



## Admissions Criteria for Admission into Sixth Form 2023-24

Where the school has places available within its enrolment number, pupils will be admitted into Year 13 on four levels as detailed below, beginning with Section A and progressing, according to availability of spaces, through Sections B, C & D, using the listed criteria in each section.

### (A) Pupils applying to study 3 or 4 AS & 3 A2 levels over two years in a combination of General and Applied A Level Courses:

1. Two GCSE grades at Grade B and three grades at Grade C, (or better), which must include both English and Mathematics. Grades achieved will yield the following points:

Grades	Points Awarded
A*	12
A	10
B	8
C	6
D	4
E	2
F	1

2. Good attendance record: 95%+ 6points; 92%+ 4 points; 90%+ 2 points

3. Evidence of commitment to studies - as indicated by school reports, references etc.

4. Pupils with evidence of extenuating personal circumstances eg evidence of illness, changes in family circumstances, conditions such as Autism, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, EFL, ADHD, pupils who have made outstanding progress, despite significant challenges, etc., may be given special consideration. (6 points).

Places will be allocated on the basis of the total points score, starting with the students gaining the highest score. Pupils from Dunclug College will be given first preference for places in this category, followed by pupils from other schools.

Students may elect to study an additional Enrichment course in Lower 6<sup>th</sup>.



If places are available following application of criteria in Section A, then criteria in Section B will be applied as follows:

**(B) Pupils applying to study 3 AS & 2 or 3 A2 levels over two years in a combination of General and Applied A Level Courses and one re-sit from English or Maths:**

1. Four GCSE grades at Grade C or better, which must include one of either English or Mathematics. Grades achieved will yield the following points:

Grades	Points Awarded
A*	12
A	10
B	8
C	6
D	4
E	2
F	1

2. Potential to successfully re-sit English or Mathematics, where not achieved at Grade C, and at the discretion of the school in the context of the student's overall GCSE performance. The school will consider previous performance, evidence from school reports, the interview with the pupil and relevant references, in making a decision to allow a pupil to re-sit English or Maths in addition to 3 AS and 3 A2 subjects. The placement will be monitored to ensure the pathway is appropriate for the individual pupil.

3. Good attendance record: 95%+ 6points; 92%+ 4 points; 90%+ 2 points

4. Pupils with evidence of extenuating personal circumstances eg evidence of illness, changes in family circumstances, conditions such as Autism, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, EFL, ADHD, pupils who have made outstanding progress, despite significant challenges, etc., may be given special consideration. (6 points).

Places will be allocated on the basis of the total points score, starting with the students gaining the highest score. Pupils from Dunclug College will be given first preference for places in this category, followed by pupils from other schools.

Students may elect to study an additional Enrichment course in Lower 6<sup>th</sup>.



If places are available following application of criteria in Sections A & B, then criteria in Section C will be applied as follows:

**(C) Pupils applying to study 2 AS levels and 2 A Levels over two years in a combination of General and Applied A level courses plus re-sits in English or Mathematics**

1. Four GCSE grades at grade C or better (or acceptable equivalent) – which does not include English or Mathematics. Grades achieved will yield the following points:

Grades	Points Awarded
A*	12
A	10
B	8
C	6
D	4
E	2
F	1

22. Potential to successfully re-sit GCSE English **and** Mathematics, where not achieved at Grade C, and at the discretion of the school in the context of the student's overall GCSE performance. The school will consider previous performance, evidence from school reports, the interview with the pupil and relevant references, in making a decision to allow a pupil to re-sit GCSE English and Maths in addition to 2 AS and 2 A2 subjects. The placement will be monitored to ensure the pathway is appropriate for the individual pupil.

3. Good attendance record: 95%+ 6points; 92%+ 4 points; 90%+ 2 points.

4. Pupils with evidence of extenuating personal circumstances eg evidence of illness, changes in family circumstances, conditions such as Autism, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, EFL, ADHD, pupils who have made outstanding progress, despite significant challenges, etc., may be given special consideration. (6 points).

Places will be allocated on the basis of the total points score, starting with the students gaining the highest score. Pupils from Dunclug College will be given first preference for places in this category, followed by pupils from other schools.

Students may elect an additional Enrichment course in Lower 6<sup>th</sup>.



**(D) Post 16 Foundation Year (1 Year): Pupils applying to do re-sits in English and/or Maths alongside other Level 2 or a single Level 3 Qualification and/or a Link with a Work Placement. Pupils may study an additional Enrichment.**

This strand would suit pupils who require a horizontal pathway for a transition year.

**Where applications exceed the number of places available, the school will make the following considerations before application to the Department of Education for additional places:**

**(E) Application for Additional Places**

(a) The ability of the school to deliver a range and quality of A Level subjects, leading to specific, appropriately guided and enabled pathways for students at university and in the world of work.

(b) The quality of provision in the college of appropriate careers' education, information, advice & guidance.

(c) The capacity in the classes of the subjects being delivered.

(d) The expertise of staffing to deliver the programmes demanded by students.

(e) The suitability of school accommodation – to deliver the A Level subjects, a range of appropriate enrichments, and to provide suitable study and social facilities for Sixth Form students.

(f) The extent to which the Entitlement Framework is being fulfilled and has the potential to be fulfilled within the college – in terms of the range of subjects on offer, the numbers of pupils accessing A Level and the numbers of pupils applying for individual subjects.

(g) The extent to which the A Level provision within the school is unique in the Ballymena area and within the Ballymena Learning Community and the extent to which the school has demonstrated its commitment to playing its part in collaboration within the Learning Community.

(h) The potential, or difficulty, for students applying to the college to access their chosen subjects elsewhere eg at other local schools, at the local FE college and at other schools or colleges to which the potential students might have reasonable access.

(i) The proven ability of the college to deliver success for its students – in aiming to ensure approaching one third of its Sixth Form intake achieves 3 A Levels at Grades A – C and 100% of its Sixth Form intake achieves 2 A Levels at Grades A – E, and the extent to which pupils achieve university placement and successful employment.

In view of the above factors being in place, the school shall apply for extra places.



# DUNCLUG COLLEGE

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## **Dunclug College Criteria for any extra places made available by the Department of Education for admission into Year 13 (Sixth Form)**

The Department of Education may, on request, increase the number of pupils that the school can admit to its Year 13. Places that become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the basic eligibility criteria for sixth form study (as above) and shall be allocated in the order determined by the criteria to be applied in the order set down.

1. Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in Dunclug College
2. Pupils from other schools, where admission to an extra place at Dunclug College has been agreed by the Department of Education. \*

\*Parents should note how the Department of Education will, in response to a school's request, increase the school's admission number in order to allow an extra post-16 pupils to enrol. DE will first check whether there is another school or schools of a type suitable for that pupil within an hour's journey of where the pupil lives. If there is, DE will then check whether this other school or schools may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue. If these checks find that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue – then DE will agree a school's request for an extra place.

N Oliver  
***Principal***