools with places available may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue. If these checks find that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue - then DE will agree a school's request for an extra place.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL OF A TYPE THAT IS SUITABLE FOR A PUPIL?

To determine this, DE first considers all schools to be one of four types:

- (i) denominational
- (ii) non-denominational
- (iii) Integrated and
- (iv) Irish-Medium

A school requesting an extra place for a post-16 pupil will belong to one of these 4 types and DE will consider any other school or school from this same type as suitable for the pupil. DE will also consider as suitable for the pupil any school from the same type as the type of school that the child attended in Year 12.