

**BALLYHOLME PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**6 GLENBURN PARK**  
**BANGOR**  
**BT20 5RG**

**CONTROLLED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Telephone: 028 9127 0392**

**Fax: 028 9127 0158**

**E-Mail: office@ballyholmeps.bangor.ni.sch.uk**

**Principal: Mr D A Hewitt B.Ed., Dip.Sc**

**Chairman of Board of Governors: Rev P Lyle B.Ed, B.D.**

---

**Admissions No. 90**

**Enrolment No. 630**

---

The school, situated in the heart of a mature residential area, was opened in 1953 to accommodate 350 pupils. With the expansion of the population in Bangor it has now grown to an enrolment of 627 pupils.

Accommodation comprises 22 classrooms both newly built and refurbished, a well equipped assembly hall, libraries, a canteen, music room and fully equipped ICT suite. Three playgrounds provide ample playing space.

The fundamental aim of the school is to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum with a specific emphasis on the development of basic skills. It is intended that every pupil should achieve his or her maximum potential within the context of a caring community where the school is perceived as a natural extension of the child's home.

A dedicated and efficient teaching staff includes Principal and 24 teachers, plus a teacher in charge of Special Needs. The school also employs teachers for Maths Support, Literacy Support, Music and Physical Education. The teaching staff is supported by a team of classroom assistants, secretaries, building supervisor, cleaners, kitchen staff, supervisors and crossing patrol dedicated to the holistic development of the individual children.

The school was recently awarded UNICEF's 'Rights Respecting School Award' by the minister of Education. Pupils are encouraged to respect each other's rights and are also actively involved in various ECO schools initiatives. The school has been awarded the green flag. A sensory garden has been

established with staff pupils and parents all working together.

Extra-curricular activities are provided for the pupils and include - Hockey, Netball, Soccer, Swimming, Badminton, Mini-Rugby, Tennis, Cricket, Athletics, Scripture Union, Orchestra, Recorder Ensembles, Choirs, Music Theory, Cookery, Pottery, Gardening Club, Science, cycling proficiency and Art/Craft. **We have extended** this programme by introducing a Chinese language assistant who has introduced the pupils to Mandarin.

All pupils in Primaries 3-7 have tuition in recorders and the opportunity to play a wide range of percussion instruments. Where appropriate pupils are given instrumental tuition in brass, woodwind or strings and achieve high standards in ABRSM examinations. Primary 3 pupils all learn to play the violin over a 10 week period as part of the Wider Opportunities programme.

School choirs are well trained by a number of staff and as well as entering various competitions also entertain at events in the wider community.

The school enjoys the enthusiastic and generous support of parents in practical and financial terms. Most of this is channelled through an enthusiastic and active PTA.

Parents are actively encouraged to participate in all aspects of the life of the school. Communication between home and school is open and extensive. Each teacher holds a "General Information Evening" in September followed by individual

consultations twice a year. Individual interviews can be arranged at any time.

Teams of volunteer parents help with sports and educational visits.

Governors take an active role in all aspects of the school including the application of the admissions criteria.

### **Admissions Criteria**

The school will admit children of compulsory school age who are resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission.

***The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by primary schools 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 application form.***

### ***P1 Intake***

In the event of there being more applicants than places available the following criteria will be applied in the order set down. If there is oversubscription in a particular criterion then the next criterion will be applied to determine the allocation of places.

- 1 Children who have a child of the family presently enrolled at the school. This will include brother, sister, half brother(s)/sister(s), adopted or foster children.
- 2 Children of permanent, paid staff employed at Ballyholme Primary School.
- 3 Children for whom Ballyholme Primary School is the closest primary to their permanent address. This will be measured using Google Maps as the crow flies from the home address to Ashley Drive school gate.

- 4 Children of compulsory school age who are the eldest child in their family.
- 5 Children whose normal place of residence is closer to the school but for whom Ballyholme PS is not the closest school to their permanent home. Distance will be measured using Google maps, as the crow flies, from the front entrance of the home to the Ashley Drive school gate. Should there be a tie on this distance criterion the place will be awarded using date of birth with the place being awarded to the oldest child. The above criteria will also apply to P1 admissions after the beginning of the school year.

***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 application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or attached to it. Examples of such information include whether the child is the eldest child/has brothers/sisters attending the school.***

***All applicants will be required to verify information at the time of original application using:***

***The child's original, birth certificate. (essential).***

***The child's medical card. (essential).***

***A utility bill giving current address.***

***Passport/driver license with current address.***

***Only 1 item of the latter 3 is necessary.***

***Should you have a rental agreement or intention to purchase a home within the immediate area of the school but have not yet moved house then evidence of this must be supplied with the application (signed agreement/solicitor's letter). Proof of move will be sought prior to enrolment of your child at the school.***

### ***Waiting List***

*Any parent who wishes their child to be placed on a waiting list for any year group should confirm this request in writing by the 1<sup>st</sup> September in that year. Parents should renew their request in writing at the beginning of each school year. (1<sup>st</sup> September)*

*Should a place become available the above criteria will be applied to all children on the waiting list until the schools admission number has been reached. Preference will be given, in the first instance, to those for whom Ballyholme PS was the first choice school. Should a place subsequently become available, preference will be given to second choice applicants and so on until all available places are filled.*

### **P2-P7 Intake**

Applications for admission to Primaries 2-7 will be considered as above

### **Applications for Admission**

	<b>No of Applications Received</b>	<b>No of Pupil Admitted</b>
<b>2012/13</b>	101	90
<b>2013/14</b>	119	90
<b>2014/15</b>	124	90