



7th September 2023

Dear P7 Parents/Guardians,

The **Schools' Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG)** is open to all post-primary schools in Northern Ireland which use academic selection for all or part of their Year 8 intake. SEAG includes Controlled and Voluntary Grammar Schools and Integrated Schools in its membership. The purpose of this letter is to offer a reminder that registration is currently open for parents/guardians who wish to enter their P7 child for SEAG Entrance Assessments in November 2023.

The five grammar schools in the Newry and Kilkeel area which previously operated as the Newry Kilkeel Consortium for the GL Assessment; i.e. Abbey Grammar School, Our Lady's Grammar School, Sacred Heart Grammar School, St. Colman's College, Newry and St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel will use the outcomes from the SEAG Entrance Assessments as part of their admissions criteria for admission to Year 8 for the academic year 2024-25. In the case of St. Louis Grammar School, which is a bilateral school, up to 40% of its intake will use SEAG outcomes as the basis of selection, with applicants from Lower and Upper Mourne not required to use SEAG outcomes to gain entry.

All information in relation to the registration process, the associated £20 cost, the nature of the assessment, sample papers and access arrangements is available on the SEAG website www.seagni.co.uk. This link is also available on each school's website.

Parents and guardians are reminded that only pupils who have been registered to sit the Entrance Assessment by 5.00pm on **Friday 22nd September 2023** will be able to sit the Assessment and there is no late registration after the 22nd September 2023 deadline.

The dates of the assessments are **Saturday 11th November 2023** and **Saturday 25th November 2023**. It is important to note that the SEAG Entrance Assessment Papers consists of **two** Assessment Papers taken a fortnight apart. Pupils sit both papers, it is not a choice between sitting Paper 1 or Paper 2. Both papers assess English (or Gaeilge) and Mathematics and both have an identical format.

In a change to arrangements which primary schools and parents/guardians may have been familiar with, all administration is being carried out centrally and online by SEAG. As part of the application process, parents/guardians select the school in which they would like their child to sit the assessment. It is important to note that the choice of assessment centre has no bearing on the school(s) that parents/guardians select as part of the admissions process. Pupils opting to use the Gaeilge version of the SEAG Entrance Assessment in our area, must select the Abbey Grammar School as their assessment location.

This information is being brought to your attention if you are considering registering for the SEAG Entrance Assessment.

Each individual school's Admissions Criteria will be published by the EA in January 2024.

With best wishes

The Principals of Abbey Grammar School, Our Lady's Grammar School, Sacred Heart Grammar School, St. Colman's College Newry and St. Louis Grammar School Kilkeel