



SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS
2021

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

On behalf of Saintfield High School's Board of Governors, and our whole team of pupils and members of staff, thank you for your interest in our thriving learning community. We hope this prospectus gives you an informative and exciting insight into all our educational experiences on offer, and an understanding of our ethos which embodies personalised learning for all of our boys and girls.

Saintfield High School was founded in 1958, and we are extremely proud of our key position at the very heart of our community. It has been our absolute privilege to serve the village, and indeed the wider area, for over sixty years.

We are honoured to work alongside all of our outstanding feeder primary schools who we enjoy wonderfully positive relationships with, and who work closely with us to ensure your child's move from primary to post-primary education is a smooth and enjoyable transition.

Saintfield High School is committed to taking the best of new innovations to enrich each child's learning journey, while strengthening the foundations of strong family values and traditions, in addition to championing all those essential skills that we know lead to educational excellence.

The learning experiences our pupils enjoy are broad and diverse, ensuring that each and every child completes an individual educational journey with us from Year 8 through to Year 12. Our reputation for exceptional pastoral care, high academic standards and our comprehensive programme of extra-curricular provision continues, and in 2021, the Saintfield High School learning community is prouder than ever of all the successes we share, inside and outside of the classroom.

We are strongly supported by all of our parents and carers, and we enjoy effective, authentic community partnerships. Collaboration is at the core of all that our school continues to aspire to achieve, and we actively promote pupils' voices and a vibrant curriculum that reflects real world issues and challenges.

Saintfield High School has a highly motivated, talented and professional team of teaching and non-teaching staff that are dedicated to ensuring the holistic education of each pupil. They inspire our boys and girls every day to achieve their full potential, to become fulfilled members of the workforce, their community and society in general.

While the following pages will give you a flavour of the value of our learning opportunities, the high expectations and indeed the high aspirations that we expect from ourselves and our pupils, no prospectus could ever convey the positive atmosphere that permeates through our school, or the quality of relationships that we enjoy in our day-to-day school life.

A very warm welcome will always await you at Saintfield High School.

I look forward to meeting you.

For further information, please visit our website, **www.saintfieldhighschool.com**, where you can also access our ETI inspection reports which will provide you with a further in-depth analysis of our high quality educational provision. Additionally, please follow us on Twitter, using **@SaintfieldHigh**, or on Instagram, using **#officialsaintfieldhighschool**.



S-L Hynds *Principal*

MISSION:

Saintfield High School, together with the community we serve, celebrates personalised learning in a safe caring and stimulating environment.

PLEDGE:

Individual success for *all* pupils - learning and achieving together.

AIMS:

The primary aim of Saintfield High School is:

To develop a safe, harmonious and well structured school community, in which staff and pupils work together with mutual respect in the pursuit of "success for all" pupils.

To achieve this primary aim, our learning community has five subsidiary aims:

1. To promote the spiritual, moral, emotional, cultural and physical development of each pupil;
2. To provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum enabling each pupil to contribute positively to society in the 21st Century;
3. To foster a positive, caring environment and develop attitudes through which individuals may learn respect from others and become responsible members of society;
4. To establish a creative and secure educational partnership between the school, the home, Lecale Learning Area and the wider community;
5. To promote self-esteem, good mental health, confidence and self-discipline among all pupils within an inclusive learning community.

I was a little nervous before I started Saintfield High School, but I needn't have worried. Since the very first day, the teachers and classroom assistants have been so kind and welcoming, and I have made plenty of friends. I am in Mr Murphy's form class, and he is also my Mathematics teacher. There is a great atmosphere in his classroom, and I look forward to coming to school every day.



**NOAH
CUNNINGHAM**
Year 8



HEAD BOY

MARK ANDERSON

It really doesn't seem that long ago since I was a Primary 7 pupil, visiting Saintfield High School for their Open Evening. I will never forget that evening. I was so impressed with everything about the school - from the great facilities, to the friendly faces - that I knew that it was the place for me.

I was very eager and excited to begin my journey with Saintfield High School. I really saw it as a fresh start after Primary School. Even though I had been looking forward to becoming a Year 8 pupil, I was still a little nervous on my first day. I suppose that is only natural. However, with the support of my form tutor, Mr Murphy, as well as all of the friends I made in 8MY, I was soon in to the swing of things. It wasn't long before Saintfield High School began to feel like home.

Sport is a big part of my life and I have been lucky enough to have represented the school in a wide variety of sports during my time here: Football, Rugby, Hockey - you name it. Sport is really valued here at Saintfield High School. Sporting success is recognised every year at it's own Prize Day event.

If Sport isn't your thing, though, I know there will be something for you at Saintfield High School. For instance, music is another big part of life here, and plenty of my classmates get involved in the choir and band.

It is difficult to believe that my own time at Saintfield High School is drawing to an end. Back in the Spring, I was appointed Head Boy for 2020/2021, something that has increased my confidence. Miss Hynds and the teachers saw something in me that I didn't see in myself. I am delighted - and very, very proud - that they chose me. I never would have believed that this was possible back when I first visited the school as a Primary 7 pupil.

I know the decision about which post-primary school to choose can be a difficult one. I want to take this chance to strongly recommend that you come to Saintfield High School. I have really enjoyed my time here. I know that I won't just be leaving this school with a set of GCSE examination results. I will be leaving with a lifetime's worth of amazing memories from all that I have experienced. I can honestly say that the staff are dedicated to making each pupil the best that they can be. There really is no other school like it!

HEAD GIRL

LUCY RODGERS

It was back in September 2016 when an anxious, nervous, somewhat shy girl called Lucy took her first steps through the doors of Saintfield High School.

That girl was me, and there was no disputing it: those first few days were a whirlwind of emotions. I was the only girl from my old primary school who had moved to Saintfield High School, and I have to admit to being very worried about making friends.

I shouldn't have worried. The welcoming atmosphere of the school was obvious from the first minute, and the excellent communication between my teachers and parents soon had me at ease. I made good friends in no time at all!

That welcoming atmosphere I mentioned isn't just for Year 8s or newcomers. No, I can honestly say that we are all met daily with positivity and warmth from our teachers, our classroom assistants and all of the support staff. The teachers here really believe in our abilities and are so encouraging.

During my time at Saintfield High School, I have had made so many amazing memories. Back at the start of Year 8 I could not have imagined the full range of what I would experience during my time here.

Let's see: I was privileged to be the captain when our U14 Hockey Team won the league shield a few years ago. I travelled with many of my classmates to the freezing slopes of Bulgaria for a school ski trip. I have performed with our school choir in front of crowds of hundreds. All of these experiences, and many more besides, have pushed me a little bit further out of my comfort zone and helped me to develop my self-confidence. I will forever be grateful to my teachers for believing in me.

Inside the classroom, too, I have experienced so much. I am studying for my GCSEs this year, and I can honestly say that my teachers each work so hard on behalf of their classes. From Maths to Science, English to Geography, every lesson is different. I'm a country girl at heart, and Mrs Jackson's GCSE Agriculture and Land Use lessons really stand out for me. I wonder what your favourite subject will be?

At the end of Year 11, I was honoured to be selected as Head Girl for the year 2020/21. When I think back to that shy and anxious little girl who arrived in 2016, it really feels like she has come a long way!

Of course, this year has had many challenges, caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. All of us - from our principal, Miss Hynds, to all of the staff, and right down to the very youngest Year 8 - have had to adapt to ensure a safe learning environment for us all. We are able to meet these challenges, though, thanks to the strong values of teamwork, patience and care that we share as a school community.

As Head Girl, I would like to encourage you all to join us here at Saintfield High School. It is such a warm, welcoming and wonderful place; a real family school. Part of me is jealous that my time here is ending just as yours is beginning. If you do decide to come here, I know that you won't forget it.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Chairman Mr W J Dick **Secretary** Miss S-L Hynds

Mr D Beattie | Mrs E Campbell | Mr R Edwards | Mr L Fergus | Mr N Gibson | Mr J Megraw | Miss A Mullen | Mr G Murphy

STAFF 2020 - 2021

PRINCIPAL

Miss S-L Hynds, MA(Hons), MA, PGCE, MEd, PQH (NI)

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Mrs V Derby, BEd (Hons), MEd

Mrs D Artt, BA (Hons), PGCE

Mrs H Birt, PGCE, B Mus

Mr D Bolton, BEd (Hons)

Mrs R Bradley, BA (Hons), PGCE

Head Of Senior School

Mr M Carter, BSc (Hons), PGCE, PQH

Mrs D Cheshire, BA (Hons), PGCE

Mr S Chisholm, BSc (Hons), PGCE

Mrs S Convill, BA (Hons), PGCE

Mrs J Cooper, BEd (Hons)

Mrs J Crowe, BSc, PGCE

Mrs L Cullen, BA (Hons), PGCE

Mrs A Dempsey, BSc (Hons), MSc, PGCE

Mr M Elliott, BA (Hons), PGCE

Mrs R Elliott, BSc (Hons), PGCE, Dip PD (SEN), CCET, AAT

Head Of Junior School

Miss L Henderson, BEd (Hons)

Mrs K Hume, BSc, PGCE

Mrs L Jackson, BSc (Hons), PGCE, MSc

Miss M Kirk, BA (Hons), PGCE

Mrs R Leacock, BA (Hons), PGCE, MEd

Mr C McCracken, BA (Hons), PGCE

Miss A Mullen, BEd

Mr M Murphy, BSc (Hons), PGCE, MEd

Mrs S Teague, BA (Hons), PGCE, DASE

ADMINISTRATION

Mrs S Craig

Mrs B Fletcher

Mrs S Mullan

Mrs C Payne

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Mrs L McClurg

I.C.T. TECHNICIAN

Mr R Cully

BUILDING SUPERVISORS

Ms I Leckey

Mr D Mageean

CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS

Miss L Booth

Miss J Burns

Mrs D Burrell

Ms R Fitzsimons

Mrs C French

Miss A Johnston

Mrs B Jones

Miss R Martin

Miss C Maude

Ms C McClure

Mrs R McCulla

Mrs D McKnight

Mrs V McMordie

Mrs K Roy

Miss J Ross

Mrs L Sloan

Mrs R Smyth

Miss G Watters

Miss K Williams



Mr W J Dick *Chairman*



PUPIL WELL-BEING AT SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

NURTURING AND CHALLENGING PUPILS TO THRIVE

PARENTS/CARERS - OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU

At Saintfield High School all members of staff, both teaching and non-teaching, are partners with you, the parents/carers, in your child's education. We believe that a pupil's education is enhanced when parents/carers and teachers share common objectives. A strong, genuine and meaningful partnership between school and home creates a sense of shared purpose and cements a desire to ensure pupils achieve 'personal success'. We greatly value the part you play in guiding pupils along the path of success, and we also greatly appreciate our existing parents'/carers' support of all of our policies and the way in which they nurture their children to take a real pride in attending this thriving learning community.

PASTORAL ORGANISATION

At Saintfield High School, Pastoral Care means every pupil is valued and well looked after. We want all of our pupils to feel happy, safe and content at school.

On enrolment at our school, all pupils are allocated to a tutor group; the maximum size of which rarely exceeds twenty-six pupils.

At Saintfield High School we strongly advocate that 'children should thrive not just survive'. All members of staff, both teaching and non-teaching, work tirelessly to ensure the holistic development of every boy and girl within the school community.

The team of staff who provide overall pastoral care and who monitor attendance and academic progress include:



THE FORM TUTOR

Each form tutor has specific responsibility for pupils in his/her Form Class and is the main point of contact for parents and carers. Form Tutors monitor academic progress and exercise pastoral care of the boys and girls in their Form Class. If pupils have any concerns they may talk to their Form Tutor. The role of Form Tutor is vital to the efficient running of the school, successful pastoral care and the delivery of a range of programmes throughout the academic year.

HEADS OF SCHOOL

The Head of Junior School (Mrs Elliott) has specific responsibility for all the classes in Years 8-10, and the Head of Senior School (Mrs Bradley) has specific responsibility for all classes in Years 11 and 12. They liaise with Form Tutors, parents/carers, a range of external agencies, the Vice-Principal and Principal in all matters pertaining to Pupil Well-being.

THE VICE-PRINCIPAL

Mrs Derby is our Vice-Principal, and within her role as Head of Pupil Well-Being, she provides support to all members of staff in implementing Saintfield High School's pastoral policies and procedures. Mrs Derby oversees the implementation of the Resilience Curriculum and strives to ensure all pupils are provided with a breadth of support, guidance and provision throughout their educational journey at Saintfield High School.



Mrs Derby Vice-Principal

“All of our pupils are nurtured and supported through a range of pastoral provision during their five years with us.” - Mrs Derby

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Elliott is our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. Mrs Elliott ensures those pupils on the Special Educational Needs (SEN) register receive the requirements of their statutory educational plans and are supported and guided throughout their educational journey.

SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMME

The progress of all pupils is monitored throughout the year through a process of formal testing, assessment, reviews and reports. Our aim is to ensure that prompt intervention strategies are put in place when deemed necessary. Specialists in English, Mathematics and Science are involved in supporting teaching and learning in the classroom. Our aim is to maximize the learning opportunities of all our pupils. Pupils identified as having a Special Educational Need will benefit from Individual Education Plans drawn up according to the recommendations of their Statement of Need. The School follows the requirements of the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT

Saintfield High School's Community Code of Conduct is our policy to promote positive behaviour within our learning community, and to outline all of our procedures relating to student behaviour and attitude. We want all of our pupils to be happy and feel safe in their school life, and we recognise that a harmonious environment at school and classroom level is key to effective teaching and learning, achieved through positive relationships between members of staff and pupils, and between pupils and pupils. We believe that a clear, shared understanding of our school's values is a prerequisite for the effectiveness of our behaviour policy.

At Saintfield High School, we seek to encourage the development of self-discipline with mutual respect for others. Abundant opportunities are provided for children to be engaged in worthwhile activities where such development can take place, and positive discipline is always encouraged. When behaviour is unacceptable there is a need for sanctions, and our school rules and discipline procedures are included in our Community Code of Conduct Policy.

Our school code of behaviour was drawn up in consultation with members of staff and pupil representatives from our Student Voice Association, as well as the school's Parent/Carer Panel.

STUDENT VOICE

Through our Student Voice Association, representatives from all year groups can express their opinions, beliefs and perspectives on a range of issues and topics relating to their education. We greatly value all the contributions our pupils make to the organisation and running of our learning community, and we feel it is a very important dimension to ensuring and maintaining pupil well-being.

PASTORAL SUPPORT

At Saintfield High School we firmly believe that every child has the right to learn, and every member of staff has the right to work, in an atmosphere free from fear and intimidation. We do not tolerate any form of bullying, and we are proactive about educating our children to always discuss anything that is bothering them. Our pupils know who to speak with and who to turn to if they ever have any concerns about school life. Our pastoral lines of communication are illustrated in the diagram opposite:

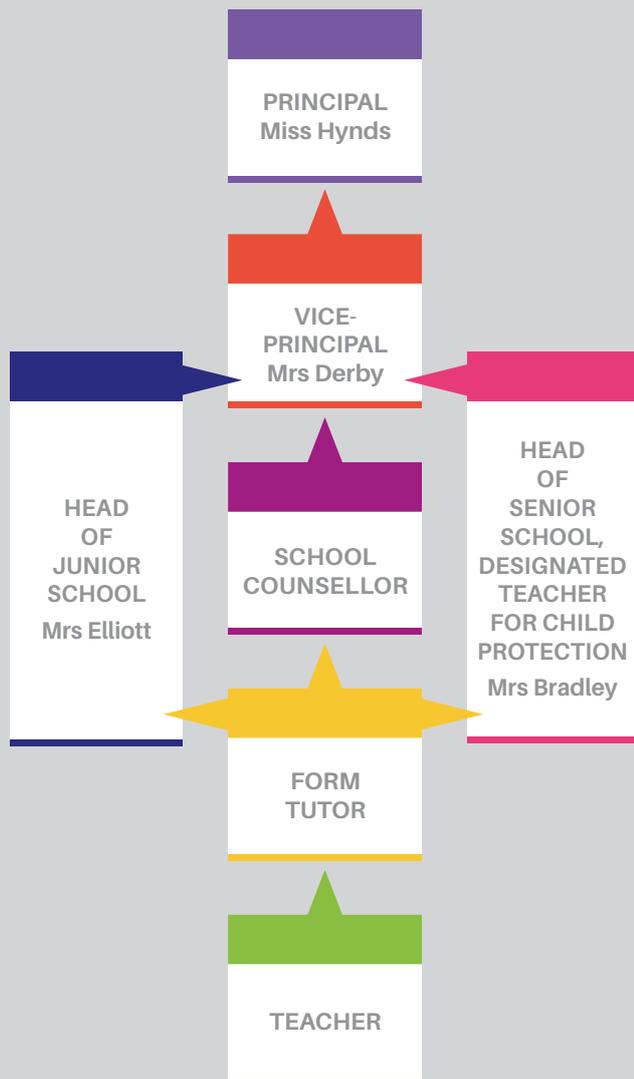
COUNSELLING

A key element of the pastoral provision at Saintfield High School includes our counsellor, Mrs O'Higgins. Mrs O'Higgins is in school each Wednesday and is available to speak with any pupil. The School Counsellor plays a crucial role in promoting pupil well-being by providing a listening ear and wise counsel. This service provides an opportunity for pupils, across all year groups, to discuss and reflect upon their thoughts, feelings and emotions within a safe and respectful environment.

Fantastic school! The teachers are well organised, professional and show an interest in each and every pupil. They have helped my sons immensely and they now enjoy and look forward to school everyday.

Mrs Rea, Parent, Year 9 and Year 11

GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT



Saintfield High School works hard to foster close links with parents, keeping them informed about pupil progress, pupil well-being and curriculum information. I have enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the Parent Panel. It really shows the school's commitment to open communication with parents. As a parent, I greatly value the excellent pastoral care provided by Saintfield High School. The pupils are indeed given the opportunity to 'Thrive, Not Just Survive'.

Mrs Kelso, Parent, Year 10

One thing I really enjoy about Saintfield High School is how different every lesson can feel. We get to enjoy great novels in English, conduct terrific experiments in Science, and bake some delicious treats in Home Economics. That's before I even mention Technology and Design, Art and Design, History, French...the list goes on! Studying such a wide range of subjects really does make every day interesting.



JAMES BURGESS
Year 9

SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S PUPILS' RESILIENCE



All pupils will embark upon a pastoral journey which seeks to provide preventative education through our Resilience Curriculum. We want to prepare our pupils for the exciting opportunities, as well as the challenges, which they face in adulthood. Within our school community we acknowledge and appreciate not only the importance of a pupil's physical well-being, but also acknowledge that their mental well-being is equally valuable, especially for the current

generation of children.

We seek to equip our pupils with resilience and the ability to manage their physical and mental health in a positive manner, especially when the challenges of life loom. Throughout the year, we discuss, reflect upon and consider pupil mental well-being and the implication mental health can have upon pupils' lives and families. It is hoped such a proactive approach will assist pupils in preparation for life.

The Pupil Resilience Curriculum includes:

- Anti-Bullying Workshops
- Action Mental Health Talks
- Drug Awareness Support Sessions
- 'Dead Cool' Prevention Programme
- Fire Safety/Fireworks Awareness
- 'Good Manners Matter' Programme
- Internet Safety Training
- 'Love for Life' Programme
- 'Made for More' Workshops
- Mental Health Programme
- 'Mood Matters'
- NI Safeguarding Board - 'Chelsea's Choice'
- Pastoral Support Sessions
- Prefect and Mentor Coaching and Support
- Resilience Programme
- Road Safety - Translink Safety Bus
- School Counsellor from 'Family Works'
- Suicide Prevention Programme
- Support for managing examinations
- The Blues Programme

CONCERN CURRICULUM THROUGHOUT YEARS 8-12

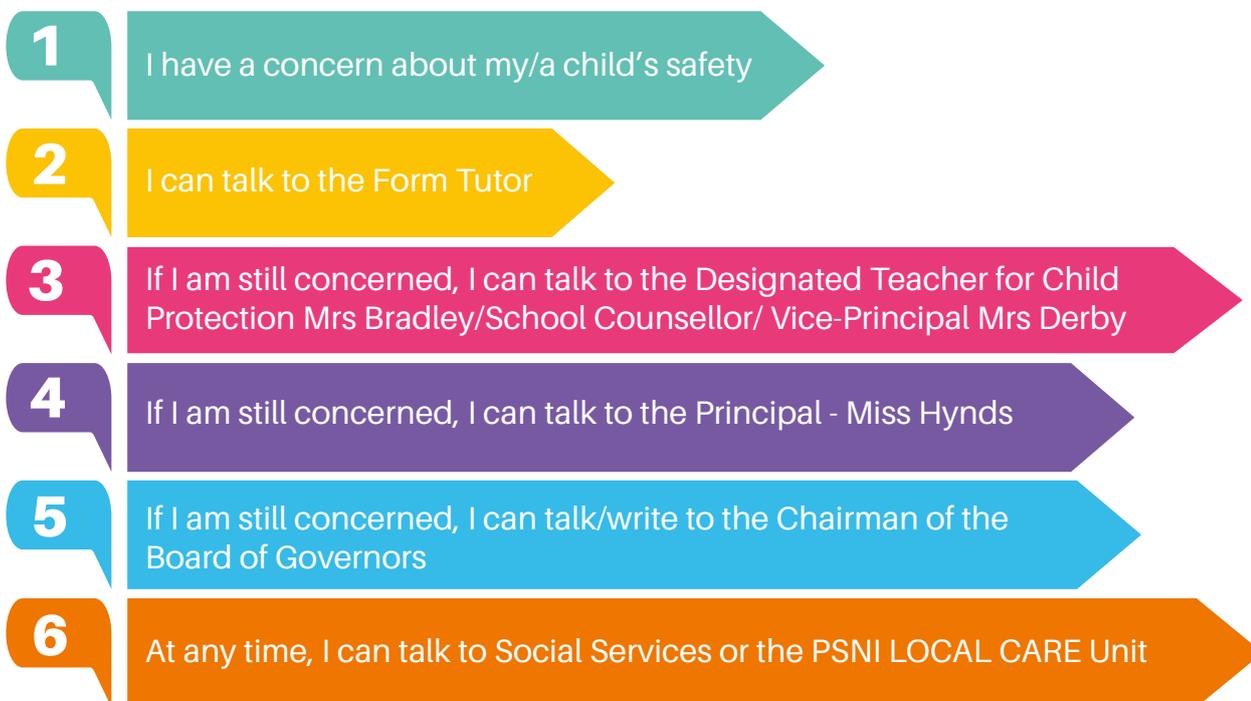
CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

In line with the Department of Education Northern Ireland, Saintfield High School has a duty to refer disclosures of a child protection nature to the appropriate statutory agencies.

If any parents/carers have concerns about the safety of their (or another) child they can inform:

- Miss Hynds, the Principal;
- Mrs Bradley, who is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection, or
- Mrs Convill, who is the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (in the absence of Mrs Bradley).

Reporting back on the progress and conclusion of a concern will be by the Designated Teacher dealing with the issue. Other avenues open to parents/carers if they remain dissatisfied with the outcome, is first to refer the matter to the Principal, if she has not yet been involved, or second, to refer the matter to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors. The below chart illustrates the process:



SCHOOL PASTORAL POLICIES

Saintfield High School's pastoral policies are in place to safeguard all of our children and are regularly reviewed.

They include:

Anti-Bullying, Child Protection, Community Code of Conduct, Drug Prevention, Health and Safety, Pupil Well-Being, and Social Media.

**Copies are available on our website,
www.saintfieldhighschool.com.**

“Our experience of Saintfield High School has been one of a school which provides a very supportive environment for our children, where the leadership and teaching staff are fully engaged in prioritising their learning and welfare.”

Mr Anderson, Parent, Year 9



SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE



At Saintfield High School, we strive to ensure that every single pupil achieves his/her full potential.

There are many strands which contribute to our 'Curriculum for Excellence'.

These include:

- Our delivery and development of a broad and balanced curriculum;
- Our tracking and monitoring of pupil progress;
- Our careers support and guidance, and of course;
- Our strong and robust wrap around pastoral care provision.

We have in place a dynamic and thorough assessment schedule for all year groups, which fuels our 'Pupil Progress Check' system, along with our pastoral care provision. The progress of our pupils is monitored very carefully and parents and carers will receive two reports annually - a Progress Report at the end of Term 1, and an Annual Report at the end of Term 3 or a Mock Examinations Report in Term 2 for Years 11 and 12.

THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

KEY STAGE THREE

The curriculum for Years 8-10 enables each pupil to realise his or her true potential at Key Stage Three. Children are given the opportunity to excel in a range of subject areas, and are supported fully in these important school years.

During Years 8, 9 and 10, pupils will have the opportunity to study the following subjects:

- **Art & Design • English**
- **Geography • History • ICT**
- **Learning for Life & Work**
- **Food Science & Nutrition • French**
- **Music • Mathematics**
- **Physical Education**
- **Religious Education • Science**
- **Technology & Design**

KEY STAGE FOUR

The curriculum for Years 11 and 12 is determined by core subjects, which are compulsory, and a selection of subjects which are chosen by pupils at the end of Year 10. At Saintfield High School, we continually review and revise our Key Stage Four curriculum so that it fully meets the interests and aptitudes of our pupils. We offer GCSE and Level 2 programmes of study.

The following core subjects are compulsory:

- **GCSE English Language**
- **GCSE Mathematics**
- **Religious Studies**
(pupils will complete the Full Course GCSE, or Short Course)
- **Learning for Life and Work**
(GCSE)
- **GCSE French**

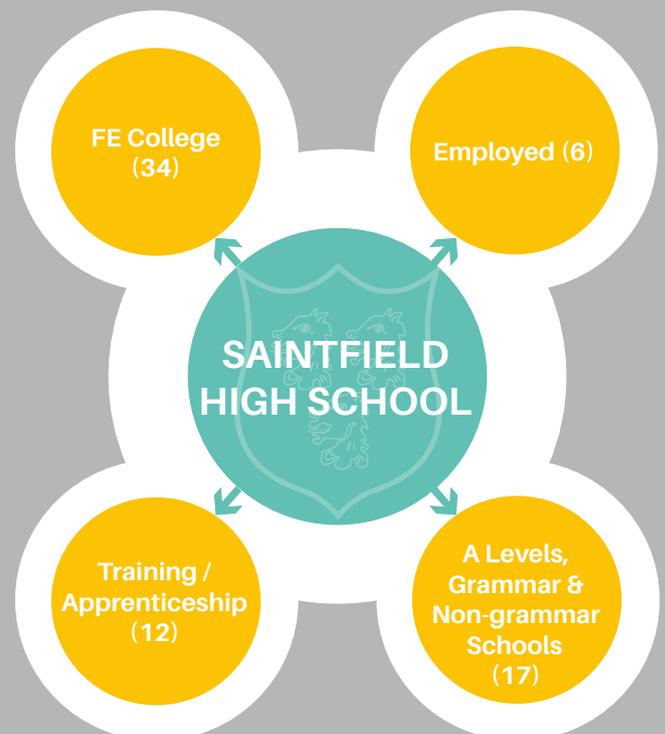
The following subjects are currently offered to pupils in Years 11 and 12:

- **Agriculture & Land Use**
- **Art & Design**
- **Digital Technology**
- **English Literature**
- **Food Science & Nutrition**
- **Geography**
- **Health & Social Care**
- **History**
- **Music**
- **Motor Vehicle & Road User Studies**
- **Occupational Studies - Design & Creativity, Construction**
- **Performing Arts**
- **Physical Education**
- **Prince's Trust**
- **Single Award Science**
- **Double Award Science**
- **Technology & Design**

PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

At Saintfield High School, we are extremely proud of all that our pupils achieve, both inside the classroom and outside the classroom. The importance of examinations for entry to higher and further education and employment cannot be overlooked. Results for external examinations have been of a consistently high standard over many years within the school. It is our policy that all pupils attempt to complete qualifications in the fullest range of subjects possible at GCSE level, and other non-GCSE options.

*'Our high standards of teaching and learning continue to bring rewards. Last year's Year 12, who completed their education at Saintfield High School in June 2020, achieved an impressive set of GCSE results, which reflect their individual excellence. **We are simply delighted that 80% of our pupils in 2020 achieved five or more GCSE grades at A*-C, with 64% of all pupils achieving five or more GCSE grades at A*-C, including English and Mathematics.** Additionally, each and every pupil left having developed a wide range of skills in sport, music and a variety of extra-curricular interests, and indeed social skills'.*

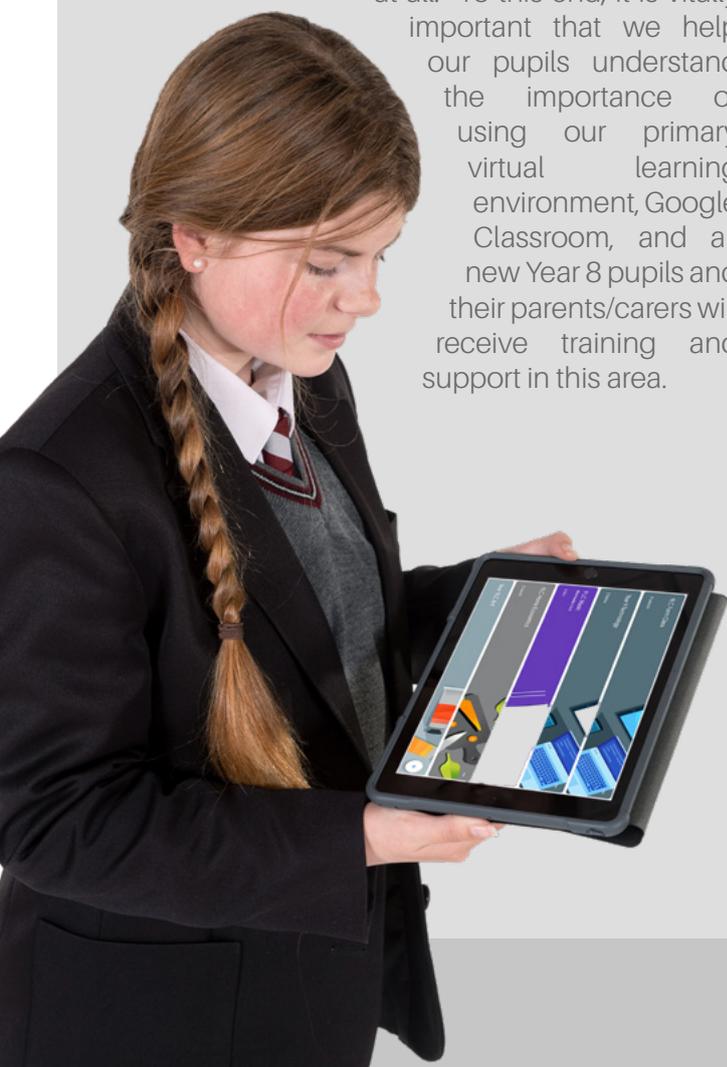


HOME LEARNING (including Blended Learning strategies)

Parents and carers are encouraged to ensure that each week day evening, one to two hours are spent on uninterrupted study. This will cover specific tasks given by subject teachers, extra studies, research work, and much needed revision. This is necessary if work completed in class is to be adequately reinforced and developed. Pupils are provided with a homework diary and there is a relatively uniform distribution of home learning activities throughout the week. Parents and carers should always endeavour to provide a quiet space with reasonable facilities for home study. If, at any point in your child's educational journey your child experiences any difficulties with home learning, please make an appointment to discuss this with the subject teacher or Form Tutor.

The academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 have seen our school community implement various platforms for our pupils to learn online, and it is safe to say that remote learning will continue to play a significant role in the educational provision of our young people for the foreseeable future. Teachers continue to develop a wide range of strategies to support effective remote learning, whether this be for home study to support daily lessons, or indeed when pupils cannot be in school

at all. To this end, it is vitally important that we help our pupils understand the importance of using our primary virtual learning environment, Google Classroom, and all new Year 8 pupils and their parents/carers will receive training and support in this area.



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Careers education plays a significant role in the full development of our pupils.

The aim of the careers team is to provide information on, and knowledge of, a wide range of career paths, and to enhance pupils' awareness of their achievements, skills, qualities and capabilities.

Routine careers advice is offered to all pupils in Years 11 and 12 with the emphasis being on helping them to make their own decisions in life.

The expertise of our teaching staff is supplemented by the Careers Advisor from the Department for the Economy, who visits the school weekly to give any practical help necessary. A wide range of careers talks and visits involving a variety of outside agencies and companies provide a vibrant and dynamic addition to the careers curriculum.

Our Year 11 pupils spend an extremely beneficial week in the summer term on work experience, and our Year 12 pupils also take part in simulated interviews which are an invaluable opportunity to gain experience of interviewing for the world of work. Importantly, our Year 10 pupils begin the process of personal career planning through the Learning for Life and Work curriculum which is continued into Senior School, in addition to designated careers time.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROVISION

We believe firmly that not everything that happens in a school can be measured by examination results. At Saintfield High School we promote and champion the development of personal and social skills, motivation and dedication, loyalty, idealism and spiritual qualities, which are developed not only through our varied curriculum but also through our extensive extra-curricular programme.

We have a wide range of clubs, societies and extra-curricular activities on offer within the school, including:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Badminton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scripture Union
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Football	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subject Revision Classes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hockey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rugby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian Club
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cricket	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chess Club
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Netball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Range of Educational Visits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Choir	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cookery	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drama	



SPORT AT SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

SPORTS FACILITIES

The school has access to a wide range of sporting facilities, which include a recently opened, state-of-the-art sports hall, a gymnasium, two grass football pitches, an outdoor gym, and a full-size AstroTurf hockey pitch. We also have strong links with local sporting clubs, including Saintfield Hockey and Cricket Clubs, Saintfield Striders Running Club, Saintfield United Football Club and Ballynahinch Rugby Club.

SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S SPORTING AIMS

Sport and physical activity are important parts of every pupil's day at Saintfield High School, helping to develop their physical, social and mental well-being.

Weekly dedicated Physical Education classes are supplemented by an extensive range of after-school activities, involving inter-school matches, overseas trips and weekly clubs.

The school's sporting aims are: -

1. To promote a healthy lifestyle amongst all pupils;
2. To help pupils acquire new sporting skills;
3. To help pupils to maximise their sporting potential;
4. To assist pupils to make informed decisions about their health throughout the rest of their lives;
5. To improve pupils' self-esteem and confidence;
6. To promote the value of teamwork;
7. To have fun in a safe environment.



MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS AT SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORTS A VIBRANT AND ENTHUSIASTIC MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

This department aims to offer diverse experiences to each pupil inside and outside of the classroom. Both subjects are available to study at Key Stage Four.

All pupils have the opportunity to take up a musical instrument and tuition is available in woodwind, brass, guitar, drum kit and piping, to name but a few disciplines. Pupils are prepared for grade examinations with various, appropriate examination boards.

The Music and Performing Arts Department places great emphasis on extra-curricular activities and pupils are encouraged to take part in all of these. We are extremely proud of our Saintfield High School Choir and Band, and other ensembles.

Each year, our choir and band undertake a full and challenging programme with performances at our annual day of 'Celebrating Success', our Open Evening, and various other after-school events and concerts. Our musicians also contribute regularly to many community and charity events.

Our Music and Performing Arts Department continues to flourish!

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

It is our vision for the future that Saintfield High School becomes even more community focused, as it continues to serve the village and wider area. Our staff and pupils are fully committed to involvement in community activity, and we continue to strengthen links with a range of outside and neighbouring agencies, businesses, organisations, and local people.

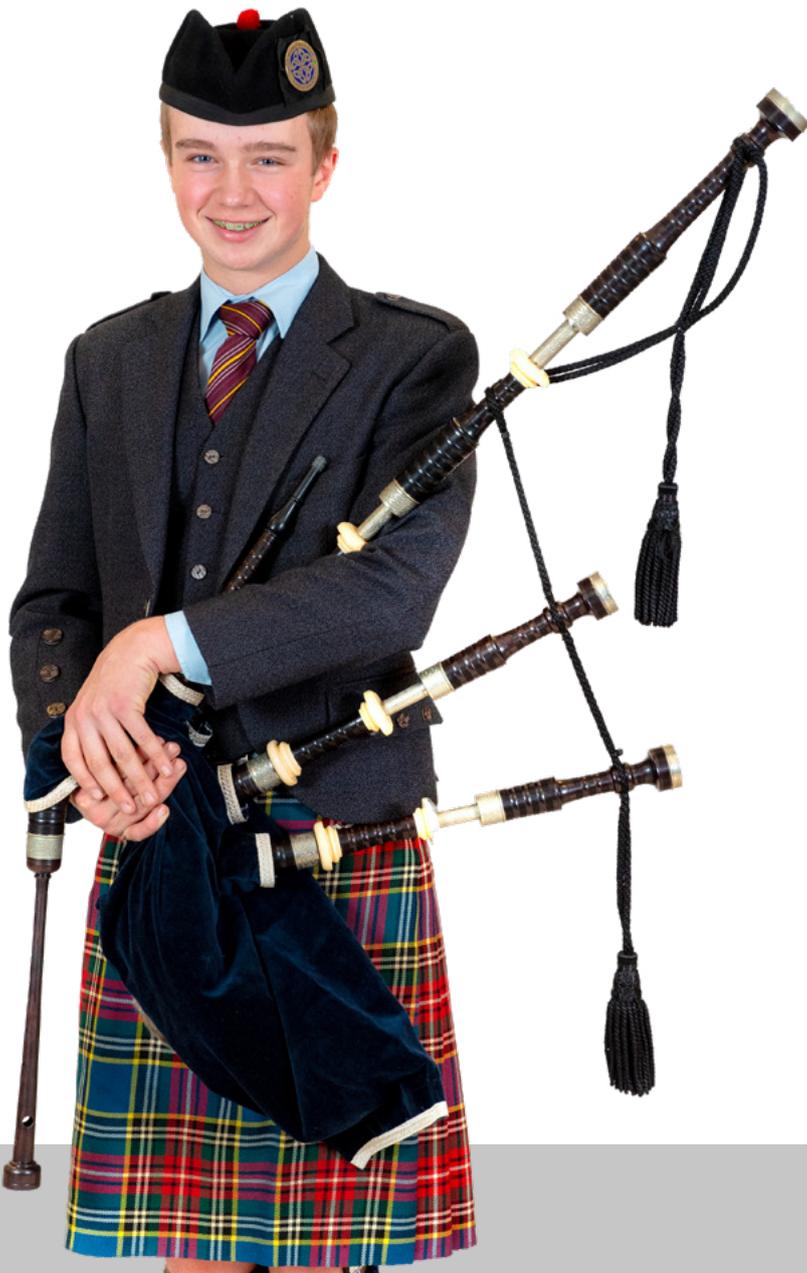
At Saintfield High School, we believe the answer to real education and school transformation is strong, authentic community connections and actions. We take great pride in our reputation as a school at the heart of our community, with an open, welcoming atmosphere. We host community activity days and variety concerts which are open to every young person in the community. In 2021, we are excited about the opportunities of collaborating with the new Saintfield Community Centre to provide a comprehensive and varied programme of activities available to the wider area in the future.

CULTURAL AWARENESS AND FUNDRAISING

During the school year, fundraising is organised regularly, with many local and national charities receiving significant donations as a result of our pupils' hard work and the generosity of parents and carers and of the wider community. The pastoral philosophies which underpin our school community promote, encourage and foster the development of empathy, compassion and understanding. Our work in supporting charities exemplifies this commitment to others.

For the academic year 2019/20, a total of £1,706.25 was raised and donated to worthy causes. Over 50 'Christmas Hampers' were also created and delivered by our pupils to 'The Larder' in Belfast leading up to Christmas.

Through these activities, our learning community finds that by giving, there is a great deal to be gained.



I love sport, and luckily for me, so does Saintfield High School! It has been my privilege to represent the school in Netball matches against other local schools, and we always get up to so much in our PE lessons. Whether we are in our amazing sports hall, or enjoying the fresh air of the sports pavilion, grass pitches, or hockey pitches, there really is a sport here for everyone.



**SOPHIE
ROSSITER**

Year 10

UNIFORM



GIRLS

BLAZER: A black blazer with School badge

SKIRT: Grey - length NOT shorter than midway between end of blazer and knee

SHIRT: White with Junior or Senior School tie

JUMPER: Official School 'V' neck jumper (compulsory November - February inc.)

SHOES: Plain black, low heeled, soft soled School shoes (no fashion shoes, trainers or pumps)

TIGHTS: Black tights

OUTWEAR: Official school outdoor coat and official School scarf

BAG: Plain black with reflector markings, no handbag style

SUMMER TERM

In the summer term a short sleeved white blouse can be worn.

BOYS

BLAZER: A black blazer with School badge

TROUSERS: Black

SHIRT: White with Junior or Senior School tie

JUMPER: Official School 'V' neck jumper (compulsory November - February inc.)

SOCKS: Grey or black

SHOES: Plain black, soft soled School shoes (not gym shoes or boots)

OUTWEAR: Official School outdoor coat and official School scarf

BAG: Plain black with reflector markings

SUMMER TERM

In the summer term a short sleeved white shirt can be worn with tie.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM



GIRLS

SKORT: Black games skort

TOP: Maroon polo shirt

SWEAT-TOP: Grey with School badge

SHORTS: Black stretch shorts

SOCKS: Maroon long sports sock with 3 black bands

COAT: Official school outdoor coat

TROUSERS: Black tracksuit bottoms

GYM SHOES: White with non-marking sole. Shin pads and gum shield are recommended.

BOYS

SHORTS: Black two tone soccer short

TOP: Black zippered sports top with School badge

SOCKS: Maroon long sports sock with 3 black bands

COAT: Black outdoor coat with School badge

TROUSERS: Black tracksuit bottoms

GYM SHOES: White with non-marking sole, and football boots. Shin pads and gum shield are recommended.

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS



I have started my GCSEs this year. Although they can be challenging, I feel I am coping because of how much care my teachers take over each lesson. I especially enjoy French lessons with Mrs Leacock and Geography with Mr Carter. These two teachers have very different styles, but both make sure that we are always learning and enjoying our studies. They, and all my teachers, really push us to do the best that we can.



**SAMERA
McMULLAN**
Year 11

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS

- The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 retains a general commitment to the concept of free education for all pupils throughout the period of compulsory schooling. However, Saintfield High School's Board of Governors seek an annual voluntary contribution of £40 per pupil and £60 per family to a School Fund designed to support a wide variety of extra-curricular activities in Years 8 - 12.
- All teaching of subjects prescribed in the Northern Ireland Curriculum is given free of charge to parents and carers, as are all entries for public examinations offered by the school and taken by pupils for the first time. There will, however, be a full cost to parents and carers for the re-marking of external examinations.
- Music tuition is available within the school as follows:
 - Guitar and drums tuition at a cost of £200 per annum;
 - Piping and drums tuition delivered by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association N.I. branch at a cost of £90 per annum, and

- Brass and woodwind tuition is delivered by Mrs Birt, Head of Music and Performing Arts Department, free of charge within the school – pupils must either have their own instrument, or rent through Matchetts' Music hire scheme.

- On occasion, there may be charges made for the transport of pupils representing the school, although not for team games, inter-school quizzes, community service or musical events.
- Additionally, charges are made when parents and/or carers indicate in advance a wish to own a finished product, for example, for ingredients, materials and/or components used within practical areas of the curriculum like Food Science and Nutrition or Technology and Design. Similarly, when parents have agreed to their child's participation in a residential trip which takes place mainly outside school hours, charges are made to cover the costs involved. Optional activities organised by the school which require charges to be made, require the written consent of parents before their children are permitted to participate in them.

“ This year our two boys started Year 8 at Saintfield High School. As parents of children making this transition to ‘big’ school, especially in the current circumstances, we were extremely anxious. We really did not need to be at all. We have found the staff at Saintfield High School to be absolutely amazing! The teaching, care and attention that our boys have received since September has really been second to none. The boys have settled fantastically, their confidence has grown so much already in their own abilities and they just “love school”. We would recommend Saintfield High School to any parent or child in a heartbeat. We definitely made the right choice and we know that the boys will have five very happy and content years at this school.

Mr and Mrs Cunningham, Parents, Year 8

”

TRANSFER PROCEDURE 2021

Admissions will be determined by a designated sub-committee of the Board of Governors, which shall include the Principal. The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on the Transfer Application.

You may be required to present verification documents **AFTER** your child has been offered a place at the School. Original documents are required and not facsimiles or photocopies. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide verifying documents according to the required deadline may result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the school to offer a place.

In the event of the school being over-subscribed, a pupil will be admitted according to the following criteria, applied in the order set down:

- 1 Children who have a child of the family* currently enrolled at the school (applicants should record on the Transfer Application the name of the child and date of enrolment at the school), or children whose parent/carer is a permanent employee of the school.
- 2 Children who have had a child of the family* who attended the school. Applicants should record on the Transfer Application the name of the child and date he/she left Saintfield High School.
- 3 Children who are the eldest child(ren) of the family* (where applicable, twins (or other multiples) will be treated as joint eldest), or the first child of the family to transfer to a non-selective school (verification required) and who attend a traditional contributory primary school (see list of feeder schools below).

Academy, Saintfield	Carryduff	Killyleagh
Alexander Dickson	Cedar Integrated	Knockbreda
Anahilt	Comber	Millennium Integrated
Andrews Memorial	Derryboy	Moneyrea
Ballynahinch	Downpatrick	St Mary's, Comber
Cairnshill	Drumlins Integrated	St Mary's, Saintfield
Carr	Glasswater	Spa
Carrickmannon	Killinchy	

- 4 Children who attend a feeder/named primary school (see list of schools above) and who list Saintfield High School as their first preference post-primary school on the Transfer Application.
- 5 All other children.

If, following the application of the above criteria in order, there comes a point where there are more children who meet a particular criterion than there are spaces available, priority will be given to children:

- a) Who list Saintfield High School as their first preference post-primary school then;
- b) For whom Saintfield High School is the nearest suitable school as measured by the Ordnance Survey web distance measurement tool.

**Child of the family as defined in DE Circular 2016/15 The Procedure for Transfer from Primary to Post Primary Education, Annex 2, Paragraphs 3-5.*

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 Transfer Application. Parents/carers 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.



YEAR 8 WAITING LIST

Applicants who did not gain a place in Saintfield High School as part of the transfer procedure will automatically be placed in rank order upon the school's admissions waiting list after 1 September 2021.

Should a place become available after 1 September 2021, priority will be given to those applicants who have named Saintfield High School as their first preference post-primary school. In the event of a place becoming available, the School will contact the applicant's parent/carer to arrange an interview

with the Principal or Vice-Principal. New applications for Year 8 will be added to the waiting list in rank order after applying the admissions criteria.

At the end of Year 8, the school will contact all applicants' parents/carers on the waiting list to determine whether they wish to remain on the waiting list. Those applicants wishing to remain on the waiting list will be dealt with according to the criteria listed in Admission to Saintfield High School other than at the Customary Transfer Stage.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Year	Admission	Enrolment
2017	68	376
2018	68	381
2019	68	383
2020	72	382

ADMISSION DETAILS

Year	Applications Received	Pupils Admitted
September 2017:	98 applications	68 pupils admitted
September 2018:	102 applications	68 pupils admitted
September 2019:	128 applications	72 pupils admitted
September 2020:	112 applications	72 pupils admitted



ATTENDANCE

Year	Saintfield High School Percentage	N. Ireland Average Percentage
2016-17	95.10%	91.80%
2017-18	95.10%	93.30%
2018-19	94.00%	Not Available
2019-20	93%	Not Available

“

My daughter is now in Year 9 and we are absolutely thrilled we chose Saintfield High School to educate and care for her. Saintfield High School is a caring and safe place for all students, and their attention to detail creates a happy environment for all who attend. They continue to work to each pupil's strengths and I have found their pastoral care to be one of the key elements, especially in the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mrs Hamilton, Parent, Year 9

”

I am in my final year at Saintfield High School, and it can be a little bit daunting thinking about what comes next. I know, though, that the school are doing all they can to help me and my classmates. Not only are our teachers pushing us to succeed in our GCSEs, but our weekly Careers programme, which includes regular interviews with our local Careers Advisor, have really helped me to plan for next year. I am confident that Saintfield High School has prepared me for whatever lies ahead in my future.



TAI CAMPBELL
Year 12

"At Saintfield High School we have lots and lots of lovely teachers who will help you if you need anything. All the subjects are so fun. If you are a bit nervous starting Saintfield High School you will be OK. It's a fantastic school. I love it here."

Emily Megarry

"So don't worry about changing school. The teachers here will look after you. Technology is my favourite subject, it is so fun. Miss Bicker is my Form Tutor. Miss Bicker teaches History, Geography and RE. she is my favourite teacher."

Philip Beck

"I like all the new subjects in school and all the new chances to make friends."

Harry Ramsay

"I have enjoyed my time so far and I hope it keeps on going. I have made new friends, new teachers and more subjects. This is the perfect school for me, the teachers support anything that is happening in your life. Everyone is so motivating. I made the right decision by moving to Saintfield High School."

Aidan Scarlett

'All the teachers and classroom assistants are helpful, funny and kind'

Ellie Brockbank

"I think Saintfield High School is a great school, I would highly recommend it to any P7's who are thinking of coming here. I really enjoy Science, Home Economics, Art and Technology. The teachers and classroom assistants are really nice and supportive and help when you need it. I was anxious starting, but now I've settled in, School is fun and friendly."

Lee Carlisle



**YEAR 8
PUPILS...**

**WHAT
SAINTFIELD
HIGH SCHOOL
MEANS TO ME...**

"When we do Technology I learn things that I can bring home to help my Dad with his building work."

Charlie Adams

"I remember my first day at Saintfield High School, I felt so excited. When I got to my classroom it was massive. At break and lunch I went outside and made some new friends and everyone was so nice. My favourite subjects are Art with Mrs Carter and Music with Mrs Birt. I think Saintfield High School is a great school and I hope you do too."

Erin Hillier

"The pupils are all very friendly. The teachers are nice. I made lots of new friends. My favourite subjects are Maths and Geography. I love playing football in the playground. I like all my new subjects. I love doing PE."

Adam Baird

"This school is really good fun, the teachers are so nice. When I first came here I was scared. The school seemed really big on the first day, I thought I would get lost, but now I love this school. It is amazing."

Emma-Lillie Kirpalani

"When there is a problem teachers do something about it, not just say no it's ok you'll be ok. The teachers and classroom assistants are really nice. All subjects are really good."

Alex Watson

"Moving schools is hard, I know but trust me all the teachers in Saintfield High School will welcome you here. They are all so kind, and will give you lots of fun activities to do! You will also make so many new friends. There is nothing to fear or worry about."

Susan Dalzell

"I am really enjoying Saintfield High School. I like the work and I like the teachers and how hard they work to keep us safe. I am enjoying this school more than any other school. I sometimes miss primary school but high school is on another level. I was nervous at the start but now I feel good and I know my journey at Saintfield High School will be awesome. There's always teachers to talk to if your hurt or upset. Never keep hurtful comments to yourself, you can tell a teacher such as Mrs Derby and anybody else because teachers will never tolerate bullying."

Korey Taggart

2021



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