

# FRIENDS' SCHOOL LISBURN PROSPECTUS 2023

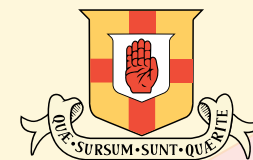
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# Welcome to Friends' School Lisburn



**Thank you for your interest in Friends' School. We hope you enjoy reading our prospectus and finding out more about our school. We also hope you will have the opportunity to visit us and to speak to pupils and staff here.**



## **Stephen Moore**

Principal  
Friends' School Lisburn

This is a very exciting time in our history, as we will be celebrating our 250th anniversary in 2024-25. It's hard to believe that school has been here for almost a quarter of a millennium, but when we look back over the years, we can see just how much there is to celebrate.

Friends' owes much of its distinctive character and values to its foundation in 1774 by the Religious Society of Friends. It is the only Quaker school in Northern Ireland and occupies a unique space in the educational landscape here, welcoming pupils from all backgrounds, and cherishing and valuing the unique contribution of each individual.

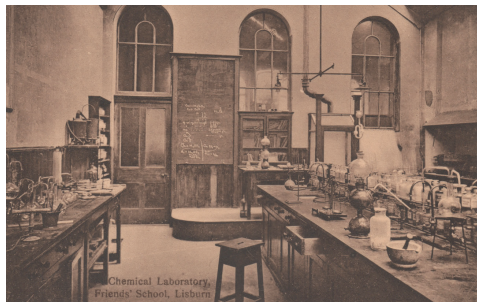
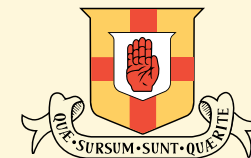
The school is set in mature and extensive grounds and, as well as having a rich history, it also enjoys modern facilities. We want our pupils to embrace the best of the old and the new so that they can benefit from what they have inherited and enjoy fresh opportunities in the future.

We want them to grow and flourish personally and intellectually in a supportive and stimulating environment. We also want them to value themselves and others, and to develop a deep-rooted sense of service that will enrich the communities in which they live.

While we want our pupils to be successful, we want them to go beyond that and develop the values and a love of learning that will allow them not only to achieve their potential but also to lead fulfilling lives. We also encourage them to be outward looking and, as active members of our school community, to participate in the wide range of opportunities available to them.

**Stephen Moore, Principal**

# History



**Formerly known as the Ulster Provincial School, Friends' derives its current name from the Religious Society of Friends, who founded the school in 1774 as a boarding school for thirty boys and girls. One of the oldest Quaker schools in the world, it enjoys close links with the other eight Quaker Schools in Britain and Ireland, as well as with other Friends' Schools further afield, including Brummana High School in Lebanon.**

The Chair of the Board of Governors and the Principal report to the Ulster Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. The Board of Governors includes ten representatives of Ulster Friends, who work alongside four nominees from the Department of Education, two elected parent governors and two elected teacher governors.



The school still stands on the site on Prospect Hill it has occupied since its foundation and welcomes pupils from the whole community in Lisburn and the surrounding area. Our oldest building, Middle House, dates from 1880, and was refurbished in 2015. Recent development has transformed the school estate: two sand-dressed, floodlit hockey pitches were installed in 2013 and, in 2016, we opened a new Maths and Music block. We are delighted to have been awarded funding by the Department of Education which will allow us to embark on a substantial building project over the next few years.



20 ACRES OF LAND  
BOUGHT FOR £1000  
IN 1764

"SEEK THE THINGS  
WHICH ARE ABOVE"  
OUR SCHOOL MOTTO

JOHN GOUGH  
OUR FIRST  
HEADMASTER



**Our values are drawn from our Quaker heritage and are still relevant today.**

Friends' is a school in which each individual is valued as of equal standing before God, and in which a sense of social awareness is encouraged through service to others. Our aim is to provide an environment in which pupils, staff and parents are committed to the idea of excellence within a caring, supportive community.

**We seek:**

- to enable all pupils to develop their academic potential and interests to the fullest extent;
- to provide a broad and balanced curriculum relevant to the needs of our pupils;
- to foster the self-esteem of pupils and staff;
- to encourage the moral and spiritual development of our pupils;
- to establish a partnership between the school, the parents and the local community;
- to prepare pupils for adult life.

Our motto, drawn from the New Testament book of Colossians, is ***Quae sursum sunt quaerite***, or 'seek those things that are above'.

# Values & Aims



# ASPIRE

Our values underpin everything we do in school and are encapsulated in the word **ASPIRE**, which stands for **Adventure, Sustainability, Peace, Integrity, Respect and Equality**. These are values we seek to model in our everyday lives and which we want each of our pupils to nurture.

**We aspire to live adventurously**, to take risks in our learning and grasp the opportunities available to us to explore the world around us.

**We aspire to live sustainably**, to make good use of our resources and reduce our impact on the environment.

**We aspire to live at peace with ourselves and others**, to nurture our wellbeing and to resolve conflict where we see it.

**We aspire to live with integrity**, to be honest in our dealings with others and to be true to our values.

**We aspire to show respect to ourselves and others**, to nurture our talents and to build our school community.

**We aspire to promote equality**, to value everyone for who they are and to celebrate the contribution they make.





# A School Connected to its Community

**In keeping with our Quaker ethos, we encourage pupils to devote time to the service of others, using their talents to make a positive contribution to the local and wider community, both during their time at Friends' and once they have left school. We encourage them to be involved without seeking anything in return, although we know that these experiences are enormously enriching for them.**



We value our links with the Quaker Service, which works closely with families in disadvantaged areas of north and west Belfast and the whole school takes part in the annual collection for Christmas hampers for the families with whom the charity is involved. Our Charity Committee raises awareness for a number of organisations through assemblies and organises events and non-uniform days. Over the past year, they have supported Jeans4Genes, Made for More, Emerge, Cash for Kids, Save the Children, Children in Need and our sister school in Brummana.

Through our General Studies programme, some of our Sixth Formers volunteer in primary schools and local charities, including food banks in the Lisburn area.



# Pastoral Care



**Excellent pastoral care at Friends' creates the conditions in which pupils can thrive and make the most of the opportunities afforded to them, both in the classroom and beyond.**

Our caring and supportive community is built on positive relationships and all members of staff work with pupils to support them in their learning and in their personal development. We encourage pupils to have high expectations of themselves in all areas of school life: in their conduct, in their engagement with others, in their academic subjects and in extra-curricular activities.

Year Teachers, supported by Heads of School for each Key Stage, work with a team of Collect Teachers – our term for Form Tutors – and, as far as possible, there is continuity of care from Year 8 to Year 14. Collect Teachers meet with their classes every morning to monitor pupils' attendance, progress and welfare, and to develop strong and positive relationships.

Assemblies promote a sense of community and allow us to celebrate achievement. Led by staff and pupils, they encourage engagement with a range of moral, spiritual, social and personal issues. At their conclusion, a short period of silence is observed, which allows space for reflection at the start of a busy day.

Our Designated Teacher takes responsibility for all Safeguarding issues, and our Safeguarding Policy acknowledges the duty of care of each member of staff towards each young person at Friends'. A qualified nurse works during school hours to provide medical care for those who require it, and appointments can be arranged on a weekly basis with a counsellor from an external agency who provides support on a range of issues.





## Special Educational Needs

In accordance with SEND legislation, our aim is to take all reasonable steps to identify and provide for pupils and ensure that we meet their needs. All pupils have access to the full curriculum, and Personalised Learning Plans are drawn up to support those with Special Educational Needs. These are monitored and evaluated by a trained SENCO, in consultation with parents and members of staff, and shared with all those involved in each individual's education. Pupils participate in decisions regarding their SEN, including at the annual review of their statement.

Once a picture of need has been established, reasonable adjustments are made in classroom practice and assessments to take account of additional needs for pupils. There is a programme of Learning Support for those who require assistance in individual subject areas.



## Mentoring

We provide training for Sixth Formers so that they can take on responsibilities as pastoral and academic mentors to younger pupils. This helps to create a school community in which pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for each other: experiences can be shared and senior pupils can gain practical experience of working with others, developing their own self-confidence and interpersonal skills.

Three mentors are assigned to each Year 8 Collect group. They assist with the induction programme, working alongside the Collect Teachers and the Head of Year and getting to know the pupils individually. Mentors will also provide an additional layer of support for those in Year 9.



## House System

The House System brings together pupils from across all year groups in a series of activities and assemblies. Each pupil is allocated to one of the four Houses: Aughrim, Collin, Croob and Divis, all named after hills in the area. To allow family links to be established, pupils are generally allocated to the same Houses as brothers and sisters.

House Leaders are members of staff who work closely with the senior pupils appointed as House Captains to organise assemblies and events. House Assemblies promote a sense of belonging and foster good relationships across the year groups. There is an annual competition for the Inter-House Shield, drawing together points awarded for House competitions which include music, sport, quizzes and charity collections.

# School Curriculum



**Learning and teaching are at the heart of everything we do at Friends'. We want to ensure that all of our pupils are secure in what they know, challenged in their thinking, and equipped to extend their understanding in each subject. We expect everyone at Friends' to be committed to their learning and to work hard, knowing that this will bring rewards and will enable them to fulfil their potential.**

Our aim is to provide a curriculum that gives everyone a rich learning experience and lays the foundations for future study. We take a research-informed approach to learning and teaching: all teachers at Friends' take part in an ongoing programme of professional learning which has a clear focus on exploring how pupils learn, and how we can optimise classroom practice.

Over the last three years, we have developed our IT provision in school, using Google Classroom and Google Meet to provide opportunities for pupils to engage in further learning at home. The majority of our classrooms are equipped with Clevertouch boards and technology is used not only to support learning but to enhance pupils' experience in lessons.

## Year 8

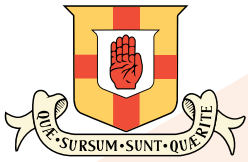
We want to enable our new pupils to make a successful transition from primary school and settle into Friends' as quickly as possible.

In June each year, we hold an Induction Evening for our new Year 8 intake and their parents, which allows pupils to meet others in their Collect and find out more about Friends'. The PTA also organises activities for our new pupils to enable them to get to know each other outside the classroom.



At the start of the Autumn term, Year 8 pupils have a half day on their own, before those from other year groups return to school. This allows them to meet up again with others in their Collect, and to spend time with their Collect Teacher, Year Teacher and Sixth Form Mentors. In late September, we organise an activity day which allows pupils to learn and build friendships in a different setting.

We value links with our local primary schools and have undertaken work over a number of years to give us a better understanding of the learning and pastoral needs of pupils as they transfer from primary school. At the beginning of Year 8, all pupils sit a MIDYIS test, which allows us to identify learning strengths and to provide additional support and challenge as appropriate.



## Key Stage 3

Years 8 - 10

**Pupils in Years 8, 9 and 10 follow a broad common curriculum, developing knowledge and skills across a wide range of subjects. Teaching is focused on encouraging pupils to enjoy learning and to be curious to find out more.**

In Year 8, pupils have lessons in Art & Design, English, French, Geography, History, Home Economics, Information Technology, Junior Science, Mathematics, Music, Religious Education, Physical Education and Technology and Design. There are also classes in Learning for Life and Work, incorporating Citizenship, Employability and Personal Development.

In Years 9 and 10, pupils take on either German or Spanish, and Junior Science is divided into separate classes for Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Across all subjects, pupils are given opportunities to stretch themselves through participation in competitions for individuals and teams. Visits to school from local artists, writers and musicians help to inspire pupils' enjoyment of the Arts. Junior Programming and Robotics clubs give pupils further opportunities to develop their computing and IT skills.



# Key Stage 4

Years 11 and 12

**At Key Stage 4, pupils generally take ten GCSE subjects from a wide range of options. There is a clear academic focus, with everyone following a common core which offers a broad education and the best possible preparation for future study. All pupils take English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science (one, two or three of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, or Double Award Science), at least one Modern Language (from French, German and Spanish) and Religious Studies.**

Pupils choose the remainder of their subjects from Art & Design, Business Studies, Digital Technology, Economics, Food & Nutrition, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, Music, Physical Education and Technology & Design.



In addition to their GCSE subjects, all pupils are timetabled for Physical Education, Games and Learning for Life and Work.

At Key Stage 4, pupils' learning continues to be enriched by fieldwork, links with industry, visits from outside agencies and attendance at subject-specific workshops and conferences. Pupils are also encouraged to improve their language skills through Exchange or Home Stay visits to France, Germany and Spain.





**The Sixth Form gives pupils the opportunity to pursue their main academic interests and to deepen their understanding and knowledge by taking A-level qualifications in the three or four subjects they most enjoy.**

Pupils choose their AS and A-level subjects from a broad range of options: Art & Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, German, Government & Politics, Health and Social Care, History, Mathematics and Further Mathematics, Moving Image Arts, Music, Nutrition & Food Science, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Studies, Software Systems Development, Spanish, and Technology & Design.

Pupils have many opportunities to extend their subject knowledge through activities beyond the classroom, and are encouraged to stretch themselves by entering competitions, such as the UK Maths Challenge, the Juvenes Translatores competition, Sentinus, the Chemistry Olympiad and the Bebras Computational Challenge.



## Sixth Form

### Years 13 and 14

Pupils also have the opportunity to widen their interests through a General Studies programme facilitated by parents, staff and the local community. They also benefit from taking on responsibility in clubs and societies, including the Mental Health Action Group, Advocacy Group and the Charity Committee. All of our Year 14 pupils are invited to become prefects and they play an invaluable role in giving leadership to others and in welcoming visitors at functions and events.

### Academic Success

Pupils from Friends' have an excellent record of success in examinations, and over the years, many have achieved top places in CCEA's GCSE and A-level exams. The school has twice been named the Sunday Times Northern Ireland Secondary School of the Year, first in 2011 and then again in 2018. As well as taking into account results at A-level and GCSE, the awards reflect extra-curricular provision and other aspects of school life.

# Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG)



**CEIAG is delivered at all Key Stages. Its aim is to allow pupils to explore their interests, aptitudes and strengths, and to enable them to find out about the opportunities they will have when they leave Friends'.**

The Careers Department plays an important role in personal career planning at key transition points: at the end of Key Stage 3, when pupils make their GCSE choices; at the end of Key Stage 4, when A-level choices are made; and in the Sixth Form, when pupils consider options for when they leave school.

In Year 13, pupils generally plan and undertake a week of work experience. Most take up placements locally, although pupils have also completed placements outside Northern Ireland, including at Westminster, the European Parliament and with the Quaker Council for European Affairs in Brussels. We also encourage pupils to avail of online work-shadowing opportunities which can allow them to explore a number of different career pathways.

The majority of our pupils embark on a degree course when they leave Friends', and pupils are offered individually tailored guidance on university applications throughout their time in the Sixth Form. We encourage pupils to be ambitious in their choices and, each year, pupils from Friends' gain places on competitive courses, including Medicine, and at Oxford and Cambridge.

Our links with the local community are very important and we value the contribution of outside specialists and parents who offer each of our Year 14 pupils a formal interview in November.





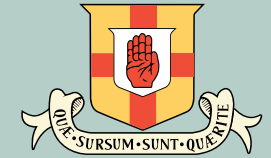
# A Sense of Community

As well as achieving a high standard in what they do, pupils derive enormous enjoyment from their involvement in the life of the school. At Friends' there is a real sense of community: we encourage pupils to adopt a cheerful and adventurous attitude to life and the videos we have made over the past number of years attempt to capture something of that spirit. These can be viewed on our YouTube channel, and include our 2019 Glow Run, a Colour Run and the original Lipdub.

Our website, Instagram page, Twitter feed (@FSLnews) and a monthly newsletter allow us to keep parents, pupils and Old Scholars informed about what is happening in the busy life of our school community.



# Sport



**Sport is an important part of every young person's development, as it fosters teamwork and enjoyment of a healthy lifestyle.**

We are also currently drawing up plans to enhance our grounds so that pupils can stay active and enjoy their surroundings and, in doing so, look after their physical and mental well-being.

Pupils at Friends' benefit from a range of opportunities and can enjoy activities at both a recreational and competitive level. Participation levels are high and we aim to enthuse every pupil in school, regardless of individual talents and skills. We have an excellent on-site sports complex, incorporating three rugby pitches, two cricket pitches, five tennis courts and two state-of-the-art, floodlit 3-G hockey pitches. Our indoor facilities are also of a high standard, with a gymnasium, purpose-built Sports Hall and fitness suite.

Regardless of prior experience, all Year 8 pupils are encouraged to attend hockey, rugby and netball on Saturday mornings during the first term so that they can get to know each other and enjoy being involved in physical activity. Many go on to represent school on one of the many teams in their year group.







Teams are entered for schools' competitions in athletics, badminton, cross country, hockey, netball, rugby, show jumping, swimming and tennis. In addition to these sports, pupils are offered the opportunity to enjoy basketball, dance, gymnastics and health-related PE. There are regular tours for rugby, girls' and boys' hockey and netball, offering pupils the opportunity to travel with their team and enjoy matches with overseas opposition.

Friends' has a long tradition of sporting excellence and our teams have a proud record in a number of competitions. Individual Friends' pupils also have an impressive record in sport, achieving representative honours at Ulster and Irish level in rugby, hockey, netball, badminton and athletics.



# The Arts



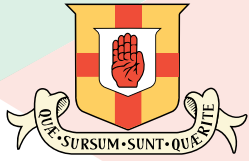
Friends' has a long tradition of successful drama productions. Following successful productions of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Annie* and *Oliver*, we staged the musical *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* in October 2022.

Over 200 pupils from Years 8 to 14 were involved in every aspect of the show: alongside the large cast and an excellent band, Friends' pupils were responsible for programme design, sound and light, costumes and the backstage team.

The Art Department organises workshops with local artists, designers and film-makers. They also organise visits to museums and galleries, and the inspiration pupils draw from these events can be seen in the artwork on display in the corridors throughout school.

Pupils have opportunities to take part in public speaking and debating. Juniors and seniors enter debating and public speaking competitions, and delegates from school attend Model United Nations conferences in the United Kingdom and Ireland.





# Music

**Music is an important part of life at Friends' and our Music Department enjoys excellent facilities in the East Suite, which was opened in 2016.**

It houses a Mac Suite, a recording studio, multiple practice rooms, ensemble rooms and a large rehearsal space, all of which are put to good use.

Pupils who play instruments are given the opportunity to develop individual skills and to join with others in the orchestra, brass group, wind band, flute ensemble, string ensemble, folk group and jazz band. Rehearsals take place before school and pupils enjoy a range of musical styles, with everything from jazz, Irish traditional, rock and Samba drumming.

Choral singing continues to be a feature of school life, with large numbers of pupils involved with the chamber choir, the junior and senior choirs and the recently formed male voice choir.

Lessons are offered in brass, woodwind, strings, guitar, piano and singing, and our new Year 8 pupils can opt to begin learning an instrument when they arrive in school.

Last March, we held our Spring Concert in the Ulster Hall and our Christmas Concert this year was held in St Patrick's Church in Lisburn. Both of these occasions allowed pupils to showcase their talents and to put on excellent performances to sell-out crowds.



# Clubs and Societies

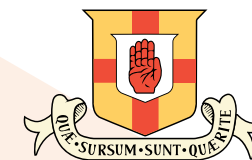
**Pupils at Friends' are encouraged to make the most of the wide range of opportunities available to them in school clubs and societies, both to forge friendships and to develop their interests outside the classroom.**

There are clubs for Junior Maths and Science, animation, debating, robotics, chess, cross-stitch and drama and pupils can also be involved in Model United Nations, Scripture Union, the Eco Committee and the Charity Committee.

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has inspired a love of the outdoors and sense of adventure in many of our pupils, and the Friends' School flag, on display in our entrance hall, even found its way to the summit of Everest.

Pupils have the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at Silver and Gold levels. The award involves pursuing a skill, maintaining a physical activity, being involved in voluntary work and completing an expedition. Most of the training and walking is completed in the Mourne's at Silver level, with the Gold qualifying expedition in the Lake District.





# Sustainability

**In keeping with our ethos, we try to promote environmental awareness and sustainability in School. Our Eco Committee gives pupils valuable opportunities to assume leadership and organisational roles within the school community, and has drawn up an environmental policy for Friends' which now features in the homework planner. Friends' holds the Green Flag Award, which recognises the good work done in school.**

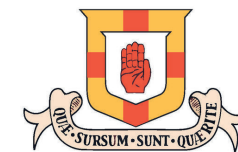
The Committee organises whole-school activities and leads campaigns to improve the quality of our school environment and to highlight to pupils how their work fits in our collective responsibility to promote sustainability. They organise beach cleans and litter picks, and events such as the Big Pedal, which encourages pupils to cycle to school. Recent work in our school grounds has involved pupils planting trees and shrubs. This will help us to maintain our surroundings for future generations of pupils, help reduce the environmental impact of the school and foster in our young people a sense of stewardship of the world in which they live.



# Global Awareness

**Our work with other schools at home and in other countries increases pupils' awareness of the world around them and promotes international links.**

Our links with other Quaker Schools in Britain and Ireland continue to be important to us and we are also exploring links with the Friends' School in Brummana, Lebanon, which we hope will lead to further opportunities for pupils.





# School Trips



Since 2006, we have had exchange programme with our partner school in Germany, the Remstal-Gymnasium in Weinstadt, near Stuttgart. We have also organised home stay programmes in Santander, Salamanca and Nice, where pupils are hosted by local families while they take part in French and Spanish classes and visit local attractions. The Modern Languages Department has also run trips for junior pupils, including visits to Paris as well as to a centre in Donegal which offers intensive language courses alongside a range of outdoor activities.



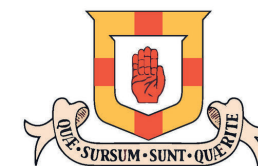
The History Department organises trips to Berlin for Key Stage 4 pupils, allowing them to see for themselves places of interest associated with WW2 and the Cold War.

Ski trips normally take place in the February half term. With all of this, as well as sports tours linked to the teams in school and the ever popular Scripture Union weekends, Friends' seeks to offer opportunities for all pupils to travel and broaden their horizons.

# Public Examination Results 2021 - 2022 (GCSE)

GCSE Level June 2022 (% achieving each grade)

	Entered	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U
Art & Design	17	41.18	41.18	17.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Biology	59	47.46	33.90	15.25	3.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Business Studies	38	23.68	42.11	21.05	13.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chemistry	64	39.06	32.81	17.19	7.81	3.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Digital Technology	21	9.52	71.43	19.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Economics	17	41.18	29.41	17.65	5.88	0.00	0.00	5.88	0.00	0.00	0.00
English	143	34.27	42.66	19.58	3.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
English Literature	142	31.69	40.85	25.35	2.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
French	61	42.62	32.79	16.39	8.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Further Mathematics	79	59.49	30.38	5.06	5.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Geography	63	38.10	39.68	15.87	6.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
German	29	27.59	24.14	24.14	10.34	13.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
History	51	35.29	31.37	21.57	11.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Home Economics F&N	31	29.03	54.84	16.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mathematics	142	49.30	50.00	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Music	18	44.44	50.00	5.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Physical Education	28	46.43	42.86	7.14	3.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Physics	52	51.92	38.46	9.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Religious Studies	141	36.88	44.68	11.35	5.67	1.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Science (Double Award)	140	39.29	35.71	18.57	5.00	1.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Spanish	51	56.86	31.37	11.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Technology & Design	19	31.58	36.84	31.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>40.11</b>	<b>39.83</b>	<b>15.08</b>	<b>4.20</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Cumulative %</b>		<b>40.11</b>	<b>79.94</b>	<b>95.02</b>	<b>99.22</b>	<b>99.93</b>	<b>99.93</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2021 Cumulative</b>	<b>1414</b>	<b>38.54</b>	<b>76.17</b>	<b>91.44</b>	<b>95.97</b>	<b>98.94</b>	<b>99.93</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2020 Cumulative</b>	<b>1427</b>	<b>30.97</b>	<b>73.79</b>	<b>90.12</b>	<b>95.94</b>	<b>99.09</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2019 Cumulative</b>	<b>1399</b>	<b>26.95</b>	<b>66.19</b>	<b>84.63</b>	<b>93.35</b>	<b>97.14</b>	<b>99.36</b>	<b>99.79</b>	<b>99.79</b>	<b>99.93</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2018 Cumulative</b>	<b>1316</b>	<b>33.89</b>	<b>73.94</b>	<b>92.55</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>98.10</b>	<b>99.92</b>	<b>99.92</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>



## Examination Performance - Trend Data

Number of pupils in Year 12	143
Number of those with a Statement of Special Educational Needs	1
Percentage entered for 7 or more subjects	99
Percentage achieving 7 or more passes at Grades A*-C	99
Percentage entered for 5 or more subjects	99
Percentage achieving 5 or more passes at Grades A*-C	99

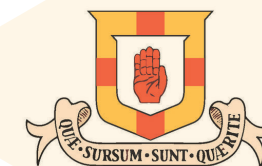


# Public Examination Results

## 2021 - 2022 Advanced Level

### Advanced Level June 2022 (% achieving each grade)

	Entered	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art & Design	3	66.67	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Biology	55	20.00	49.09	18.18	10.91	1.82	0.00	0.00
Business Studies	23	21.74	56.52	17.39	4.35	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chemistry	38	31.58	44.74	15.79	5.26	2.63	0.00	0.00
Chinese	1	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Economics	19	21.05	42.11	21.05	10.53	5.26	0.00	0.00
English Literature	15	20.00	33.33	13.33	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
French	7	57.14	42.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Further Mathematics	6	83.33	16.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Geography	37	21.62	32.43	35.14	10.81	0.00	0.00	0.00
German	3	33.33	66.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Health & Social Care	9	33.33	33.33	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
History	23	17.39	39.13	43.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mathematics	70	38.57	34.29	8.57	14.29	2.86	1.43	0.00
Moving Image Arts	4	25.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Music	6	83.33	16.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nutrition & Food Science	7	0.00	57.14	42.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Physical Education	7	0.00	0.00	42.86	28.57	28.57	0.00	0.00
Physics	35	31.43	28.57	11.43	8.57	14.29	5.71	0.00
Politics	22	27.27	45.45	22.73	4.55	0.00	0.00	0.00
Religious Studies	9	22.22	55.56	22.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Software Systems Development	12	16.67	41.67	33.33	8.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
Spanish	10	40.00	40.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Technology & Design	5	40.00	40.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>28.64</b>	<b>39.91</b>	<b>19.01</b>	<b>8.92</b>	<b>2.82</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Cumulative %</b>		<b>28.64</b>	<b>68.54</b>	<b>87.56</b>	<b>96.48</b>	<b>99.30</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2021 Cumulative</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>31.66</b>	<b>71.36</b>	<b>93.22</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2020 Cumulative</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>21.70</b>	<b>55.61</b>	<b>85.04</b>	<b>97.51</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2019 Cumulative</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>18.29</b>	<b>46.79</b>	<b>78.38</b>	<b>92.87</b>	<b>97.39</b>	<b>99.29</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>2018 Cumulative</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>14.07</b>	<b>45.19</b>	<b>79.01</b>	<b>95.56</b>	<b>98.27</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>



### Examination Performance - Trend Data

Number of pupils in Year 14	136
Number of those with a Statement of Special Educational Needs	2
Percentage achieving 3 or more passes at Grades A*-C	92
Percentage achieving 2 or more passes at Grades A*-E	100



# Public Examination Results

## 2021 - 2022 Advanced Level

### Year 14 School Leavers' Destinations 2021 - 2022

Higher Education	Further Education	Employment	Unknown
97.1%	0.7%	2.2%*	-

*\*Including pupils taking a gap year prior to entry at university*



# Admissions Criteria

## Capital Fee

As Friends' is a Voluntary Grammar School, a Capital Fee of £140 per annum is charged to all parents.

## Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and Principal in relation to admissions to the School.

The Board of Governors draws up the Admissions Criteria and delegates to the Education Committee the responsibility for applying these criteria. Any reference below to the Board of Governors includes any committee or sub-committee appointed by the Board of Governors for the purpose of applying the admissions criteria. The Principal is a member of the Board of Governors.

## Admissions Criteria for Pupils at the Normal Transfer Stage (Year 8)

The School will initially consider at Transfer stage only those pupils who have taken the Common Entrance Assessment (CEA) provided by the Association for Quality Education (AQE) and who have been awarded a mark in the form of a standardised score<sup>1</sup> or have been assigned to a band of scores after determination of an application for Special Circumstances or Special Provisions. Information on the CEA is available from the School or on the AQE website ([www.aqe.org.uk](http://www.aqe.org.uk)).

It should be noted that children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission must be admitted before children who are not resident.

The process for admissions, should the School have more applications than places available, is as set out below. The information to be provided in the event of a claim that Special Circumstances exist or that Special Provisions should apply is detailed in Appendix 1.

It should be noted that the Board of Governors will not take into account the position of preference given to the School by the applicant on the Transfer Application. For example, an application received from a pupil who has placed Friends' second in order of preference on the Transfer Application and who has not been offered a place by the school placed first in order of preference, will be considered in the same way as all first preference applicants to Friends' School.

***When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information detailed on, or uploaded with, the Transfer Application. Please note therefore that it is the responsibility of the parents of the applicant to ensure that all information relevant to the criteria is provided on the Transfer Application, or uploaded with it.***

## Entrance Tests Results

A readable copy of the original notification of the score received from AQE should be uploaded with the Transfer Application.

## Admissions

The Board of Governors will consider initially those pupils who have taken the AQE Common Entrance Assessment and who have been awarded a score or have been assigned to a band of scores after determination of an application for Special Circumstances or Special Provisions.

Applicants claiming that Special Circumstances and/or Special Provisions apply will be considered first. Once a decision has been made for each pupil for these special cases, the applicant will be considered along with all pupils of the same scoring band for the purposes of applying the admissions criteria.

The scores of all applicants in the AQE Common Entrance Assessment will be placed in rank order and banded within ranges of 5 marks. Higher scores will precede lower scores. To determine which pupils will be accepted into Year 8 the following criteria will be applied:

- Preference will be given to those in Band 1 before Band 2, Band 2 before Band 3, Band 3 before Band 4 and so on.
- If the School is oversubscribed, there will come a point where a band contains more applicants than there are places available. Within that band, the remaining places will be allocated in accordance with the following sub-criteria:

- a) Applicants who are children of Members or Attenders of the Religious Society of Friends<sup>2</sup>;
- b) Applicants enrolled in the Preparatory Department of Friends' School Lisburn from the Autumn Term of 2022/23;
- c) Applicants who have a brother or sister enrolled in Years 8-14 at Friends' School Lisburn at the date of transfer; this includes applicants who have a twin, or triplet, sibling already admitted;
- d) Applicants who are transferring from schools which have contributed pupils to Friends' School Lisburn within the last 5 years (a list of these is below);
- e) Applicants to whom (a) to (d) above do not apply.

Under each of these criteria, applicants who are entitled to Free School Meals<sup>3</sup> will be given preference over others who meet this criterion. If, following the application of the above sub-criteria in order, there comes a point where there are more pupils who meet a particular criterion than there are places available then the Board of Governors shall decide which of these pupils are to be admitted on the basis of computerised random selection.

## APPENDIX 1 Special Provisions

It is expected that all those seeking admission should sit the AQE CEA, with the exception of those pupils who take up residence in Northern Ireland after 23 September 2022. Special Provisions will apply for:

1. Children whose parents wish them to transfer to grammar schools from schools outside Northern Ireland.
2. Children who have received more than half their primary education outside Northern Ireland as from 1 September 2022.
3. Children who, because of serious medical, personal or other problems which are supported by appropriate documentary evidence, were unable to take the CEA Assessment.

It should be noted that if a claim for the consideration of Special Provisions is made in respect of matters for which Special Access arrangements were granted for a pupil, the School will take into account the fact that the pupil was granted Special Access arrangements for those matters.



# Admissions Criteria

(continued)

## Application for Special Provisions

Parents who wish to apply to the School under Special Provisions must complete Form SC23 obtainable from the School or AQE, and upload it with appropriate documentary evidence, as detailed below, with the Transfer Application.

Parents must provide the precise reason why they believe the pupil is eligible for consideration under Special Provisions and append educational evidence\* as detailed below.

## Special Circumstances

The Board of Governors will consider medical or other circumstances which may have affected a child's performance in the Common Entrance Assessment which are supported by contemporaneous documentary evidence. The Board of Governors will then decide whether the score awarded in the CEA should be adjusted. It should be noted that if a claim for the consideration of Special Circumstances is made in respect of matters for which Special Access arrangements were granted for a pupil, the School will take into account the fact that the pupil was granted Special Access arrangements for those matters.

## Application for Special Circumstances

Parents who wish to apply to the School under Special Circumstances must complete Form SC23, obtainable from the School or AQE, and upload it with appropriate documentary medical and educational evidence, as detailed below, with the Transfer Application.

## Medical Evidence

When it is claimed that an applicant's performance in the CEA has been affected by medical

or other problems, independent evidence of the existence of the problem MUST be provided with the claim. Where the problem is a medical one of short-term duration, the Board of Governors will require the production of evidence that the applicant was examined contemporaneously by a medical practitioner in relation to the illness. Where the difficulty or problem is of longer term duration, the Board of Governors will still require medical evidence. In both cases the medical practitioner providing the evidence must be independent, i.e. not related to the applicant. Where the problem is of a non-medical nature, the parents of the applicant must also set out with the claim precise details of the problem, and append appropriate contemporaneous evidence to corroborate its existence.

**\*Educational Evidence**  
**When applications are made under Special Provisions or Special Circumstances, it is the responsibility of the parent to provide sufficient educational evidence as detailed in Form SC23. This should include (where they exist):**

- Where a child has sat two or three AQE tests, a readable, scanned copy of the original notification from AQE of the standardised score achieved in the Common Entrance Assessment.
- Where, because of illness or other unforeseen circumstances, a child has sat only one AQE test, a readable, scanned copy of the original notification from AQE of the raw score in that test.
- Objective documentary evidence including, where they exist, the results for the pupil of any standardised tests in English and Maths (such as PTE/ PTM) conducted in Year 5, Year 6, and Year

- Additional comparative information in respect of standardised test scores relating to the other pupils in the applicant's Primary 7 class from the Primary School as set out in Form SC23.

Additional educational evidence will be considered alongside the standardised AQE score, where applicable, and adjustments will only be made if there is clear evidence that the circumstances outlined have resulted in underperformance. A panel of Governors will determine, on the basis of the information available, a band for the applicant, who will then be considered with all other applicants who have received an AQE score, and the admissions criteria will then be applied.

The Information Commissioner's Office website [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk) contains guidance for parents to access information held by schools in relation to their child.

## Duty to Verify

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.

Please note that Department of Education guidance states that the provisions 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 and Admissions Criteria after the commencement of the school year 2023/2024

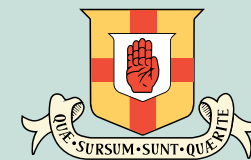
A waiting list will be drawn up of those applicants who had initially been refused a place during the transfer procedure, and the admissions criteria listed above will determine the order in which applicants are placed on this list. Should vacancies arise within the admissions number for the year 2023/2024, applicants will be contacted in the order in which they have been placed on the waiting list.

Year	Admission No	Total Applications <i>ie. All preferences</i>	Total Admissions
2020/21	140	248	142*
2021/22	140	373	147*
2022/23	140	313	161*

*\*includes pupils with full statement of SEN and other supernumerary pupils*

# Admissions Criteria

## (continued)



### APPENDIX 2

#### Admission of pupils to Years 9 – 11

External applicants may be admitted to Years 9 to 11 if there are places available within the School's approved Enrolment Number and within the relevant year group. Pupils shall be admitted on the basis of academic ability and shall be required to provide the most recent school report from the school currently attended. In addition, pupils shall be asked to take a test set by the School.

Pupils shall be admitted on the basis of their performance in the test and on provisions of a good record of progress and behaviour at their current school. The format of the test will include English and Maths and will be determined by the proposed year of entry. It should be noted that applicants to Year 11 must have a viable course of study at GCSE level.

Should two or more applicants to the same year group have the same academic profile, the decision to admit will be taken by applying the sub-criteria (a) to (c) below:

- applicants who are children of Members or attenders of the Religious Society of Friends<sup>2</sup>;
- applicants who have a brother or sister enrolled at Friends' School, Lisburn;
- applicants to whom (a) to (b) above do not apply.

Under each of these criteria, applicants who are entitled to Free SchoolMeals<sup>3</sup> will be given preference over others who meet this criterion. If, following the application of the above sub-criteria in order, there comes a point where there are more pupils who meet a particular criterion than there are places available, then the Board of Governors shall decide which of these pupils are to be admitted on the basis of computerised random selection.

### APPENDIX 3

#### Admission of pupils to the Sixth Form (External Applicants)

External applicants may be admitted to the Sixth Form if there are places available within the School's approved Enrolment Number, or if the Department of Education agrees to a temporary variation of the Enrolment Number. The Department of Education will normally only agree to such a variation if it is content that each external pupil for whom a place is requested would not be able to pursue their post-16 course-choices at a suitable school without undertaking an unreasonable journey, defined as a journey that would be over an hour by public transport from where the young person lives.

In all cases, offers of a place in the Sixth Form will be subject to availability in the courses chosen for study by the applicant. The closing date for external applications will be 11.00 am on the day of publication of the GCSE results. Applications received after this deadline will be considered only after all other applications have been processed.

#### To enter the Sixth Form, the following criteria must be met:

- The applicant must have a minimum of 14 points at GCSE level, including a pass in both GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics at Grade C or above. Short Course GCSEs, and subjects studied at GCSE which do not directly facilitate AS Level study at Friends' School Lisburn, will not normally be considered. The points score at GCSE is 4 points for A\*, 3 points for A, 2 points for B, and 1 point for C\*/C.
- Pupils must be able to follow a viable course at AS level and meet the minimum subject requirements set out for each subject in the Sixth Form Curriculum booklet.
- Pupils must have a good record of conduct, punctuality and attendance at their previous school and subscribe to the ethos of Friends' School Lisburn.

Should two or more applicants to the same year group have the same academic profile, the decision to admit will be taken by applying the sub-criteria (a) to (c) below:

- applicants who are children of Members or Attenders of the Religious Society of Friends<sup>2</sup>;
- applicants who have a brother or sister enrolled at Friends' School, Lisburn;
- applicants to whom (a) to (b) above do not apply.

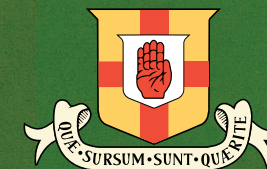
Under each of these criteria, applicants who are entitled to Free School Meals<sup>3</sup> will be given preference over others who meet this criterion. If, following the application of the above sub-criteria in order, there comes a point where there are more pupils who meet a particular criterion than there are places available, then the Board of Governors shall decide which of these pupils are to be admitted on the basis of computerised random selection.

### Contributory Primary Schools in the last 5 Years:

Abbey	Abercorn	Academy	Anahilt	Ballinderry
Ballycarrickmaddy	Ballydown	Ballymacash	Ballymacrickett	Ballymacward
Ballynahinch	Bocombra	Brownlee	Cairnshill	Carr
Christ The Redeemer	Cooley	Cranmore	Crumlin	Downshire
Dromara	Dromore Central	Drumlins	Dunmurry	Fair Hill
Finaghy	Fort Hill	Friends' Prep	Harmony Hill	Holy Child
Holy Evangelists	Killowen	King's Park	Knockmore	Largymore
Lisburn Central	Maghaberry	Maralin Village	Mckinney (Dundrod)	Meadowbridge
Millennium	Moira	Moneyrea	Moyallon	Oakwood
Pond Park	Portadown	Riverdale	Rowandale	Seymour Hill
St Aloysius	St Anne's	St Brendan's (Craigavon)	St Bride's	St Colman's (Dromore)
St Colmans (Lambeg)	St Francis'	St Joseph's (Lisburn)	St Malachy's	St Michael's
St Oliver Plunkett	St Patrick's (Magheralin)	St Peter's	St Teresa's	Stranmillis
Taughmonagh	Templepatrick	Tonagh	Wallace Prep	Waringstown

### Footnotes

- Throughout the admissions criteria, 'the score' refers to the standardised score as awarded by AQE.
- Parents will be required to provide details of the Meeting with which they are associated so that this information can be verified.
- "Entitled to Free School Meals" will mean applicants who are listed on the Education Authority register as entitled to Free School Meals at the date on which their parent or guardian has submitted their post-primary Transfer Application, or for applicants to Year 8, at any date up to and including 4 pm on 9 March 2023.



## Further Information

Further information, including school policies and the School Development Plan can be found on our website [www.friendsschoollisburn.org.uk](http://www.friendsschoollisburn.org.uk).

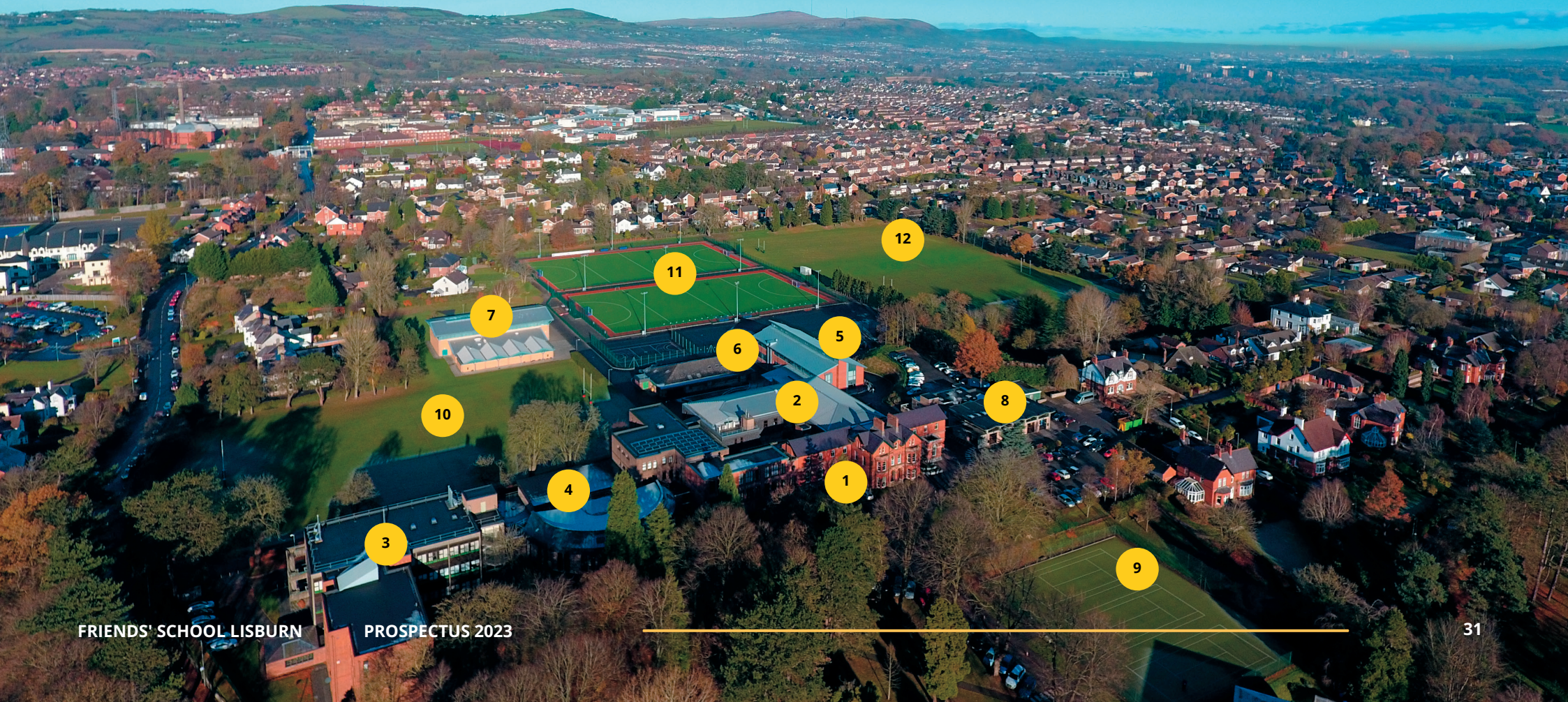
The annual attendance rate for 2021-22 was 95%.

Our Appearance Code sets out our expectations regarding the wearing of school uniform and is also available on the website.

The last inspection of Friends' School was in November 2019 and is available on the ETI website ([www.etni.gov.uk](http://www.etni.gov.uk)).



- |   |                     |    |                         |
|---|---------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Middle House        | 7  | Sports Hall             |
| 2 | Main Building       | 8  | Dining Hall             |
| 3 | West Wing           | 9  | Tennis Courts           |
| 4 | Assembly Hall       | 10 | 1st XV Rugby Pitch      |
| 5 | East Suite          | 11 | Hockey Pitches          |
| 6 | Technology & Design | 12 | Rugby & Cricket Grounds |



# Friends' School Lisburn

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