Admissions criteria for entry September 2026

Earlview Primary School and Nursery 2 Manse Drive New Mossley Newtownabbey BT36 5US Controlled Primary School

Enrolment Number: 221 Admissions Number: 30

PRINCIPAL: Mr. P. Smith

CHAIR OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Rev. G. Keaveney

Email: info@earlviewps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

Website: www.earlviewprimary.co.uk

Telephone No: (028) 9034 2203

OPEN DAY: Thursday 4th December 2025 & Wednesday 7th January – Please use Eventbrite to book a slot.

We are pleased to be able to welcome you into our school. More information on how to book a visit will be provided on our school website: https://www.earlviewprimary.co.uk/

If you have any problems, please ring the school on 02890 342203 and we will be happy to help.

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

The functions of the Board of Governors re admission to Earlview Primary School shall be (1) to establish (and amend from time to time) admissions criteria (2) to ensure that the number of registered pupils at Earlview does not exceed the school's enrolment number. It shall be the function of the Principal to carry out the wishes of the Board of Governors.

The school welcomes children whose families are aware of, and offer a full commitment to, the school's educational aims and policies.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only consider information which is detailed on the application or provided directly to the school. 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 or provided directly to the first preference school. Examples of such information include whether the child has brothers/sisters attending the school or is the eldest child in the family.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria <u>punctual applications</u> will be considered before <u>late applications</u> 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 <u>punctual application</u>. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 21 January 2026 and up to 4 pm on 26 January 2026 will be treated as a <u>late application</u>, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of <u>preference in exceptional circumstances</u>. 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.

Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the school being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in order of priority:

 Children with a "child of the family" already attending the primary school or nursery. Names and classes must be stated when applying.

- 2. Children who have attended our Nursery class.
- 3. Children who applied for a place in our Nursery as their first choice in the previous year but were unsuccessful in gaining a place. –
- 4. Children who are the only/oldest "child of the family" suitable for mainstream education in the family. (A birth certificate will need to be provided along with a letter from: a medical practitioner for example a doctor or health visitor, a nursery/pre-school/private day-care provider, a solicitor, an elected public representative or a member of the clergy.) Proof of only/oldest will be required along with the application.
- 5. Children for whom the school Earlview is the nearest suitable school'. The relevant definition would be: 'nearest to the child's normal place of residence'. We will use Google Maps on Car mode to assess distances.
- 6. Children with a "child of the family" who previously attended the primary school. Names and final year to be written on the application form.
- 7. Remaining places will be selected on the basis of initial letter of surname (as entered on Birth Certificate) in the order set out below:

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

This order was determined by a randomised selection of the letters of the alphabet. In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial 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 initial letter and subsequent letters of the forenames will be used.

The definition of 'child of the family' covers:

- a child born to a married couple
- a child born to a co-habiting couple
- a child or either of those people by a previous marriage or relationship
- a child living with same sex partners whether there is a civil partnership under the Civil Partnership Act 2004 or not
- an adopted or fostered child
- a situation where, for example, a cousin is being brought up with a family

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that they may be required to produce documents verifying their address.

WAITING LIST POLICY

Should a vacancy arise after the Open Enrolment Admissions procedure concludes, all applications for admission to 2026-2027 that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided, will be treated equally and published criteria applied. The waiting list will be in place until June 2027. The school will contact you if your child gains a place in the school by this method.

Upon receiving a completed application (at any preference stage) 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.

ADMISSION TO P2 - P7

Pupils will be admitted to P2-P7 provided their admission does not lead to the enrolment number being exceeded. The same admissions criteria will be applied as for admission to P1.

Pupils will be considered for enrolment provided that the school will not exceed its enrolment number as determined by the Department of Education. Pupils will be considered for admission provided that, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, they would not prejudice the efficient use of the school's resources.

APPLICATIONS & ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY 1

Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/2024	20	20
2024/2025	18	18
*2025/2026	17	17

^{*}The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 <u>includes</u> 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)