

**NEWTOWNHAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL**

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Newtownhamilton  
NEWRY

BT35 ODG

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**Website:** www.newtownhamiltonhigh.org.uk

**Principal:** Mr N Megaw BEd, MSc, PQHNI

**Chairperson of the Board of Governors:** Mr I Bingham

**Controlled Secondary**

**Age Range:** 11 - 16+

**Admissions Number:** 35

**Enrolment Number:** 175

Prospective pupils and parents are invited to visit the School on  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 at 7.30 pm**  
or at any time by appointment with the Principal.

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

The Board of Governors draws up the admissions criteria. The Principal, on behalf of the Board of Governors, will apply the criteria in the order indicated to select pupils for admission.

**ADMISSIONS**

The lodging of an application is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school including the Code of Conduct and Positive Behaviour Policy. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school.

**When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on the Transfer Application. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Application or attached to it. An example of such information, in the case of Newtownhamilton High School, might be if a child of the family is currently enrolled at the school. This type of information must be clearly stated on the Transfer Application.**

**ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR YEAR 8**

**(either in September 2025 or during the course of the 2025/2026 school year)**

**During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 12 noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 12 noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon (GMT) on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 and up to 4pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 will be treated as a late application.**

**In selecting children for admission, it is a legal requirement that those who reside in Northern Ireland are given preference over those not so resident.**

Criteria will be applied in the following order:

1. Applicants for whom Newtownhamilton High School is 1<sup>st</sup> preference.
2. Applicants from the following list of contributory primary schools (all to be treated equally): Bessbrook, Cortamlet, Drumhillery, Lisnadill, Mountnorris & Newtownhamilton. This also includes pupils who were enrolled at Kingsmills Primary School during the 2022/23 academic year, before its closure on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.
3. Applicants who, at the date of application, have a child of the family currently enrolled at the school or where the applicant is more than 5 years younger than the next eldest sibling who previously attended the school (name and attendance dates of the next eldest sibling who previously attended the school to be supplied).
4. Applicants who, at the date of application, are the eldest child of the family to be eligible to apply for admission to the school or whose older siblings were refused admission due to over-subscription (names and dates of those siblings refused admission to be supplied).

5. Applicants who, at the date of application, have a parent who is a current permanent employee of the school.
6. Those who live closest to the school (as the crow flies), calculated using the Measure Distances website [www.doogal.co.uk](http://www.doogal.co.uk)

Note: The term “child of the family” covers children fostered, adopted etc. and avoids having to define all the various permutations of sibling.

If when a criterion is applied there are fewer places available than the number of applicants who meet the criterion, the remaining criteria will be applied in the indicated order to the children who meet the over-subscribed criterion.

**Waiting List**

Details of the school’s procedures for operating a waiting list can be obtained upon request from the school office.

**Duty to Verify**

A birth certificate only is required to be uploaded to the Transfer Application. However, the Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Transfer Application. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by post-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 Transfer Application.

**APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8**

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
<b>2022/23</b>	35	55	57*
<b>2023/24</b>	35	36	37*
<b>2024/25</b>	35	51	44*

*\*Includes pupils with SEN statements and also those who were admitted following a temporary variation and/or appeal.*

**TRANSFER BETWEEN SCHOOLS FOR YEARS 9 – 12**

The Board of Governors will apply the criteria. The lodging of an application is interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept and are in agreement with the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school including the Code of Conduct and Positive Behaviour Policy. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school.

If the school is over-subscribed, pupils will be considered for transfer:

1. Applicants who have a child of the family currently enrolled at the school.
2. Applicants from the following list of contributory primary schools (all to be treated equally): Bessbrook, Cortamlet, Drumhillery, Lisnadill, Mountnorris & Newtownhamilton.
3. Those who live closest to the school (as the crow flies), calculated using the Measure Distances website [www.doogal.co.uk](http://www.doogal.co.uk)

A pupil will be accepted from another post-primary school provided that the enrolment would not prejudice the efficient use of resources in the school.