



# Admissions Policy

St Andrew's College was founded in 1894 by the Presbyterian Community of Dublin. Today, it is a flourishing, multid denominational, co-educational school whose philosophy and objectives are based upon the liberal, inclusive and principled ethos inherited from its founders. Admission to the College is subject to criteria which reflect this philosophy and maintain the distinctive character of the school.

Our admissions policy endeavours to support a broadly-based, co-educational environment, undertakes, in so far as is practicable, to educate boys and girls from the same family together, strives to preserve an inter-denominational and international mix in its student body, recognises the valuable contribution made by past pupils, and reserves the right to decide upon special cases which may arise from time to time.

## **TRANSITION YEAR**

The College provides a six-year cycle of secondary education. Transition is a compulsory year within this cycle. Students automatically transfer from the Junior Cycle to Transition Year.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS**

The College welcomes applications from parents/guardians of candidates with special educational needs, unless the nature and degree of those needs is such that to enrol the student would be inconsistent with the effective provision of education for the student concerned and/or the other students with whom he/she is to be educated.

## **RIGHT TO REFUSE ENROLMENT**

The College reserves the right, in exceptional circumstances, to refuse to enrol an applicant who has accepted an offer of a place in the school. Such an exceptional case could arise where either:

- the candidate has special needs such that, even with additional resources available from the Department of Education and Skills, the school cannot meet the candidate's particular needs or provide him/her with an appropriate education.
- or*
- in the opinion of the Board of Management, the candidate would pose an unacceptable risk to other students, to the school staff or to school property.

Any refusal to enrol an applicant will be in accordance with Section 15(2)(d) of the Education Act 1998.

## **RIGHT TO APPEAL**

Where an application for enrolment is declined, parents/guardians may appeal that decision to the Board of Management. Parents/guardians may request the right to present their appeal to the Board (section 28 Education Act 1998). If the Board upholds the decision the parents/guardians will be advised that there is a right of appeal to the Secretary General of the Department of Education and Science under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998

St Andrew's College

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*The document entitled 'Statement of Philosophy and Objectives – January 2004' available at [www.st-andrews.ie](http://www.st-andrews.ie) under 'Policy Documents' should be read in conjunction with this policy.*

*In making decisions about the admission of applicants, St Andrew's College will have regard for any relevant Department of Education and Skills provisions in relation to eligible age, class size, staffing provisions and/or any other requirements concerning accommodation, such as physical space, the health and welfare of students and any other consideration.*