

Rathmore Primary School
Rathmore Road
Bangor
BT19 1DJ

Controlled Integrated Primary School

Enrolment No. 600
Admissions No. 87

Telephone: 028 9127 0399

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**Principal: Mrs Julie M Hardy BEd (Hons).MEd.PQH-
(NI)**

Website: www.rathmoreps.co.uk

Chair of Board of Governors: Mrs Caralyn Scales

RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS

The Board of Governors draws up the admissions criteria and delegates to an Admissions Sub-Committee, which includes the Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria.

Open Day

Open Morning: Tuesday 6 January 2026, 10am – 12pm
Play & Stay: Tuesday 9 December 2025, 5.30 – 6.30pm

Admissions Criteria

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 7 January 2026 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 21 January 2026 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 21 January 2026 and up to 4 pm on 26 January 2026 will be treated as a late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances. After 4 pm on 26 January 2026 no applications will be processed until after the close of procedure on 23 March 2026.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Any child who reaches their 4th Birthday on or before 1st July 2026 is of Compulsory School Age. Under the School Age (NI) Act which became law in Northern Ireland in April 2022, 'compulsory school age' also includes those children who deferred commencing Primary 1 in September 2025 as defined by the new School Age (NI) Act (both groups to be treated equally).

Priority will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school before those who are not so resident.

Year 1 Intake

The following criteria will be applied, in the order set down 1-5 by the Board of Governors of Rathmore Primary School, in selecting children for admission to Y1 in September 2026. When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on the application. Parents/Guardians should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application.

Admissions Criteria

In the event of over-subscription, the following criteria will apply in the order listed 1-5.

- 1 Who have a brother/sister, half-brother/sister, fostered brother/sister or stepbrother/sister presently enrolled in the school (name and class included).
- 2 Children who are enrolled during the 2025/26 year at Rathmore Nursery.
- 3 Whose parent/guardian/grandparent is presently a permanent employee of the school (name included)
- 4 Whose brother/sister, half-brother/ sister, fostered brother/sister or stepbrother/sister is a former pupil of the primary school P1-P7 classes. (Since or including 2020. Names and dates attended must be included).
- 5 Other children.

Supplementary Criteria

In the event of over subscription by application of any of the above criteria 1-5, preference will be given to children who live closest to the school as measured from their house to the school's front entrance. (*RAC Route Planner, shortest route, will be used to measure this distance.*)

Tie Breaker

In the event of children living equidistant, final selection will be made on the basis of the initial letter of their surname as recorded on the child's birth certificate in the order set out below:

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

This order was determined by a randomised selection of letters. In event of surnames beginning with the same 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.

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

Waiting List

Should a vacancy arise after the Open Enrolment procedure concludes, applications for admission that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the published criteria applied. This waiting list will be in place until 30 June 2027.

The school will contact you in writing if your child gains a place in the school by this method.

Your child's name will be automatically added to the list. Please contact the school if you wish your child's name to be removed from the list.

Y2-Y7 Intake

The above criteria will also be applied, in the order set down by the Board of Governors, in selecting children for admission to Y2-Y7 classes from September 2026.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY 1

Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/2024	57	57
2024/2025	46	46
*2025/2026	60	60

****The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 includes all P1 children admitted to the school including those who have a statement of special educational needs and/or may be attending SPiMS.
(SPiMS = Specialist Provision in Mainstream School)***