

# **GLA Entrance Assessment Statement of Results**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

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### 1. Who set and marked the Entrance Assessment?

The Entrance Assessment was set and marked by GL Assessment (GLA).

### 2. Who is GL Assessment?

Originally founded by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), with whom they continue to work today, GL Assessment has been part of the Granada Learning Group since 2000. Renowned for their rigour and high quality, GL Assessment tests are used every year by over 85% of all UK and N.Ireland primary and post primary schools. You may be familiar with your child taking the Progress in English or Progress in Mathematics assessments in primary school which are GL Assessment products.

GL Assessment is the largest independent provider of educational assessments in the UK and N.Ireland. With over thirty years of experience in this field, GL Assessment enjoys an established, trusted reputation for high-quality assessment resources and services.

### 3. What results have I received for my child?

- **Raw Score**

You have been given the Raw Score for both the English assessment and the Mathematics assessment and this is the number of correct answers in each assessment. The maximum Raw Score for English is 65 and the maximum score for Mathematics is 45.

- **Standardised Age Score (SAS)**

You have been given the Standardised Age Score for the English and Mathematics assessments. The Standardised Age Score is calculated from the Raw Score of the assessment taking account of your child's age when he/she took the assessment. The SAS gives an indication of how your child has performed in the Entrance Assessment compared to other children within the same age group in the UK.

The Standardised Age Score is given as a number between 69 and 141 and the average score is 100. As well as the SAS for English and Mathematics, you have received the combined SAS for both assessments. You will be familiar with the scores from standardised tests used in your child's primary school, e.g. InCAS results, which also use this scale.

- **Cohort Percentile**

This is a score which will only be used by Campbell College, Victoria College Belfast and Wellington College, it ranges from 1 to 99+ and you should refer to the Admissions Criteria published by these schools. If you wish to apply for a place for your child at any of these schools, the Cohort Percentile must be recorded in Section C of the Transfer Form.

- **Grade**

A grade has been provided, A, B1, B2, C1, C2 or D. This grade has been assigned to your child on the basis of his/her combined Standard Age Score and in line with the guidance provided to CCEA by the Department of Education for the allocation of grades for their previous Transfer Tests.

### 4. Which of these results will the schools use?

All schools using academic criteria as part of their admissions procedures have published their admissions criteria and these can be found in the booklet you have received from your Education & Library Board. The table given with Q.12 shows the results which each of these schools will use in applying their admissions criteria.

### 5. How was the grade assigned to my child?

The Raw Scores were converted into Standardised Age Scores which were combined before assigning the grades using the following grade boundaries:

Grades	A	B1	B2	C1	C2	D
Boundary*	234	229	224	219	213	138

\*The boundary is the minimum combined SAS that a child must achieve to be allocated each grade

### 6. Did the age of my child affect his/her results?

An age allowance operates within the scoring of the assessment and it is one of the reasons why GL Assessment will report the results as Standardised Age Scores on which the grades are based. In calculating the Standardised Age Score, the age of your child in years and months when he/she took the test was taken into account but no child loses marks because of his/her age.

**7. Does where my child took his/her Entrance Assessment affect the school I want him/her to attend?**

No. The assessment and admission processes are entirely separate. If your child took the Entrance Assessment in any of the Assessment Centres listed at the end of this document, you may apply for a place in any of these schools irrespective of where your child has taken the Entrance Assessment. All of these schools have agreed to accept results of children who take the GLA Entrance Assessment regardless of the centre where they have taken the assessment.

**8. Can I have my child's assessments re-marked?**

Yes. If you decide to request a re-mark, please contact any Assessment Centre to obtain **Form RM1**. Please complete this form and return it to the centre where your child took the assessment. You can apply for a re-mark of your child's Entrance Assessment up to **4-00 pm on Wednesday 15th February 2012**. The Assessment Centre will send your request to GL Assessment and will aim to have the results of the re-mark in the post to you in the week commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2012. There is no cost involved. **Please note that the result of a re-mark is final whether the score and/or grade is increased or decreased.**

**9. Can I have access to my child's Entrance Assessment papers?**

No. The assessment papers belong to GL Assessment and they are no longer available to the schools. Schedule 7 paragraph 9 of the Data Protection Act 1998 provides an exemption in respect of access of examination scripts.

**10. What do I do now to apply for a place in the post-primary school of my choice?**

You will complete the Transfer Form at a meeting with the Principal of your child's primary school. This form allows you to list the post-primary schools of your choice in order of preference and to send the results of your child's Entrance Assessment to these schools. **Your child's results slip must be attached to this form.**

**11. How will the schools know the results my child achieved in the Entrance Assessment?**

When you will meet with the Principal of your child's primary school to complete the Transfer Form before it is sent to your Education & Library Board, you should record your child's results in Section C of the Transfer Form and attach one copy of the GLA Entrance Assessment results slip to the form to verify the results before you sign the Transfer Form. In Section C of the Transfer Form, you should record the Combined SAS, the Grade and the Cohort Percentile as provided on the GLA results slip.

**It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that the GLA Entrance Assessment results are recorded in Section C and the results slip is attached to the Transfer Form before it is sent to the local Education & Library Board.**

**12. What grade or score will my child need to be admitted in the school of my choice?**

In its prospectus, each school has published the number of children who applied and were admitted over the last three years and the grades they had achieved. You will see that the grades required for admission change from year to year but this information can be used as a rough guide to the grade your child might need to gain a place in the schools of your choice. If you have any queries, you should contact any of the schools you have listed on your child's Transfer Form.

**13. Which schools are using the GLA Entrance Assessment results?**

Every school has published its own admissions criteria and these are available from the school or in the booklet provided to you by the Education & Library Board. 36 schools are using the results from the GLA Entrance Assessment and they are listed in the table below.

Some of these schools are using the grades and others are using the Standardised Age Scores to make decisions on admission. Campbell College, Victoria College Belfast and Wellington College will be using the Cohort Percentile. The table below gives contact details for the schools using the GLA Entrance Assessment as part of their admissions procedures:

			Grade	Score
Aquinas Grammar School	Ravenhill Road Belfast BT6 0BY	www.aquinasgrammar.com	✓	
Assumption Grammar School	24 Belfast Road Ballynahinch BT24 8EA	www.assumptiongrammar.org.uk	✓	
Ballymena Academy	Galgorm Road Ballymena BT42 1AJ	www.ballymenaacademy.org.uk		✓
Campbell College	Belmont Road Belfast BT4 2ND	www.campbellcollege.co.uk		Cohort Percentile
Christian Brothers' Grammar School	Kevlin Road Omagh BT78 1LD	www.omaghCBS.org	✓	

			Grade	Score
Christian Brothers' Abbey Grammar School	77A Ashgrove Road, Newry BT34 1QN	www.abbeycbs.org	✓	
Dominican College Belfast	Fortwilliam Park Belfast BT15 4AQ	www.dominicancollege.org.uk	✓	
Dominican College Portstewart	2 Strand Road Portstewart BT55 7PF	www.dominican-portstewart.org.uk	✓	
Lagan College	44 Manse Road Belfast BT8 6SA	www.lagancollege.com	✓	
Loreto College Coleraine	Castlerock Road Coleraine BT51 3JZ	www.loretocollege.org.uk		✓
Loreto Grammar School Omagh	James' Street Omagh BT78 1DL	www.loretogs.com		✓
Lumen Christi College	Bishop Street Derry BT48 6UJ	www.lumenchristicollege.co.uk		✓
Mount Lourdes Grammar School	Belmore Street Enniskillen BT74 6AB	www.mountlourdes.com	✓	
Our Lady and St Patrick's College Knock	Kingsway Gardens Belfast BT5 7DQ	www.knock.co.uk	✓	
Our Lady's Grammar School	Chequer Hill Newry BT35 6DY	www.ourladysgrammar.org.uk	✓	
Portora Royal School	Derrygonnelly Road Enniskillen BT74 7HA	www.portoraroyal.co.uk		✓
Rainey Endowed	79 Rainey Street Magherafelt BT45 5DB	www.raineyendowed.com		✓
Rathmore Grammar School	Kingsway Finaghy Belfast BT10 0LF	www.rathmoregrammarschool.org	✓	
Sacred Heart Grammar School	10 Ashgrove Avenue Newry BT34 1PR	www.shsnewry.com	✓	
Slemish College	147a Larne Road Ballymena BT42 3HA	www.slemishcollege.org.uk	✓	
St Colman's College	Violet Hill 46 Armagh Road Newry BT35 6PP	www.stcolmans.org.uk	✓	
St Columb's College	Buncrana Road Derry BT48 8NH	www.stcolumbs.com/joomla	✓	
St. Dominic's High School	135-137 Falls Road Belfast BT12 6AE	www.stdominics.org.uk	✓	
St Joseph's Grammar School	58 Castlecaulfield Road Donaghmore BT70 3HE	www.stjosephs.donaghmore.ni.sch.uk	✓	
St Louis Grammar School Ballymena	Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DW	www.stlouisgrammar.com		✓
St Louis Grammar School Kilkeel	151 Newry Road Kilkeel BT34 4EU	www.stlouis.org.uk	✓	
St Malachy's College	36 Antrim Road Belfast BT15 2AE	www.stmalachyscollege.com	✓	
St Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School	147a Glen Road Belfast BT11 8NR	www.stmaryscbgs.com	✓	
St Mary's Grammar School Magherafelt	3 Castledawson Road Magherafelt BT45 6AX	www.stmarysmagherafelt.com		✓
St Michael's College Enniskillen	Chanterhill Road Enniskillen BT74 6DE	www.saintmichaels.org.uk	✓	
St Patrick's Academy Dungannon	35 Killymeal Road Dungannon BT71 6DF	www.stpatricksacademy.org.uk	✓	
St Patrick's Grammar School Armagh	Cathedral Road Armagh BT61 7QZ	www.stpatricksarmagh.org	✓	
St Patrick's Grammar School Downpatrick	Saul Street Downpatrick BT30 6NJ	www.stpatricksdownpatrick.org.uk	✓	
Thornhill College	Culmore Road Derry BT48 8JF	www.thornhillcollege.org.uk	✓	
Victoria College	Cranmore Park Belfast BT9 6JA	www.victoriacollege.org.uk		Cohort Percentile
Wellington College Belfast	18 Carolan Road Belfast BT7 3HE	www.wellingtoncollegebelfast.org		Cohort Percentile