

Christian Brothers' Grammar School

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Omagh



Educating the hearts and minds of the young

Blessed Edmund Rice



www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Contents



Principal's Welcome



Welcome to Christian Brothers' Grammar School, Omagh. Thank you for taking the time to consider our school for your son. I hope this prospectus offers a clear sense of the warm, vibrant and faith-filled community he will join, and that it answers many of the questions you may have about life at CBS.

Christian Brothers' Grammar School is a Catholic voluntary grammar school for boys, inspired by the vision of Blessed Edmund Rice. For over 160 years, we have proudly served the families of Omagh and the wider area, providing high-quality education grounded in Christian values. We recognise and celebrate the unique gifts of every pupil and are dedicated to helping each young man fulfil his potential - academically, spiritually, socially and personally.

Our mission is to form confident, compassionate young men who are well prepared to contribute positively to society. To this end, we offer a broad and challenging curriculum, complemented by a rich programme of extra-curricular activities. From sport, music, drama, art and technology to public speaking and leadership, pupils are encouraged to explore their

talents. Our strong tradition in Gaelic games, including recent MacRory and Hogan Cup successes, is a source of great pride and reflects the teamwork, resilience and school spirit that define CBS Omagh.

Pastoral care is at the heart of our school. We know that boys learn best when they feel safe, supported and known. Our dedicated and enthusiastic staff work closely with pupils, encouraging them to set ambitious goals and supporting them in achieving them. At Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh, every pupil is part of a caring school family in which he is encouraged to grow and thrive.

We also place great importance on our partnership with parents and guardians. You play a vital role in your son's development, and strong, positive relationships between home and school are central to the success of our community. Our pupils are at the centre of every decision we make and everything we do.

Thank you once again for considering Christian Brothers' Grammar School as the next step in your son's educational journey.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Stephen Keown'.

Mr Stephen Keown
Principal

Omagh Christian Brothers' Grammar School

Kevlin Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT78 1LD
Telephone: 028 8224 3567
Email: info@cbs.omagh.ni.sch.uk
www.omaghcbs.org

Catholic Voluntary Grammar School
Day School only

Boys only. Age Range 11 - 19

Enrolment No. 950

Admissions No. 135

Attendance 91.4% (2024 - 25)





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí



Principal
Mr S. Keown



Vice Principal
Mr A. White



Vice Principal
Mr N. Donnelly

Senior Leadership Team:



Mr D. Maginness



Mr C. McBride



Mrs C. McHugh



Mr F. Moriarty



Miss T. O'Connor

Heads of School

Year 8:	Mrs C. McHugh
Year 9 & 10:	Mr C. McBride
Years 11 & 12:	Mr F. Moriarty
Years 13 & 14:	Mr D. Maginness

Heads of Year

Year 8:	Mrs E. Pearson
Year 9:	Mr P. McNabb
Year 10:	Mrs S. McLaughlin
Year 11:	Mr A. McMenamin
Year 12:	Mrs S. Darcy
Year 13:	Mr D. Dickson
Year 14:	Mrs M. McKenna

Board of Governors

ERST Appointed:	Mrs D. Kelly (Chairperson)
	Mrs S. Cunningham (Vice Chairperson)
	Mrs M. Rodgers
	Mr L. Bradley

DE Appointed:	Mr L. Donnelly
	Mr C. Sally
Teacher Governor:	Mrs U. Doherty
Parent Governor:	Dr P. McGarvey

The Christian Brothers' Crest

THE STAR in the crest is a reminder that "Those who instruct many to justice shall shine like stars for all eternity". (Daniel: 12:13). The star is the symbol of enlightenment and instruction.

THE CROSS is a symbol of Christ, for the Brothers are concerned with the spreading of Christ's Kingdom on Earth.

THE CIRCLE around the cross is a symbol of eternity and of the eternal values to which a Brother is committed.

THE BOOK is a symbol of learning which the Brothers impart to the young. The two Greek letters, Alpha and Omega, remind us that God is our first beginning and last end, that all knowledge begins and ends with him.

THE MOTTO – FACERE ET DOCERE, "to do and to teach" reminds the Brothers that they must live out the Gospel which they preach; they must be "doers" of God's message as well as bearers, they must lead others by their own example.



CELTIC DESIGN The Christian Brothers Congregation was founded in Ireland in 1802, hence the whole design in the cross, the tracery, the lettering, in conception and execution, is characteristically Celtic and symbolic of our Irish origins.

1861 – The year that the Christian Brothers' School was opened in Omagh, located in the building that is currently the Drumragh Parish Pastoral Centre.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

School Ethos

Christian Brothers' Grammar School, Omagh is part of the Edmund Rice Schools' network and subscribes to the Edmund Rice Schools Trust's Charter.

Admission to this school indicates that both parents and students subscribe to our status as an Edmund Rice School, an acceptance of all school regulations by each student and his parents and an undertaking to observe all such regulations.

The school directs all its efforts towards establishing an environment which enables personal fulfilment through positive responses to the challenges of living in accordance with Catholic principles.

We place the student at the centre of our concerns and aim to provide for him a well balanced programme of activities, which promotes the full development of his spiritual, intellectual, social and physical powers. Students are encouraged to become involved in charitable work and community activities.

Our Values

Teaching and lifelong learning

The development of the Catholic faith

Caring for one another

Transformational leadership

A genuine sense of community and partnership





1861 - 1903 - 1950 - 1967 - 1974 - 2007 - 2026

History of our School

In 1859, the Community of Christian Brothers first arrived in Omagh following a request from the Bishop of Derry. A field of 2 acres and 12 perches in size was purchased at the rear of the Catholic Church in Brook Street for £300.

"The Brothers" in Omagh were tasked with ensuring that: "Education be gratuitous and the admission free." On January 14 1861, the school opened its doors for the first time, with 121 boys presenting themselves for admission.

On May 7, the school was placed under the patronage of Saint Columba and so adopted the title Mount Saint Columba's Omagh Christian Brothers School.

Following on from an extension completed in 1903, the school community continued to grow and, by 1932, a new building was helping to accommodate 125 Secondary School pupils and 6 teachers (2 Brothers), with the entire site also consisting of 210 Primary School pupils and 6 teachers (5 Brothers).

The school continued to increase in numbers throughout the 1950s, with 216 Grammar School pupils and 361 Primary School pupils and 16 staff in total by 1955. The Centenary Celebrations of the school were marked during January 1961, with a local housing development being named Centenary Park to mark the occasion.

Work commenced on the new school building during October 1966, with the doors on the Kevlin Road opening for the first time to pupils on 4 September 1967. The school's first MacRory Cup title came in 1974.

In February 1992, building commenced on the development of the new school extension. September 1993 also saw the appointment of the school's first lay principal, Mr Roddy Tierney. By October 1994, the existing school building had been completely refurbished - a new Sports Hall, multi-gym, Music Suite and state of the art Technology Suite completed.

The Millennium year saw the opening of the Sports Complex at Coolnagard and, in 2007, the school captured the Hogan Cup, making the School All Ireland Colleges Champions in Gaelic Football.

The beginning of the 21st Century has seen the school maintain its high standards of academic excellence, as well as an unprecedented period of sporting excellence. Academic rewards have included record breaking A-Level and GCSE results, as well as numerous pupils attaining top place in subjects at both GCSE and A-Level.

In 2018, the school celebrated 50 years on the Kevlin Road site.



www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

The School Day

- The school grounds and corridors will be supervised by staff each morning from 8:40am.
- Teaching will begin promptly at 9:00am each morning and all students must be in class by this time.
- Any student arriving late in the morning will sign in at reception and will be marked "Late" on the Register.
- Key Stage 3 lunch begins at 12:30pm and ends at 1:10pm.
- Key Stage 4 & 5 lunch begins at 1:10pm and ends at 1:50pm.
- All pupils must move swiftly to their class when their lunch break ends.
- Senior students returning late from lunch in town will sign in at reception.



School Uniform

Our school uniform is a visible statement of each student's allegiance to this school community. Full uniform must, therefore, be worn at all times and is a condition of each student's daily admission to this school.

We ask for your fullest co-operation in ensuring that your son adheres to the uniform regulations.

There will be no deviation at any time from the requirements stated and students who come to school improperly dressed or groomed will not be admitted.



Compulsory School Uniform:

- Black blazer with school crest
- Long black trousers (cords or jeans are not acceptable)
- Light blue shirt with long or short sleeves as preferred
- School tie (only available from school)
- Plain black formal shoes with black socks (without any decoration)
- **Optional is the Royal blue v-neck jumper.**
- P.E. Kit (as supplied by the school)

All items of uniform should be clearly labelled with the student's name.

Stockists

Watterson's

37 High St, Omagh BT78 1BA
T: (028) 8224 2298

Select Kidz

Market House, 1 Market Road, Omagh, BT78 1EX
T: (028) 8224 0289

SD Kells

3-5 Scarffe's Entry, Omagh, BT78 1JH
T: (028) 8224 2058

Student Council

Our students have an important contribution to make to the effectiveness of the school in meeting their needs and giving them a responsible voice.

At the start of the academic year a group of students is elected or nominated by their fellow students to form the Student Council which works in partnership with the Senior Prefects, the teachers and Senior Management for the benefit of all students.

Involvement in the Student Council is a valuable part of a student's educational experience.

This gives students, representing each year group, a sense of responsibility and encourages a greater atmosphere of co-operation within the school. The Student Council meets on a monthly basis, discusses matters relevant to the students and makes proposals to Senior Management.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

School Meals

Our school canteen provides a high-quality meal service throughout the day, offering breakfast, breaktime snacks and a wide range of lunch options. Meals are freshly prepared with a focus on balanced nutrition and choice, supporting pupils' wellbeing and concentration in lessons. The canteen operates in a welcoming, well-organised environment and meets the highest standards of food safety, having been awarded the highest possible food hygiene rating. It caters for a variety of dietary needs and, where required, purchasing can be restricted to support pupils with allergies or specific medical or dietary requirements, ensuring a safe and inclusive dining experience for all.

Menu Choice

There is an extensive range of meals and snacks available daily through a series of rotating weekly menus.

All main meal choices and pastries are cooked onsite from fresh ingredients.

The Sandwich Bar enables your son to choose the sandwich, bagel or toastie of his choice from a range of freshly prepared fillings.

These can be pre-ordered for easy collection at lunchtime.

Promoting Healthy Eating

At the Christian Brothers' Grammar School our aim is to promote child health and wellbeing through the Nutritional Guidelines set out by the Department of Education in Northern Ireland.

To maintain a healthy body you should choose:

- Plenty of fruit and vegetables for vitamins A, C and E as well as fibre and with every few calories. Aim for 5 servings a day.
- Plenty of bread and cereals, preferably wholegrain, potatoes for starchy carbohydrate, iron, calcium, B vitamins and fibre.
- Lower fat varieties of milk and dairy foods - for protein, calcium and vitamins A, D and B12.
- Lean and lower fat varieties of meat products, and all varieties of fish in moderation - for protein, iron and B vitamins.



Some pupils may be entitled to free school meals. Please click the link to see if your child is eligible.

[Free school meals eligibility checker](#)







www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Pastoral Care

Christian Brothers' Grammar School is dedicated to the provision of a high quality of Pastoral Care to all our pupils. Parents can be confident in the knowledge that their child will always be educated in a safe and caring environment.

We actively promote a welcoming atmosphere where pupils feel valued and supported. It underpins everything that we do. A range of staff are involved in providing this support for our pupils.

These include:

- A Vice Principal with responsibility for pastoral care and wellbeing
- Heads of School and Heads of Year who will work together to monitor the progress of each pupil across all subjects, identifying and activating appropriate support for pupils experiencing difficulties or at risk of underachievement, maintaining links between the school and home
- A Learning Mentor who works on a one-to-one basis with pupils who are at risk of underachieving or experiencing difficulties with their motivation or behaviour, liaising also with their parents and teachers to set and monitor targets for improvement
- Form Teachers who meet the pupils in their registration class every morning and will also meet with pupils from their form class individually during the school year to promote a positive attitude to schoolwork, homework, behaviour, attendance and punctuality.

In order to meet the pastoral needs of pupils more effectively, the school has developed a Wellbeing Centre which includes:

- a Learning Mentor
- a Mentoring Room
- an after school Study Support facility
- a lunchtime Games Club.

School Nurse

The school employs a nurse who is on duty throughout the school day to provide the general medical support which students may require.

Pupils may attend the Medical Room during break and lunch times for more routine treatments but may visit the Medical Room during class as required and with the permission of their subject teacher.

Learning Support

The school maintains an active SEN Register, which includes all students assessed as being at Stage 1 - Stage 3 of the Code of Practice.

A range of group and one-to-one provision is provided to assist with aspects of study skills, literacy and numeracy, as well as effective social communication. Significant partnerships have been established with a range of outside agencies to help ensure effective provision for all students on the school's SEN Register, as well as preparation for the Graduated Framework. Our Learning Mentors provide a range of support for pupils who have learning difficulties, focusing on literacy and numeracy development. The Learning Mentor Room remains a supervised facility before school, during unstructured time, for students on a reduced curriculum, and for Homework Club after school.

A team of teachers provide a range of programmes which aim to support pupils who have learning difficulties.

At present the Learning Support Team, working with the classroom teachers, assists pupils who:

- Have hearing or visual impairment
- Have a Specific Learning Difficulty
- Have medical conditions which affect their learning
- Need extra support in literacy or numeracy
- Have a social and communication difficulty.

What happens in Learning Support?

All Year 8 pupils are assessed in Reading, Spelling and Mathematics.

As necessary, we liaise with relevant external agencies.

Where pupils are identified as requiring extra support, a set of activities is devised which may include any of the following programmes:

- Individual or group tutoring in the areas identified
- Paired reading
- Handwriting
- Literacy
- Numeracy.

Anti Bullying

This school will not tolerate bullying behaviour and actively promotes an anti-bullying ethos. It strives to protect the basic right of each student to receive his education free from intimidation and fear and to this end the school has adopted a set of procedures to deal with instances of bullying in a consistent manner. It applies to relationships between pupils in the school and between pupils and members of staff.

Any student or parent who is aware of bullying behaviour is actively encouraged to report the matter immediately to either the relevant Form Teacher, Head of Year, Head of School or Vice Principal. All allegations of bullying will be taken seriously and investigated as speedily and thoroughly as possible.

Any pupil found to have engaged in bullying will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Anti-Bullying Policy which is modelled on recommendations made by the Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

The School Curriculum

The Christian Brothers' Grammar School, Omagh offers a full school curriculum, including:



- Art and Design
- English
- Geography
- History
- Information Communication Technology (ICT)
- Languages
- Maths
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education (PE)
- Religious Education (RE)
- Science
- Technology and Design

Our class and homework activities are enhanced with eLearning. Students may utilise resources and activities at any time, with their own personal devices. The school's ICT provision is managed by our IT support team of Kyra Crawford and Chris Eccles. We have ten fully equipped computer suites, multi-media facilities in all teaching areas and clusters of computers in many subject areas. SEN students have access to personal electronic devices.

A well stocked Library is available for use by students throughout the school day. Two supervised, IT equipped Study Centres are used for Post 16 and after-school study. Students are able to enjoy our excellent sporting facilities, including a large sports hall, a high specification fitness suite and excellent outdoor grass and synthetic football pitches.



Year 8 form classes have 23 or 24 students and are of mixed ability.

The school also offers the following:

- a comprehensive induction programme for entrants at Year 8, Year 11 and Year 13
- regular pupil reports, parent/teacher meetings and advice evenings
- teams of teachers involved in Learning for Life and Work/Careers education programmes
- a mentoring service for all students
- a learning support programme
- a School Nurse on duty throughout the school day.

A copy of the school's Curriculum Policy is available on the school website (www.cbsomagh.org) or by contacting the Main Office, Telephone (028) 8224 3567.



Homework Policy

Homework is an essential part of each pupil's learning experience as it provides opportunities to reinforce classwork, practice and improve a range of skills and develop good practice in independent learning. Subject departments select types of homework suited to their respective programme of study and the learning needs of pupils. Homework is set on a regular basis and reflects a balance of written, reading, research, practical, learning and revision work.

After School Study

Our Study Supervisors run an After School Study Club every evening from 3:30pm to 4:45pm. It is open to all pupils as a study venue and our Learning Mentor will also be available to work specifically with pupils experiencing organisational difficulties or needing support with study skills, planning and revision.

This will help pupils learn more effectively and achieve better outcomes.

Assessment and Reporting

Continuous assessment takes place in all subjects throughout the year and supports independent learning. Students must complete all assessments and/or examinations to an acceptable standard before they can be considered for entry to the next year of study. At Key Stage 3, all assessment is teacher-based; many classroom-based, with a final end of year examination.

Full written pupil reports will be issued by the end of the summer term. Reports may include the results of assessment in each of the areas of learning, the Cross-Curricular Skills, and other skills (Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities)

At the end of Year 10, we will assess and report (using the Levels of Progression) on pupil's achievement in Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT.

There is also a parent-teacher meeting for every year group where parents can discuss their son's progress in person.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

The curriculum for Years 8, 9 and 10 enables each pupil to realise his full potential at Key Stage 3. During Years 8, 9 and 10 pupils will have the opportunity to study the following subjects:

Art & Design	Information Technology (IT)	Religious Education (RE)
English Performing Arts	Irish	Spanish
Employability	Learning For Life and Work (LLW)	Technology and Design
Geography	Mathematics	Science
Health Promotion	Music	
History	Physical Education (PE)	

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Students can study up to 10 GCSEs. This will include five compulsory subjects below.

English Language	Religious Education
English Literature	Science (Double Award or Single Award)
Mathematics	

Students will then select their remaining three optional subjects from the list below.

Agriculture & Land Use	GCSE Performing Arts
Applied Performing Arts	Geography
Art & Design	History
Business Studies	Hospitality
Business and Communication Systems	Irish
Computer Science	Learning for Life and Work
Construction	Music
Digital Technology	Spanish
Engineering (BTEC Level II)	Sport (BTEC Level II)
Further Mathematics	Technology (Systems Control)



In addition to these 10 GCSE subjects, students may also choose an additional subject which will be taught outside the formal timetable, giving them the option to take 11 GCSEs.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Post-16 Curriculum

It is expected that students considering Post-16 studies take a minimum of three subjects from a menu offering A-Levels, Applied A-Levels and BTEC courses.

The selection process is designed to assist your choices and stimulate your aspirations for your Post-16, and involves:

- a Post-16 choices evening with a Post-16 prospectus, careers talk and a chance to meet departments,
- ongoing careers advice and
- a final senior teacher choices interview.

In all subjects it is highly recommended that students achieve at least a Grade B if the subject has been studied at GCSE level. Indicated below are the individual subject requirements for study at Post-16 Level. Omagh CBS has a long-established tradition of achievement, success, quality teaching and learning at Post-16 Level.

The special features of Senior School include:

- expert tuition in 24 subjects at A-Level and BTEC.
- a friendly atmosphere where a committed team of teachers and support staff work in partnership with the students.
- Specialist study centres with IT provision.
- Tutorial and enrichment programmes, designed to help each student achieve his full potential.

Art and Design
Biology
Business Studies
Business (BTEC) Subsidiary
Chemistry
Construction (BTEC) Subsidiary or Diploma*
Digital Technology
Engineering
English Literature
Environmental Technology
Geography
Government and Politics
History

I.T. OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3
Irish
Life and Health Science
Mathematics
Music
Physics
Religious Studies
Software Systems Development
Spanish
Sport (BTEC) Subsidiary or Diploma*
Technology (System Control)

*Diploma equivalent to 2 A-Levels

Post 16 Enrichment Programme

All students at Post-16 will also continue to have one period of Careers and Religious Education per week and will participate in our varied and interesting Enrichment and Outreach programmes.

A separate prospectus for Post-16 is available from the school or can be accessed via our website.





Omagh Learning Community

We are a member of the Omagh Learning Community (OLC) and therefore students from other schools may study some subjects at our school.

Our students may also choose to study a subject not offered by us at another OLC school, subject to timetabling suitability.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

The School Library

The Library is open at lunchtimes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout each term.

Throughout the year, literary events are held such as:

- The Halloween "Spooker Prize" short story competition in Term One
- Celebrating famous writers such as "Roald Dahl Day" in September
- The Christmas Story 2 Minute Tale
- Celebrating Shakespeare's birthday in April.

Students also undertake word searches, quizzes and find out about the lives and work of these authors and many more!

We also have the 500 words competition which was spearheaded by Chris Evans on BBC Radio Two. Now in its 5th year, we have had a fantastic response from the Year 8 group, tying in with the English curriculum and maximising students' writing skills in a fun and entertaining manner.

The Library is a focal point in the school, situated just off the main foyer, connecting the Sciences to the Arts.

Come in and seek out the recent releases from your favourite authors, participate in the ongoing events, buy from the book fair, contribute to the Big Book Bonanza or simply enjoy some quiet time, while you dip into one of our wide variety of fiction and non-fiction, avoiding the maelstrom of the school day.



eLearning with Microsoft Office 365

CBS Omagh is a Microsoft Showcase School with six certified MIEE eLearning trainers. Visit www.cbsomagh.org/e-learning for guides to our eLearning platform, Microsoft Office 365.



Music

Music is studied by all pupils in Key Stage 3 and it is an optional subject at GCSE, AS and A2 Level.

Music tuition is provided in strings and woodwind by the EA peripatetic music tutors. Voice and guitar tuition is provided by independent tutors.

At CBS Omagh, there has always been a strong tradition of Irish traditional music.

The traditional music group enhances many events both in school and outside.

The Music Department provides opportunities for all pupils from Years 8-14 to come together to enjoy and perform music.

Pupils are involved in the preparation of music for the many school liturgies and events.

Over the last number of years our pupils have taken to the stage of the Strule Arts Centre to perform and share their musical talents for their own community in a professional setting.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Drama and Performing Arts

Drama and Performance have always been facilitated at Omagh CBS not only at Key Stage 3, but across all Key Stages.

The Performing Arts Department offer courses taught in a professional studio environment with access to excellent stage lighting and sound equipment.

Aside from all our curricular courses, the Performing Arts Department boast a wide range of extra-curricular

activities such as Speech and Drama Clubs, and an opportunity to participate in workshops, concerts and school productions.

Pupils also have the opportunity to visit the theatre and many other performance or production related venues and institutions.

Most recently, we have opened up a new and exciting opportunity to visit London, a truly engaging educational experience.



Positive Behaviour Policy

Consideration for the rights of others and good manners are primary responsibilities for all members of the school community. We can teach Positive Behaviour to our students and above all, model it in ourselves, thereby increasing the likelihood of the best social and educational outcomes for our students.

This means insisting on the highest standards of behaviour at all times i.e. punctuality, manners, courtesy, uniform, and the highest standards of work, rewarded appropriately.

It is the responsibility of the Classroom Teacher, Form Teacher and Head of Year and Head of School to implement the agreed Positive Behaviour policy.

The Head of School and Head of Year will review student progress liaising with the Pastoral Care Team and Learning Support Department.

Where breaches of school guidelines occur, the school operates an escalating stage warning system which incorporates on-going communication between parents, pupils and the school.

If a pupil is persistently in breach of school or classroom guidelines he may be referred for one-to-one support to the school's mentoring service which is managed by the Vice Principal.

We appreciate and anticipate parental support in the application of the Positive Behaviour Policy to ensure that the highest standards of behaviour are adhered to at all times. The system will encompass rewards and sanctions.

A full copy of the Positive Behaviour Policy is available on the school website or by contacting the Main Office.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Rewards

We feel it is important to recognise and reward the achievements of students in all areas of school and community life.

Students learn effectively and make progress in a positive learning environment, one which is supportive and encouraging.

A positive reward system operates independently of negative behaviour and will serve to recognise positive achievements or participation within the classroom, school and local community.

It is intended to actively promote high standards of work and active participation in both school and community life.

There are a number of ways in which the school will recognise student achievement and participation.

Students can accumulate positive points on a class by class, weekly, monthly and term basis. Students can receive points for participation/achievement in the following areas: attendance, punctuality, effective use of their planner, work in class, homework, extra-curricular participation and community participation.

Examples of extra-curricular participation that students can earn points for include, but are not limited to, Superleague participation, charity work, peer tutoring, open day duties, weekly clubs, assisting and organising events, representing the school or bringing credit to the school in areas such as sports, drama or music.

Students can also receive points for community participation such as membership of clubs and charity/community/parish work carried out outside school.

- 'Student of the Month' Awards – each month the five students in each class who have received the most positive points will receive a reward.
- Rewarding Achievement trips will also be held at the end of the school year.
- Rewarding Achievement Prize Giving Ceremonies are held twice in the school year to recognise students' high achievement and consistent effort.

We are committed to rewarding achievement and participation both within and beyond the curriculum, and will, therefore, award positive points and rewards accordingly. We monitor and review our Rewarding Achievement Policy to ensure it continues to motivate and reward students.



Visits and Competitions

All students are offered the opportunity to develop their understanding and enjoyment of the curriculum through participating in a wide range of educational visits and competitions.

Examples include:

- Our annual Science Fair
- Experience trips to successful businesses
- Art exhibitions
- Exciting trips to professional soccer matches and sports stadia
- Geography trips to locations such as the Giants Causeway and Marble Arch Caves
- Excursions to historical locations North and South
- Construction site experiences
- History trips to Croke Park, Glasnevin Cemetery and Kilmainham Gaol
- Irish trips to Glenveagh National Park
- English trip to London.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí



Physical Exercise

The official school PE kit, consisting of jersey, shorts and socks is compulsory for all students in Year 8, 9 and 10.

In the interests of health and safety, football boots with metal blades are prohibited on all playing surfaces and those with metal studs are prohibited on the astro-turf pitch.

The school has:

- a fully equipped gym
- training studio
- indoor sports hall
- synthetic pitch
- playing fields at Coolnagard and the Brothers' Park.



A range of sporting activities are offered at the school including:

- athletics
- badminton
- basketball
- handball
- hurling
- football
- rugby
- soccer
- swimming
- tennis





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Extra-Curricular

The school provides an extensive range of activities and events to meet the many and varied interests of our students.

Involvement in extra-curricular activities further develops positive relationships between pupils, staff, parents and the community and allows pupils to develop their own self-esteem and learning.

We encourage participation and continue to extend the range on offer.

Superleague

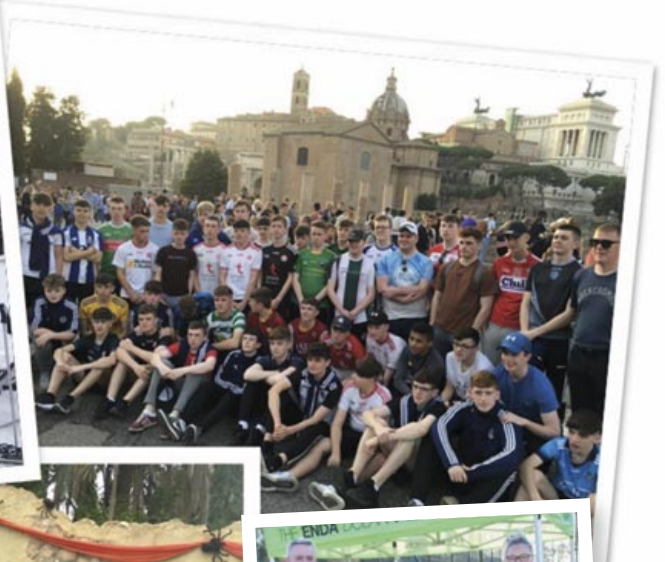
For students who prefer outdoor activities, a Superleague competition runs during lunchtimes where classes in each year group will compete against each other in Gaelic football or soccer.



Get Involved!

Other extra-curricular clubs and opportunities include boxing, basketball, soccer, football, hurling, handball, golf, tennis, library, public speaking, Art Club, Young Scientist and Young Enterprise.

Other initiatives to improve students' learning and enjoyment of school life include our KS3 Science Fair and Study Skills Day.





Travel

We offer regular trips to various destinations, including Barcelona, London, Dublin and Italy.





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

GCSE Examination Results

Students achieving A*-C grades in English and Mathematics

98%

Students achieving 5 or more A Grades

20%

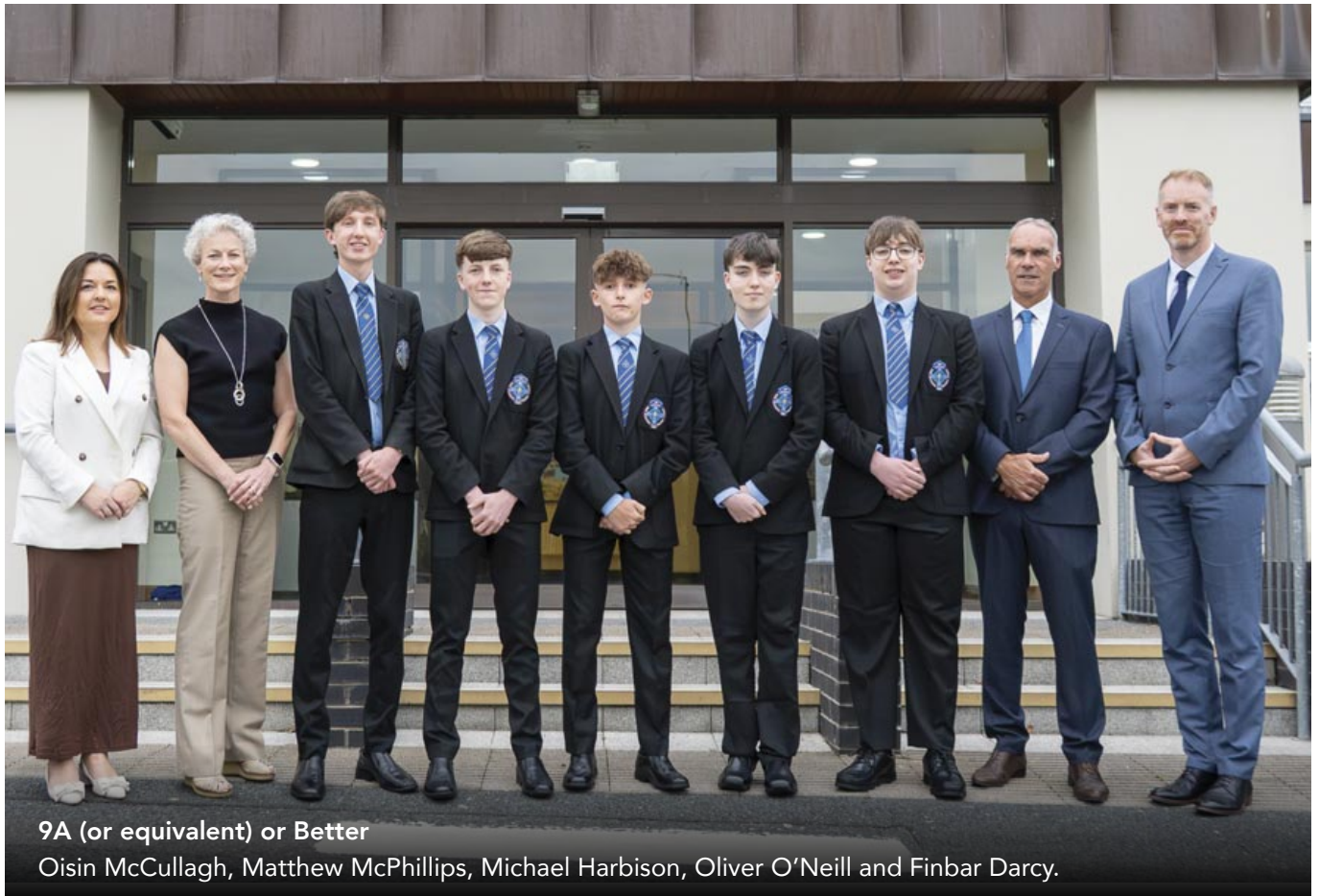
Students achieving 8 or more A Grades

10

Christian Brothers' Grammar School Celebrates Exceptional GCSE Success

Among the top achievers, ten students earned eight or more A grades, showcasing the exceptional talent and dedication within the school community. Notable performances include:

Oisín McCullagh	8A* & 3A grades	Oliver Barton	2A*, 1 Distinction*, 5A, 1B, & 1C* grade
Matthew McPhillips	7A*, 3A, & 1C* grade	Peter Conway	1A*, 1 Distinction*, 6A, 1B, & 1C* grade
Michael Harbison	6A* & 4A grades	Oisín Porter	1A*, 1 Distinction*, 6A, 1B, & 1C* grade
Oliver O'Neill	3A*, 6A, & 1B grade	Conor Gormley-McGlynn	1A*, 7 A, & 2 B grades
Finbar Darcy	2A*, 7A, & 1B grade	Daniel Mullan	8A, 1B, & 1C* grade



9A (or equivalent) or Better

Oisín McCullagh, Matthew McPhillips, Michael Harbison, Oliver O'Neill and Finbar Darcy.

A Level Examination Results

Students achieving A*- C Grades

72%

Students achieving 2 or more A Grades

48

Christian Brothers' Grammar School Celebrates Outstanding A-Level Success

Among the top achievers at A2 Level: Gareth Owens: 2A* & 2A grades
Michael Murphy: 3A* grades
Finn McGillin: 3 Distinction* grades

Earning 2A* grades & 1A: Eoin Donnelly, Brian Gallagher, Conan Gallagher, & Fearghal McGurran.

2 Distinction* & 1 Distinction grades: Matthew Loane.

1A* & 2A grades: Sé Devlin, Enda Donaghy, Luke Gormley, Jack Kennedy, Eoin McCaffrey, Carraig McKenna, Lewis Morgan, & Joe Mullan.

Success was also evident at AS-Level, with outstanding performances from:

Achieving 4A grades:

Senan Doyle, Peter Gormley, Ben Higgins, Ultan McConnell, Emmett McKiernan, and Pawel Sidorenko

Achieving at least 3A grades

Felix Baxter-Duncan, Hugh Gormley, Cormac McCarney, and Michael McNamee.



Top A-Level Students

Gareth Owens (Drumduff P.S, Beragh), Michael Murphy (Holy Family P.S, Omagh), Finn McGillin (Sacred Heart P.S, Tattyreagh)



www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Careers Education

All students in the school receive formal careers education.

An Employability programme is delivered to students in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. Further careers guidance is given to Year 10 and Year 12 students, to assist them in selecting subjects for GCSE and Post-16.

Special attention is given to Careers Education in KS4 as part of Learning for Life and Work.

Year 12 students receive one-to-one guidance from the Northern Ireland Careers Service and also can discuss their own particular queries or concerns with our Careers staff.

Post-16 students are timetabled for a weekly formal Careers class.

The Post-16 careers class allows them to work through the process of selecting their Post-18 pathway and making their UCAS, CAO, college, apprenticeship, or employment applications.

All Year 13s will also undertake work experience.

Additional opportunities for their work experience can be arranged for Year 14 students if required.

A range of career activities is organised for Year 13 students, including workshops, industry talks and lectures by Admissions Tutors from universities throughout the UK and Ireland.

Mock interviews will also be arranged for all students called to interviews for their chosen courses.

All students in Year 13 and 14 receive regular one-to-one career guidance interviews.

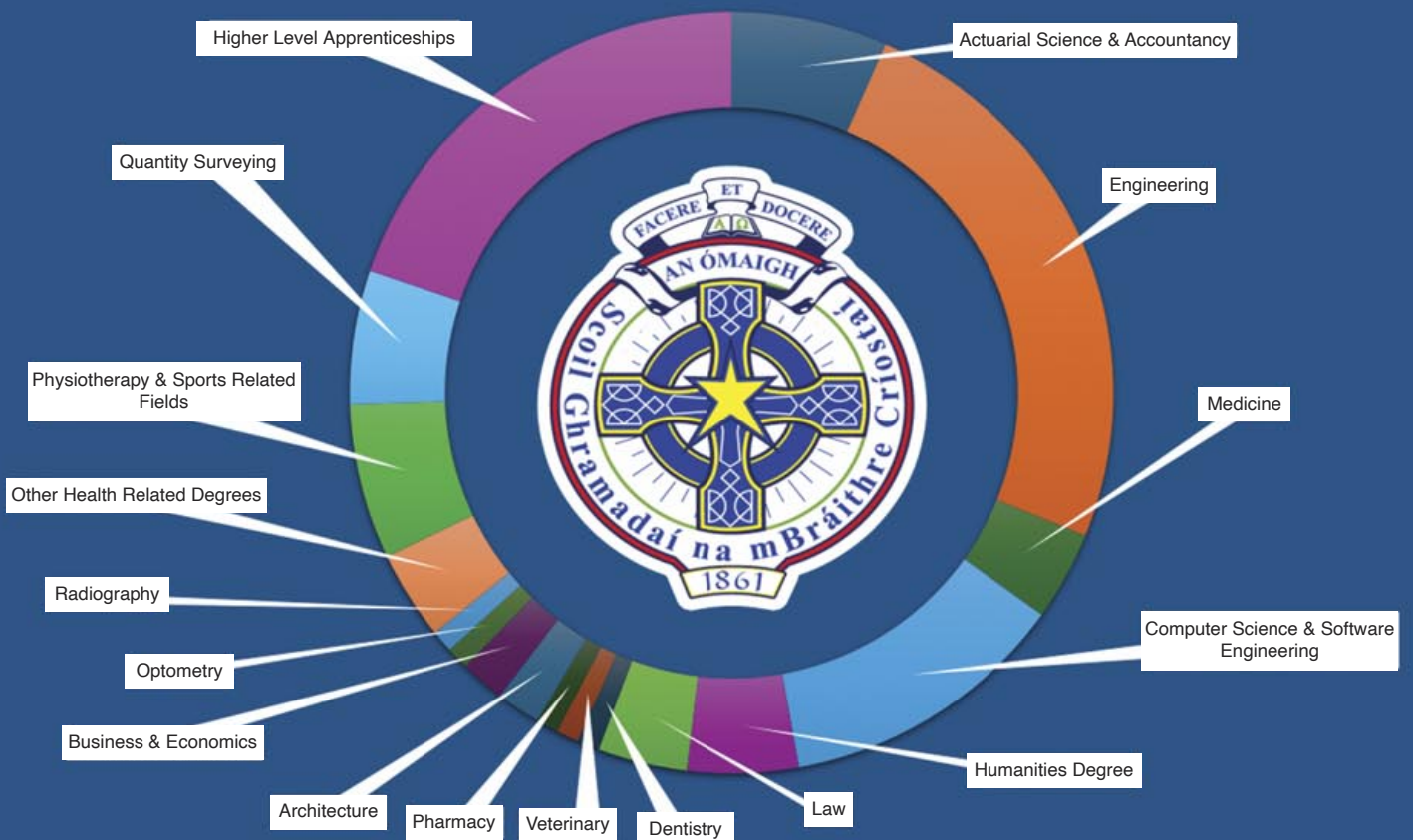
Each Year 13 student will be assigned to a specific Careers Teacher within the school who will discuss their particular educational and vocational choices on a one-to-one basis.

To complement our Careers teaching staff, we employ a Careers Advisor.





Class of 2025: Bright Futures for Our Boys





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

School Development Fund



Parents of each student attending are asked to contribute £60 towards the Christian Brothers 'School Development Fund.'

- For families with two sons attending, the contribution is £100 and
- For three or more sons it is £120
- Contributions are collected either: on the first day back to school in September or by Direct Debit by contacting the Bursar.
- Your contributions are used exclusively to benefit the students of this school, providing additional resources and facilities beyond our budget allowance.



Charging Policy (subject to change)

The policy of this school is to charge for:

- Board and lodgings on residential visits
- Costs associated with the provision of individual tuition on a musical instrument whether inside or outside school hours unless it is provided as an essential part of the syllabus for an approved public examination or to meet the requirements of Article 11 (1)(b) of the Education Order (1989)
- The costs of entering a student for a non-approved public examination and for preparing the student for that examination outside school hours.
- The cost of entering a student to re-sit an approved public examination and the cost of AS "cash in" in Year 14
- The cost of entering a student for a second approved public examination in the same academic year when preparation by the school enables the student to take more than one examination in that subject (often referred to as double-entry).
- An appropriate charge will be levied for past papers depending on actual cost to each department.
- The cost of any re-scrutiny of examination results if such a re-scrutiny is requested by parents.
- The cost, in cash or in kind, of ingredients or materials needed for practical subjects such as Technology, Home Economics, Engineering, Construction, Hospitality and Art and Design.

For 2026-27, students in Key Stage 3 will be asked to contribute:

- £6 for the cooking supplies being used in Home Economics during the year
- £5 for materials used in projects in Technology
- £3 for materials used in ceramics and textile units of Art

For 2026-27, students in Key Stage 4 will be asked to contribute:

- £6 per term for the cooking supplies being used in Hospitality
- £20 towards the cost of materials for their projects in Technology, Construction and Engineering towards expenses for specialist materials such as ceramics and textiles throughout the year in Art depending on the demands of each unit of work.

Those students who complete artefacts made from clay, wood, metal, plastics or fabric that have been provided by the department, will be charged the cost price of the material if or when they take those artefacts home.

For 2026-27, at Post-16 level, students will be asked to contribute:

- all additional materials needed for projects in Art
- all of the materials used in Technology

The student may take home the products produced in Home Economics, Hospitality, Engineering and Technology where the student has contributed partly or wholly for the product. Where no contribution has been made, the product remains the property of the school. In Art, the student is required to provide the finished piece to the school for display in the following academic year.

Optional extra activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours and are additional to the education provided by the school for the purposes of preparing students for an approved public examination or for the purposes of meeting the statutory requirements imposed by Article 11 (1)(a) and (b) of the Education Order 1989.

- Participation in any such activities is to be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet such charges as made.

A charge will be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of property (including premises, furniture, equipment, books or materials) belonging to a third party, where the cost has been recharged to the school. The charge to be the cost of replacement or repair, or such lower cost as the Principal may decide.

For printing or copying costs incurred. Textbooks are provided free of charge, but in some subjects, additional revision guides, past papers, etc are available, for which a charge is made.

Lost/unreturned text books will be charged at replacement cost.

iPayImpact -

Guide: <https://cbsomagh.org/cashless-catering-online-e-payments-for-school-meals>



We have operate a Cashless system called **iPayImpact**. We do not take cash at any sale points in the school (canteen, stationery office, main office etc.) and each student will have their finger scanned for iPayImpact. There are 2 ways of putting money on to your son's account.

- Use our 2 Reval machines; simply place your finger on the pad to activate the account and insert coins and/or notes.
- Online e-payments via your iPayImpact account. Your iPayImpact gives access to spending details and account status.

The Schools preferred method of payment is by using the online e-payment as this can save your son time queuing to add money at the Reval machines and eliminates your son carrying cash to school.

When a purchase is made (e.g. in the canteen) your son will place his finger on the pad which will activate his account, the till operator rings up the items, and the balance on your son's account is reduced by the price of the meal.

- Students who are eligible for the free school meals will operate in exactly the same manner as everyone else, the computer will automatically add the free allowance onto your son's account every day.
- Such students can also add their own money onto their account in the normal way.



www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Strule Shared Education Centre

In September 2028, CBS pupils will start the academic year in the new purpose-built Christian Brothers' Grammar School building on the Strule Shared Education Campus. The campus will include buildings for each of the six schools as well as the Shared Education Centre, the Shared Sports Centre and the Sports Pavilion.



The Department of Education awarded the construction contract to the partnership of local construction firms, the Woodvale Lowry Joint Venture in August 2024 and we are very proud that former CBS pupils are part of the teams delivering this campus for future generations.

Construction commenced in February 2025 and is progressing at pace. The steel structures for the school buildings are nearly finished and the construction is on schedule to be complete before the end of 2027.



From the start of 2028, a process of familiarisation events will commence for pupils, parents and school staff to get to know the campus before the campus becomes fully operational in September 2028.

Keep track of the progression of the campus by watching the drone footage uploaded to the Strule website every month.

<https://strule.org/news-item/drone-footage-from-strule/>





The CBS building is located centrally to the north side of the campus. It is immediately adjacent to the shared education centre and in close proximity to the shared sports centre, pavilion and sports pitches.

The school has three distinct parts; a two storey wing to the east, a central three storey wing and a single storey wing to the west which will contain the sports hall, changing facilities and a multipurpose hall with a demountable stage area.

At the main entrance, the first floor pastoral space will be suspended over the entrance lobby, creating a powerful first impression for pupils, staff and visitors.

In common with the other schools on the Strule Campus, the Christian Brothers' Grammar School building will have a central courtyard space which connects directly to the south facing dining hall.



Classrooms will have state of the art integrated technology to support the delivery of the curriculum and be adaptable to the needs of pupils.

The construction of Christian Brothers' Grammar School is progressing rapidly. The steel structures for the two main multi-storey wings are complete.

Detailed floor plans can be found in the Christian Brothers' Grammar School section of the Strule website: <https://strule.org/schools-and-masterplan/christian-brothers-grammar-school/>





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Community Involvement and Fundraising

We provide students with a programme of activities which promotes the full development of his spiritual, intellectual, social and physical powers.

Every year we organise a 10k/5k Run/Walk for the whole school and local community.



Students are actively involved in:

- the Millennium Volunteer Award
- John Paul II Award
- WHSCT Volunteer scheme
- our in-school Hall Monitoring Programme
- SVP Christmas Hamper Appeal
- our clothing banks for SVP
- in-house peer tutoring
- street collections for a number of charities
- entertaining residents at local nursing homes.







www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Admissions criteria for entry September 2026

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Kevlin Road, Omagh, BT78 1LD

Telephone: 028 8224 3567

E-mail: info@cbs.omagh.ni.sch.uk

Voluntary Grammar School

Boys

Age Range: 11-18

Principal: Mr Stephen Keown

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mrs Dympna Kelly

Admissions No: 135

Enrolment No: 950

Roll: 913

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

The Christian Brothers' Grammar School, Omagh is a Catholic grammar school for boys which serves the community of the local area as indicated by the list of feeder primary schools. This school wishes to accept boys who are academically suited for the type of education it offers and whose parents/guardians agree with the ethos and aims of the school. The Board of Governors has delegated the responsibilities for the task of applying the criteria as indicated below to a Transfer Sub Committee, which includes the School Principal.

Applications made in a particular academic year will be considered only for entry in that year. Thereafter, applicants will be required to make a new application for any subsequent year. A waiting list of applicants who made an initial application for admission in 2026 will be held until Monday 7th September 2026. Thereafter, parents/guardians who wish their child to be considered, should a place become available, must make a new application.

When considering which boys will be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only consider information which is detailed on or attached to the Online Transfer Form. Parents/Guardians must therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their son and relevant to the school's admission criteria is stated on the Online Transfer Form or attached to it.

For admission via the academic selection route, Parents/Guardians must provide on/with the child's Online Transfer Form the band and combined Standardised Age Score achieved in the Schools Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG) Entrance Assessments and attach to the form the original copy of the Statement of Results issued by SEAG which must include the combined Standardised Age Score.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA 2026

In accordance with the 1997 Education (Northern Ireland) Order (Section 16 (4)), pupils resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission will be selected for admission before any child not so resident may be selected.

Sub-Criteria

For the application of the Admissions Criteria, if there are more boys who meet one of the criteria than there are places available, then the remaining criteria will become sub-criteria and applied successively in the order set out until the final selection is completed. Therefore, the criteria further down the ranking list serve as sub-criteria or tiebreakers for the admissions process.

Admission to the school will be via two routes.

Route 1 – Non-Academic Selection: 25% of pupils will be selected by this route. (34 pupils will be admitted via Route 1.

Route 2 – Academic Selection: 75% of pupils will be selected by this route. (101 pupils will be admitted via Route 2)

Route 1 – Non-Academic Selection (to select 25% of pupils)

For Route 1 applicants 25% of the intake will be selected from the criteria below. **There will be no requirement for applicants to have taken the SEAG Assessments.**

If an applicant is not admitted through the Route 1 Criteria, he will be automatically included for admission at Route 2, provided he has taken the SEAG Assessments.

In the event of the number of pupils applying through the Route 1 process exceeding the places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set down. If the Admissions Number is exceeded by application of a particular criterion, then the remaining criteria will be used, in turn, to reduce the number of children still being considered for places until the admissions number is reached.

1. Boys with a brother who is currently a pupil or was a past pupil of the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh or has been selected for admission to the school in the coming school year.
2. Boys with a parent currently on the permanent staff of the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh or a member of the Board of Governors of the School.
3. Boys who have a parent or grandparent who is a past pupil of the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh and where verifiable evidence has been submitted.
4. Boys who are from feeder primary schools listed in the table below.
5. Boys who at the date of their application are the eldest of the family to be eligible to transfer to a mainstream Post-Primary school. This is subject to satisfying verification requirements as set out below: The verifying letter must be uploaded with the online application and state that the boy is the eldest and that the boy and family are known to the verifier. It must be written on headed notepaper and signed by one of the following who is not a member of the applicant's family e.g.
 - a primary school principal
 - a medical practitioner
 - a solicitor
 - a clergyman or equivalentThis is not an exhaustive list.
6. Boys who are entitled to Free School Meals. "Entitled to Free School Meals" will mean applicants who are listed on the Education Authority register as entitled to Free School Meals. The last date for parents to communicate to the Education Authority their entitlement to free school meals is no later than 4pm on Tuesday 24th February 2026.
7. Boys ranked by date of birth as entered on the Birth Certificate with the eldest being admitted first.

If there are more boys in any one of the above sub-criteria 1 to 7 than there are places available, then the remaining criteria will become sub-criteria and applied successively in the order set out until the final selection is completed.

In the event of two or more boys having the same date of birth and thereby qualifying for the last place(s), the boys will be ranked by alphabetical order of surname and then forenames as listed on the birth certificate.

If, on application of the sub-criteria, there remains oversubscription in the last sub-criterion which can be applied, applicants will be selected for admission on the basis of the initial letter of surname (as entered on the birth certificate or court order) in the order of letters set out below, as determined by a randomised selection:

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

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname 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. Should two or more applicants have the same surname and forename and thereby qualify for the last available place(s), those applicants will be placed in rank order of eldest child by date of birth as stated on their Birth Certificate and admitted in this order.

Route 2 –Academic Selection (to select 75% of pupils)

Applicants will be admitted by rank order of the combined Standardised Age Score attained in the SEAG Assessments (or the score deemed, in the opinion of the authorised sub-committee, for those regarding whom parental claims for special circumstances or special provision have been accepted), the highest scoring candidate being ranked first, the next highest candidate being ranked second, etc. Applicants will be admitted in rank order, up to the maximum of the school's admissions number (135).

If there are more boys who attained the same Standardised Age Score in the SEAG Entrance Assessment than there are places available, then the criteria below will become sub-criteria and applied successively in the order set out until the final selection is completed.

- Boys with a brother who is currently a pupil or was a past pupil of the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh or has been selected for admission to the school in the coming school year.
- Boys with a parent currently on the permanent staff of the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh or a member of the Board of Governors of the School.
- Boys who have a parent or grandparent who is a past pupil of the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh and where verifiable evidence has been submitted.
- Boys who are from feeder primary schools listed in the table below.
- Boys who at the date of their application are the eldest of the family to be eligible to transfer to a mainstream Post-Primary school. This is subject to satisfying verification requirements as set out below: The verifying letter must be uploaded with the online application and state that the boy is the eldest and that the boy and family are known to the verifier. It must be written on headed notepaper and signed by one of the following who is not a member of the applicant's family e.g.
 - a primary school principal
 - a medical practitioner
 - a solicitor
 - a clergyman or equivalent

This is not an exhaustive list.

- Boys who are entitled to Free School Meals. "Entitled to Free School Meals" will mean applicants who are listed on the Education Authority register as entitled to Free School Meals. The last date for parents to communicate to the Education Authority their entitlement to free school meals is no later than 4pm on Tuesday 24th February 2026.
- Boys ranked by date of birth as entered on the Birth Certificate with the eldest being admitted first.

If there are more boys in any one of the above sub-criteria 1 to 7 than there are places available, then the remaining criteria will become sub-criteria and applied successively in the order set out until the final selection is completed.

In the event of two or more boys having the same date of birth and

thereby qualifying for the last place(s), the boys will be ranked by alphabetical order of surname and then forenames as listed on the birth certificate.

If, on application of the sub-criteria, there remains oversubscription in the last sub-criterion which can be applied, applicants will be selected for admission on the basis of the initial letter of surname (as entered on the birth certificate or court order) in the order of letters set out below, as determined by a randomised selection:

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

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter, the subsequent letters of the surname 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. Should two or more applicants have the same surname and forename and thereby qualify for the last available place(s), those applicants will be placed in rank order of eldest child by date of birth as stated on their Birth Certificate and admitted in this order.

List of Feeder Primary Schools for the Christian Brothers Omagh

All Saints Tattysallagh	St Joseph's Kildress
Arvalee Primary School	St Lawrence's Fintona
Christ the King Omagh	St Macartan's Clogher
Gaelscoil na gCrann	St Malachy's Glencull
Gaelscoil Ui Dhochartaigh	St Michael's Dunamanagh
Gaelscoil Eoghain	St Mary's P.S. Aughnacloy
Gibson P.S.	St Mary's Ballygawley
Knocknagor Trillick	St Mary's Cloughcor
Omagh Integrated P.S.	St. Mary's Dunamore
Omagh County P.S.	St Mary's Killyclogher
Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.	St Mary's Pomeroy
Recarson Primary School	St Mary's Strabane
Sacred Heart Tattyreagh	St Oliver Plunkett's Beragh
Sion Mills Primary School	St Patrick's Aughadarragh
St Brigid's Altamuskin	St Patrick's Castlederg
St Brigid's Cranagh	St Patrick's Eskra
St Brigid's Mountfield	St Patrick's Gortin
St Caireall's Aghyaran	St Patrick's Newtownstewart
St Catherine's Strabane	St Peter's Plumbbridge
St Columba's Clady	St Scire's Trillick
St Columbkille's Carrickmore	St Teresa's Glebe
St Conor's Omagh	St Teresa's Loughmacrory
St Dymrna's Dromore	Tattygar Primary School
St Eugene's Victoria Bridge	The Holy Family Omagh
St Joseph's Drumquin	Tummary Primary School
St Joseph's Ederney	

Verification of all Information

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 or appended to the Transfer Application by parents/guardians. For verification purposes original documents are required and not photocopies.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide any further requested verifying documents within a deadline set by the Christian Brothers' Grammar School will result in either the withdrawal of a place or the inability of the school to offer a place.

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that:

- The Transfer Application and other necessary documentation are correctly completed.
- Any Special Provision being claimed is properly documented as described below and in the guidance documentation available from our school.



www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

- The provision of any verification documents required is the responsibility of the Parents/Guardians of the child and should be provided within specified deadlines.

Failure to ensure that this occurs may lead to any request for Special Circumstances not being considered and/or the application not being considered by the Board of Governors and/or the withdrawal of a place in the school.

Special Circumstances

Where a parental claim is being made that medical or other problems affected the performance of their child in the SEAG Entrance Assessment, then it is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure that this is communicated as outlined in the "Claiming Special Circumstances – A Guide for Parents & Guardians" document.

If applying for Special Circumstances, parents/guardians must also upload with the online application:

- A completed Special Circumstances Form (Form SC available from the School).
- A report from the primary school on the academic ability of the applicant which **must include all standardised test results in Literacy and Numeracy** taken since the beginning of the Key Stage 2 period.
- Parents/Guardians may also include his school reports for Primary 5 and/or 6 if they show the results of standardised tests. (Upon receipt of a request in writing by a pupil's parent or guardian, a primary school must disclose the relevant pupil's record of progress and achievement. The onus is on the parent or guardian to obtain from the primary school full information on the pupil's academic performance and test results and to provide this to the Christian Brothers' Grammar School).

No information will be sought by the Christian Brothers' Grammar School directly from the primary school

- Independent, verifiable documentary evidence such as medical or social reports providing evidence that medical or other problems directly influenced the outcome of the SEAG Entrance Assessment tests must be uploaded when completing the online application by 12.00 noon on Thursday 19th February 2026.

Special Provision

What is Special Provision?

A candidate may request Special Provisions, where the candidate:

- has received more than half of their education** outside Northern Ireland; or
***based on the time from the start of Primary 1 (1st September 2018) to the 28th February 2025 i.e., more than 3 years and 3 months.*
- wishes to transfer to a post-primary school that uses the SEAG Entrance Assessment from a school outside Northern Ireland; or
- due to a serious medical or other problem, which are supported by appropriate documentary evidence, was EITHER unable to sit the SEAG Entrance Assessment OR has an estimated outcome because they only sat one of the two Entrance Assessment papers.

For applicants claiming Special Provision parents/guardians should complete the Special Provisions Form (Form SP available from the School), stating the case for eligibility under this category and upload it and all appropriate verified documentation when completing the online application.

If your son is moving to a primary school in Northern Ireland or will be transferring directly from a primary school outside Northern Ireland you should contact the School Admissions Department of the Education Authority to inform them of your intention to apply to the Christian Brothers' Grammar School Omagh.

Applications for Special Provision received after all schools have been allocated their Year 8 intake by the Education Authority (usually by the end of May), will be processed but will be conditional on the Department of Education allowing an additional place.

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to provide precise reasons why the applicant did not take part in the SEAG Entrance Assessment and to ensure appropriate documentary evidence is uploaded with the online application.

The Board of Governors Selection Committee will decide whether these boys should be admitted on the basis that they fall within the ability range of other boys being admitted in that year.

On the basis of this information the Selection Committee will determine a score for the boy which will be the score used in the application of the Admissions Criteria. The Selection Committee may require an assessment of the boy's abilities to be carried out by a suitably qualified person or body approved by Omagh Christian Brothers' Grammar School. **See "Claiming Special Provisions – A Guide for Parents & Guardians" with Form SP (available from the school).**

It is for parents/guardians to present all such material as they consider will assist the selection panel in its deliberations and to have it appropriately verified.

Those boys to whom this provision applies may, if their parents/guardians wish, sit the SEAG Entrance Assessment in which case the score obtained would also be considered.

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 8

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/24	135	160	*140
2024/25	135	137	*135
2025/26	135	112	*122

****The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 includes all Year 8 children admitted to the school including those who have a statement of special educational needs and/or may be attending SPiMS.**

(SPiMS = Specialist Provision in Mainstream School)



Correct at time of print: December 2025
www.eani.org.uk/admissions





www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

New Year, New Adventures



Senan Murphy

8D

Former Primary Schools: St.Conors & St.Colmcilles.

On my first day at CBS I felt nervous but excited too. When I got into the Assembly Hall I felt a lot better seeing some people I knew. We got put into forms and met our form teacher Mr J White. All the teachers have helped me a lot to settle and be happy in CBS. I have really enjoyed meeting new friends within the school. My favourite subjects in CBS are PE, Maths and Technology. I have really enjoyed taking part in Super league, the Railway Cup and Technology Club. Super League is at lunchtime and you play against other form classes. My advice to children coming into this school is be yourself, don't worry as the teacher will make you enjoy school so much and have fun.



Matthew O'Neill

8E

Former Primary School: St.Joseph's, Drumquin.

On my first day of CBS, I felt nervous and a bit worried. Coming into the CBS was a big change especially coming from a much smaller school in Drumquin. When I arrived at the assembly hall, I was seated with my class. I didn't know many people at first but it didn't take me long to get to know them. I enjoyed the ice breaker activities with Mrs.Pearson as they were fun and helped us get to know each other. All my teachers were kind and very helpful to me finding my way around the school and guiding me until it all became familiar.

My favourite subjects are Technology and Science as we get to do fun practical tasks. I also really enjoy P.E as we get to play Gaelic and rugby. The CBS offers a lot of extra-curricular activities. I take part in the super league and the railway cup. These are both competitive Gaelic tournaments and they are very enjoyable.

The advice that I would give to future year 8 pupils is that CBS is a homely and supportive school with a great canteen!



Cathal Grice

8E

Former Primary School: St.Lawrence's, Fintona.

On my first day it was a bluster of emotion with getting the bus and going to class and meeting my new teachers. It was odd seeing so many people in the hall. I have a nice Form Teacher and a class full of friends. Some I did not know but soon got to be best friends. At lunch I did not know about the people wearing a badge that said HALL MONITOR they actually stop you from walking in the halls because year 11 to 14 are still working but most are friendly. The subject I love the most is Irish because it is good to know more than one language other good subjects are English Science and Performing Arts. In P.E we do Rugby which is always fun. One of the best types of things outside of the class is Super League. If you are nervous be assured that you have friends every where you look. Thank you for listening.



Cahán Mac Giolla Earnáin

8A

Former Primary School: Gaelscoil na gCrann

On my first day at CBS I felt a little bit nervous, but I also felt a bit excited to start a new chapter of my life at the school. When I first stepped foot in the the school, the teachers and staff welcomed me with open arms. I walked to the assembly hall to find out what classes we have, I'm in 8A the best class! I like technology, P.E. and of course Irish because I am fluent in Irish.

I also love doing the practical tasks in Technology and PE is just great. The extra-curricular activities at the school are endless and I am a part of the Technology club. I have so much fun there, and if you like football and Gaelic you can play for your class and play against the other classes in a competition called super league.

All in all enjoy every minute of year 8.



Bernard Essuman

8B

Former Primary School: Christ The King

My first day at Christian Brothers' Grammar School in Omagh was unforgettable. I felt incredibly excited because it had always been my dream school. As I walked through the front doors, a teacher greeted me warmly, which immediately made me feel welcome. The atmosphere was friendly, and there were smiles everywhere.

A senior prefect brought me to the assembly hall. I was a bit nervous to look at the board to see which form class I would be in, but that nervousness quickly turned into happiness when I discovered that two boys from my primary school were in the same class as me. We began the day with some ice-breaking challenges, which really helped me get to know the others in my form. They made settling in so much easier.

I really enjoy PE because I love sports and already take part in them outside of school. I also enjoy English, especially because of the stories we read. I was proud to be awarded English Pupil of the Month for my excellent behavior and for contributing answers in class.

There are so many activities to get involved in during lunchtime. One of my favorites is the Super League, a knockout-style Gaelic football tournament. There's also soccer, which I really enjoy because of how competitive it is. Another club I love is the Science Club, where we get to do exciting experiments in the lab. There truly is something for everyone at school.

My advice to anyone starting at Christian Brothers is simple: work hard, follow your dreams, and most importantly, have fun!



www.cbsomagh.org

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

New Year, New Adventures



Fabian Clarke

8A

Former primary school: Holy Family Primary School, Omagh

On my first day of CBS it was a nervous and anxious day. Coming to CBS was a different school coming from a much smaller primary school. Seeing all the older senior students was weird especially as I was now youngest in the school whereas previously I was the oldest in primary school! The thing that helped me settle in was that my brother was in Year 11 and he showed me around. My favourite subjects were PE and HE because PE was full of playing rugby or any other sport that I enjoyed playing a lot and HE was full of making lovely foods and desserts. I loved doing other curricular activities such as super league and railway cup. My form class 8a is the funniest class but we're not the best at super league as all the other classes have more Gaelic players but you never know what will happen next year. My advice would be to stay confident and don't be worried about any tests if you revise and any languages you think you will fail at that was me and now I am flying at my languages so remember to have fun and enjoy your time at school.



Dualta McNabb

8C

Former Primary School: St.Scire's, Trillick.

On the morning of my first day at the CBS, I was feeling very nervous and a bit excited to start a new school in a new place. As I first walked through the front doors there were some very welcoming Senior Prefects to take me to the Assembly Hall where I would find out my form class and form teacher.

I did not know most of the people in my class but they're all my friends now. My form teacher, Mr McNulty, is just the best at understanding and caring. The school seemed so big and daunting and initially it seemed impossible to find all the classrooms, but it's not that big after a week or so. My favourite subject so far must be PE because you get to go to the pool for eight Tuesdays in a row and play Gaelic, soccer and loads of other sports. I also really like Irish and Spanish because learning a new language is so fun and interesting.

On a Tuesday at lunchtime there is also Super-League where your form class plays against another class. There are also some really good extra-curricular activities to participate in, like Games club, Art club and I also like going to Cross Country training after school. The canteen has got a really good selection of amazing foods from jambons to hot chocolate. CBS is just the best, so have fun and an amazing time!



O God, we thank you for the life of Blessed Edmund Rice.

He opened his heart to Christ
present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice.

May we follow his example of faith and generosity.
Grant us the courage and compassion of Blessed Edmund
as we seek to live lives of love and service.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,

Amen

Over 160 years of excellence in education



Christian Brothers' Grammar School

Scoil Ghramadaí na mBráithre Críostaí

Kevlin Road, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, BT78 1LD

Tel: 028 8224 3567 / Fax: 028 8224 0656

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

www.cbsomagh.org