



# OMAGH ACADEMY

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**Transfer arrangements for September 2024**

**Mrs Ruth Maxwell, Principal**

**Contact details:**

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# The SEAG 2023 Entrance Assessment

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# SEAG

Schools'  
Entrance  
Assessment  
Group

- 95 places
- Rank order SEAG standardised score
- 2 assessments
- 1 hour each
- English and Mathematics
- Charge of £20
- 2 past papers available

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# Registration

- Registration will close on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 at 5pm.**
- Registration should be completed online



- Parents / Guardians will use a portal in the website [www.seagni.co.uk](http://www.seagni.co.uk)

## Step 1 Parent / Guardian Registration

The Registration process starts with the parent / guardian creating their own account in the portal.

This Step involves providing an email address.

If, for example, a parent has twins sitting the Entrance Assessment then both Pupil Applications can be carried out using the same Parent Registration with the same email address.

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## Step 2 Pupil Application

**Details about the pupil who is being registered are entered and the parent / guardian chooses the SEAG school where he / she would like their child to sit the Entrance Assessment.**

The name and date of birth which the parent / guardian enters **MUST** be identical to the information on the birth certificate for the Pupil Application to be valid.

Parents / Guardians select, from a drop-down list, the SEAG school (Assessment Centre) which is most convenient for their child to sit the Entrance Assessment. The drop-down list will, initially, contain all 62 schools but, over time, a school could reach its maximum capacity. If that happens that school will no longer appear in the list of choices. **Contact Omagh Academy if we do not appear on the list (028 8224 2688).**

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## Step 3 Add Essential Documentation

The birth certificate and passport sized photograph are uploaded to confirm the identity of the pupil.

When registering their child a parent / guardian can save the details and return later to the portal to complete the process.

However, the birth certificate and a passport sized photograph need to be available and uploaded at some point.

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## Step 4 Optional Documentation

Some parents / guardians may wish to request “Access Arrangements”. Details, e.g. the Access Arrangements Policy, are provided, in the portal, at this Step to assist.

Those requesting Access Arrangements must upload supporting documentation as part of this Step.

The SEAG Access Arrangements Panel will evaluate and make decisions on each request based on the evidence provided. Those decisions will be communicated to parents through the portal.

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## Step 5 Payment

**As part of the pupil registration process the parent / guardian is required to pay a non-refundable administration fee of £20 through a secure online payment method.**

**Those entitled to Free School Meals (FSME) are exempt from the administration fee but must provide necessary verification of FSME status.**

Parents / Guardians will need to make sure that they have a debit / credit card available to make the payment OR if exempt through FSME then evidence of FSME must be uploaded.

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## Step 6 Registration Complete

A completed pupil registration is confirmed through the online portal.

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## SEAG Entrance Assessment

### Registration

- Only pupils who have been registered to sit the Entrance Assessment by 5.00pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 will be able to sit the Assessment.
- There is NO late registration after the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 deadline.
- If a pupil has not been registered he / she will NOT be able to sit the Entrance Assessment.

### SEAG Entrance Assessment Papers

- The Entrance Assessment consists of two Assessment Papers taken a fortnight apart.
- Pupils sit both Papers. It is not a choice between sitting Paper 1 or Paper 2.

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- **Registration Period**

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 (9.00am) – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 (5.00pm)**

- **Familiarisation Evening**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 5.00pm - 5.30pm**

- **SEAG Entrance Assessment Paper 1**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (am)**

- **SEAG Entrance Assessment Paper 2**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (am)**

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- **SEAG Outcomes (results) released to parents / guardians**  
**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024**
- **Omagh Academy Open Night**  
**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024**  
**Principal's Address 6.30pm**
- **Online Transfer Application**  
**Opens February 2024 Date TBC (EA)**
- **School Place**  
**May 2024 Date TBC (EA)**

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- Details, including the format and specification of the Entrance Assessment, are provided on the SEAG website.
- Two SEAG Practice Papers, along with Practice Answer Sheets and a Guide for Parents with the Answer Keys for each question on each paper, are also provided.

In summary:

- The Entrance Assessment consists of Paper 1 and Paper 2.
- Both Papers have an identical format.
- Each starts with a Practice Test section containing 5 English questions and 5 Maths questions.
- The Practice Test section allows pupils time to settle and practise answering the same types of questions as those in Main Paper but without those questions being marked or timed.
- The Practice Test section is followed by an English section which has 28 questions and then a Maths section which also has 28 questions.

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- The actual Entrance Assessment papers to be taken in November 2023 have the same format as the Practice Papers which are on the website.
- The English begins with a punctuation exercise (5 questions), followed by a grammar exercise (5 questions) and a spelling exercise (5 questions). All 15 questions are multiple choice.
- Next, pupils are asked to read a comprehension passage and answer 13 questions which follow. Questions 16-22 are multiple choice and questions 23-28 are “free response” where the pupil writes a short answer to each in the space provided in the Answer Sheet.
- The first 22 Maths questions (29-50) are also multiple choice and the final 6 questions (51-56) are “free response” where the pupil writes a short answer to each in the space provided in the Answer Sheet.
- Invigilators tell the pupils when to start the Main Test and pupils will have 60 minutes\* to work through the paper (\*unless granted additional time through Access Arrangements).
- Each pupil is free to start the Main Test with either the English or the Maths section.

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## Access Arrangements

- Reasonable adjustments, Eg Extra time, enlarged papers, wheelchair access.
- Apply during registration.

## Special circumstances

- Illness, injury or bereavement on test day.
- **Medical and other evidence of the adverse circumstances at the time of the test must be gathered at the time of the test and kept safely and securely.**
- Apply via Education Authority Portal in February 2024.

## Special Provisions

- Unable to sit a test, educated outside of NI.
- Apply via Education Authority Portal in February 2024.

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- **Parents / Guardians will receive five outcomes for their child.**
  - The first two are those which are most likely to be used by SEAG schools within their Year 8 Admissions Criteria.
  - The other three outcomes provide additional information for parents and schools.
1. **The Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)**
  2. **The Band**
  3. **The English SAS**
  4. **The Maths SAS**
  5. **Information about the Cohort Percentile Ranking**

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## 1. The Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)

- This is the pupil's overall outcome from the SEAG Entrance Assessment based on answers to the 56 English Questions in Papers 1 and 2 and the 56 Maths questions in Papers 1 and 2.
- The Total SAS is the sum of the English SAS and the Maths SAS.
- The Total SAS range will be 138-282 with a mean (or average) of 200.

*A Standardised Age Score (SAS) takes account of a child's age when he/she took the assessment, the number of correct answers and the degree of difficulty of the assessment. Parents / Guardians may be familiar with the scores from standardised tests used in their child's primary school, e.g. Progress Test in English and / or Progress test in Maths, which also use SAS.*

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## 2. The Band

- There will be six Bands.
- The Bands will be designated as Band 1, Band 2, Band 3, Band 4, Band 5 and Band 6.
- Cohort Percentiles will be used to determine the borderline for each Band (See Outcome 5).

SEAG Band	1	2	3	4	5	6
Cohort Percentile	60%+	50-59%	40-49%	30-39%	20-29%	<20%

60%+ (Band 1) means pupils who are in the top 50% but not the top 40% of those who sat the Assessment, etc.

means pupils who are in the

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### 3. The English SAS

- This is the Standardised Age Score based on answers to the 56 English questions.
- The English SAS range will be 69-141 with a mean (or average) of 100.
- The English SAS is provided to inform parents as to how their children have performed in this aspect of the Entrance Assessment.

### 4. The Maths SAS

- This is the Standardised Age Score based on answers to the 56 Maths questions.
- The Maths SAS range will be 69-141 with a mean (or average) of 100.
- The Maths SAS is provided to inform parents as to how their children have performed in this aspect of the Entrance Assessment.

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## 5. Information about the Cohort Percentile Ranking (CPR)

- 60%+ (Band 1) means that the pupil's outcomes are in the top 40% of those who sat the Assessment.
- 50-59% (Band 2) - outcomes are outside the top 40% but in the top 50% of those who sat the Assessment.
- 40-49% (Band 3) - outcomes are outside the top 50% but in the top 60% of those who sat the Assessment.
- 30-39% (Band 4) - outcomes are outside the top 60% but in the top 70% of those who sat the Assessment.
- 20-29% (Band 5) - outcomes are outside the top 70% but in the top 80% of those who sat the Assessment.
- <20% (Band 6) - the pupil's outcomes are outside the top 80% of those who sat the Assessment.

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## The SEAG Entrance Assessment consists of two papers.

- Pupils who only take one paper (i.e. either Paper 1 or Paper 2 but not both) will **not** have completed the full Entrance Assessment.
- Such pupils will, however, have their “single paper” marked by GL Assessment.
- The SEAG Board has determined that pupils who only sit one paper should be provided with SAS and Band outcomes which reflect their performance.
- Outcomes for pupils who only sit one paper will have the designation “e” (for estimate) immediately after the Outcome, e.g. TSAS 196e; Band 4e.
- Apply for Special Provisions

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- **Omagh Academy will hold a familiarisation session on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 5.00-5.30pm to help children prepare for the assessments on 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and inform parents about arrangements for test days.**
- Parents / guardians have the responsibility to ensure that their children arrive in the SEAG Assessment Centre in good time on the Entrance Assessment days.
- **Pupils cannot be admitted after the Assessment has started.**
- If a child cannot attend on one of the two Entrance Assessment dates the parents /guardian must inform the Assessment Centre as soon as it is practically possible to do so.
- **There is no “third Assessment Day” – so pupils who are absent on one of the two days will only sit part of the full Entrance Assessment.**

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**For further information  
about SEAG and the 2023 Entrance Assessment,  
including Registration, visit  
[www.seagni.co.uk](http://www.seagni.co.uk)**

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# Why choose Omagh Academy?



- Positive atmosphere & ethos
- Care and support
- Academic success
- Opportunities outside the classroom

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