



OMAGH ACADEMY

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Familiarisation Afternoon

Thursday 26th October 2023

Mrs Ruth Maxwell, Principal

Contact details:

Tel: 028 8224 2688 (8.30am-4.30pm)

Email: info@omaghacademy.omagh.ni.sch.uk

Website: www.omaghacademy.com

DATES OF TESTS

- ▶ **Saturday 11th November**
- ▶ **Saturday 25th November**
- ▶ **At 10.00 am**

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ARRIVAL ON MORNING OF TESTS

- ▶ Plan to arrive early: between 9.30 and 9.40am
- ▶ In time for pupils to be seated by 9.45am at latest and settled for the test
- ▶ Settling in time begins at 10.00am SHARP and last for approximately 15 minutes
- ▶ Pupils cannot be admitted after 10.00am
- ▶ Each test lasts from 10.15 to 11.15am or exactly 1 hour after settling down (Extra time rooms finish later)
- ▶ There will be no access to the school grounds for cars during the test

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CAR PARKING ON THE MORNING OF TESTS

- ▶ Car parking will be available from 9.20am
- ▶ Please feel free to park in the school grounds: North Car Park (Primark)
- ▶ The main gates are locked from 9.55am until 11.25am.
- ▶ Two-way traffic is a problem in the Academy grounds owing to layout

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- ▶ Please drive into grounds only if wish to park in the grounds for the duration of the test
- ▶ Easy access to Omagh Town Centre and Dublin Road through pedestrian gates beside Primark
- ▶ Otherwise please park outside the grounds and escort your child to the appropriate colour coded entrance (blue/yellow)
- ▶ Gates locked up for the day at 12 noon.

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On Test Days

- ▶ Parents are asked to accompany children to the colour coded entrance
- ▶ And collect children again outside the colour coded entrance after the test at 11.20am (11.55am) approximately

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- ▶ **Pupils wear Primary School Uniform**
- ▶ **No mobile phones, watches, ipods etc.**
- ▶ **No food, drinks, toys, mascots etc. (water and tissues will be provided if needed)**

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- ▶ **Rough work – on test paper or separate sheets which will be provided (rough work paper and test papers are collected in)**
- ▶ **Pupils should only ask to go to the toilet during the tests in an absolute emergency. They should put their hand up and wait for the invigilator. If a pupil goes to the toilet during the test they will not get any additional time.**

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- ▶ **Medical items permitted, e.g. inhalers – but clear with Miss Faris in advance**
- ▶ **Invigilators will not be able to answer questions about test items**
- ▶ **Remember Admissions Card, colour coded pass**

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If a pupil is ill on the day

- ▶ Pupils should not come in for the test if unwell
- ▶ Inform SEAG as soon as possible
- ▶ Apply for Special Provisions using Form SP, available from school or the school website, uploaded with the Transfer Form
- ▶ Obtain evidence (e.g. G.P. letter) at the time of the test. Keep this evidence safe.

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Advise SEAG in advance

- ▶ If the pupil is unable to attend
- ▶ If the pupil is recovering from illness
- ▶ Or the pupil has had an accident etc.
- ▶ Emergency Access Arrangements may be possible
- ▶ All access arrangements, including emergency access arrangements, must be approved by SEAG before the child sits a test

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This evening's schedule for pupils

- ▶ The purpose of this evening is for the pupils to visit their assessment room, sit in their seat, become familiar with the surroundings and atmosphere, and fill in a sample answer sheet using questions from a sample paper
- ▶ Pupils seated in their test room (a classroom)
- ▶ With same invigilator as first test, where possible
- ▶ Where possible, children are placed in a room with others from the same primary school

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- ▶ Pupils from primary schools with small numbers are roomed together
- ▶ Shown location of test room, toilets, evacuation route etc.
- ▶ Taken through a list of instructions – do's and don'ts

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Before the Tests

- ▶ Night before – usual routine
- ▶ No fuss – play it down
- ▶ Plan to arrive in good time but not too early. Much better not to rush on the morning
- ▶ No need to worry – previous tests went very smoothly

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The Total Standardised Age Score “The Score”

- ▶ Whole number 138-282
- ▶ Age standardised
- ▶ Mean score is 200

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Academy Admissions Criteria

- ▶ **Main criterion: rank order of The Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)**
- ▶ **Full criteria published by Education Authority**
- ▶ **If you want your child to be considered for the Academy put the school as your 1st choice on the Transfer Form or the application may not reach us**

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Special Circumstances

- ▶ If a child's performance is adversely affected by medical or other problems, parents will be able to apply for special circumstances
- ▶ Will need to provide evidence of the problem (N.B. a doctor's letter from the time of the tests) together with educational evidence (attach to the Transfer Form)
- ▶ Complete a Form SC, available from the school or the school website and upload with Transfer Form

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Full details about special circumstances will be provided in the Education Authority documentation Admissions Criteria published later in the year.

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- ▶ **SEAG Results issued Saturday 27th January 2024**
- ▶ **Print out the Statement of Outcomes and keep safely to upload with the Transfer Form**
- ▶ **EA Post-primary application process opens with online portal available from 12 noon Tuesday 30th January 2024, for applicants to apply for Year 8 admission. The online portal closes at 12 noon on Thursday 22nd February 2024**

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Special Arrangements

Access Arrangements

- ▶ Reasonable adjustments, Eg Extra time, enlarged papers, wheelchair access
- ▶ Emergency Access arrangements are possible – contact SEAG as soon as possible
- ▶ Contact info@omaghademy.omagh.ni.sch.uk outside of office hours 8.30am - 4.30pm
- ▶ Omagh Academy phone lines will be open on test mornings

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: Form SC

Special Provisions

- ▶ Unable to sit a/either test, educated outside of NI
- ▶ Apply via Education Authority Portal in February 2024: Form SP

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Key Dates

SEAG Entrance Assessment Paper 1

Saturday 11th November 2023 (am)

SEAG Entrance Assessment Paper 2

Saturday 25th November 2023 (am)

SEAG Outcomes (results) released to parents / guardians

Saturday 27th January 2024

Omagh Academy Open Night

Thursday 1st February 2024, Principal's Address 6.30pm

Online Transfer Application (EA)

Opens 30th January 2024 12 noon, Closes 22nd February 2024 12 noon

School Place

18 May 2024

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QUESTIONS

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time if you have queries or would like some advice.

Best wishes for the final preparations and the assessments.

THANK YOU

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