MID DOWN INTEGRATED COLLEGE
12 Old Belfast Road
Downpatrick,
BT30 6SG (Temporary site)
Telephone No: 028 4461 2115
Email: info@blackwateric.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk (until 31st Aug 2027)
Website: www.middownic.co.uk
Chair of Interim Board of Governors: Mr Neil McGrath

Grant Maintained Integrated College

Age Range: 11-18

Admissions Number: 100

Enrolment Number: 365

FURTHER INFORMATION

Open Night for prospective students is on Tuesday 12th January 2027 from 6.30 – 9.00pm

It is possible to arrange 1-1 meetings with the Principal during the months of December '26 and January '27 Please call on 02844612115 for more information and to make an appointment.

Further information regarding the College is available on our website www.middownic.co.uk

Mid Down Integrated College is a new non-selective, co-educational, grant-maintained integrated post-primary school established following the approval of Development Proposal DP667 by the Department of Education that will open in September 2027. The College will provide integrated education for pupils aged 11-18 and will soon have an approved enrolment number of 600 pupils and an admissions number of 100 pupils. The school has been established to enhance integrated post-primary provision in the Mid Down area and will build upon the ethos and traditions of Blackwater Integrated College while providing expanded educational opportunities. The aim is to foster a happy, caring environment that equips young people for a creative, fulfilling life in a shared society and beyond.

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

The Interim Board of Governors draws up the admissions criteria and delegates to the Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference herein to the term the Interim Board of Governors includes any Committee or Sub-Committee appointed by the Interim Board of Governors for the purposes of applying the admissions criteria set out herein.

ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8 2027/2028

The application procedure opens on 27 January 2027 at 12 noon (GMT). Applications must be submitted by the closing date of 3 March 2027 at 12 noon (GMT). After 12 noon on 3 March 2027, applicants cannot apply until after the close of procedure on 8 May 2027.

The legal responsibilities under which the Board of Governors in the integrated sector have operated, were derived from the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989. The Board of Governors of Mid Down Integrated College also acknowledge the introduction of the new Integrated Education Act 2022. Our aim is to achieve as even a balance as possible in the intake with regard to religious denomination, gender and academic ability. The College will reserve a maximum of 20% of places for students from 'other traditions'. 'Other traditions', for the purposes of these Admissions Criteria, is defined as tradition other than the Catholic or Protestant traditions. The criteria as set out below will first be applied to members of "other traditions"; the additional places will be allocated to the main tradition having the lesser number of applicants. The criteria set out below will be applied separately to Protestant and Roman Catholic applicants. In the event of there being fewer applicants from either tradition than there are places available for that tradition, the balance of places will be firstly available to the "other traditions" and secondly to the remaining tradition.

When considering how the admissions criteria will be applied, the Interim Board of Governors will take into account information supplied on the Transfer Application. The Interim Board of Governors reserves the right to request such supplementary evidence as it may require in order to support or verify information on any applicant's Transfer Application. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the College's admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Application or attached/uploaded to it.

In the event of there being more applications than places available, pupils will be selected for admission by applying the following criteria in the order set out below:

1. Children who have a brother or sister currently attending Blackwater Integrated College at the date of application. For the purposes of these criteria, brother or sister includes a child living in the same household who is:

   · a full sibling;
   · a half-sibling;
   · a step-sibling;
   · an adopted sibling; or
   · a foster sibling.

2. Applicants who are the first child in the family to transfer from primary education or, in the case of a family recently arrived in the area, the first to reach transfer age since arrival.
3. Applicants who are transferring from a controlled integrated or a grant-maintained integrated primary school, as defined in the Education Reform Order (NI) 1989.
4. If following the application of the above criteria in order there comes a point where there are more pupils who meet a particular criterion than there are places then selection will be on the basis of initial letter of the surname in the order set out below:

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

   The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters and will be changed each year.

   In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames, the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used. If these remain identical a random computer process will be used to determine selection.

The religious affiliation of an applicant will be determined by reference to the following in the order given:

1) Information supplied on the Transfer Application.
2) The type of primary school which the pupil attended (i.e. controlled or maintained) will be used to determine the religious affiliation.
3) In the case of students transferring from an integrated primary school or the preparatory department of a voluntary grammar school, the school may be asked to supply such information as it can concerning the religious affiliation of the applicant.

Duty to Verify

The Interim Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on the Transfer Application.

Applicants should note that 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.

Waiting List Policy

The criteria relating to the initial admission of students into Year 8 before the commencement of the 2027 academic year will also be used for entry into Year 8 should admission become possible after the commencement of the 2027 academic year.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8*

Year	Admissions Number	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2026/27	n/a	n/a	n/a

As this is the first year of Mid Down Integrated College data is not available for previous admissions.

Admission Criteria for Entry to Years 9 -12

Pupils will be considered for enrolment provided that:

1. Their admission will not cause the school to exceed its enrolment number;
2. Their admission will not cause the year group to exceed the admissions number set for it, at their time of entry.
3. In the opinion of the Board of Governors, their admission would not prejudice the efficient use of the school's resources.

Applications for admission during the school year will be considered as soon as possible after the application is received.