

MILL STRAND INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL
35 Ballywillan Road
Portrush
Co Antrim
BT56 8JL

Grant Maintained Integrated Primary School

Enrolment No. 385
Admissions No. 58

Telephone: 028 7082 3090
Email: info@millstrandintegratedps.portrush.ni.sch.uk
Website: www.millstrand.co.uk

Principal: Mr C. Hannigan
Chair of Board of Governors: Mrs L. Rossington

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

The Board of Governors will determine the Admissions Criteria. The criteria will be applied by a Sub-Committee of the Board of Governors.

As an integrated primary school, a key purpose of the school is to educate together children of different traditions.

In applying the admissions criteria, the Board of Governors will strive to ensure a balance of Roman Catholic, Protestant and other religions and children of no religion (40%:40%:20%).

The religious affiliation/community background (Protestant, Catholic or Other/None) of a pupil will be determined by:

- a) For parents/guardians applying for a place via the Education Authority's online application you will be prompted to and must select your child's religious affiliation when completing the online form
- b) If the parents/guardians do not supply this required information, then the Board of Governors will treat the application as being from those in the community who describe themselves as being from the Other/None category.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 7 January 2026 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 21 January 2026 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 21 January 2026 and up to 4 pm on 26 January 2026 will be treated as a late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances. After 4 pm on 26 January 2026 no applications will be processed until after the close of procedure on 23 March 2026.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Any child who reaches their 4th Birthday on or before 1st July 2026 is of Compulsory School Age. Under the School Age (NI) Act which became law in Northern Ireland in April 2022, 'compulsory school age' also includes those children who deferred commencing Primary 1 in September 2025 as defined by the new School Age (NI) Act (both groups to be treated equally).

Priority will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school before those who are not so resident.

Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the school being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in order of priority.

School Admissions Criteria

Admissions criteria for entry September 2026

1. Children whose brothers and sisters, half-brothers/half-sisters, step-brothers/step-sisters, foster brothers/foster sisters are current or past pupils of Mill Strand Integrated School. (Full name, dates of attendance must be stipulated on application form).
2. Children/grandchildren of a permanent employee of Mill Strand Integrated School & Nursery by the closing date of application.
3. Children who have attended Mill Strand Integrated Nursery Unit.
4. Children who applied as a first choice for a place in Mill Strand Integrated Nursery Unit
5. Children who are the eldest child in the family to apply for mainstream education.
6. Children of parents who state a clear preference for an integrated education, as indicated by preference on their application form in addition to the criteria above.
7. If still oversubscribed, children will be selected on the basis of the initial letter of their surname (as entered on their current birth certificate) in the order set out below:

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

- 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 initial forename (as detailed on the child's current birth certificate) will be used.
- In the event of two or more identical names, selection will be made according to the one whose parents' home is nearest to this Mill Strand Integrated School as decided by walking distance from home to school using Google maps. For the purpose of this measurement, only verified public walkways and footpaths that are normally accessible throughout the year will be used. Routes that pass-through areas with restricted or seasonal access will not be considered.

DUTY TO VERIFY

Applicants should note that for this school Parents/Guardians will be required to produce not only their child's birth certificate to their first preference provider but also produce proof of the child's home address and postcode in the form of an up-to-date utility bill to support their application (6 months maximum).

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by the school will result in the inability of the school to offer a place/the withdrawal of a place.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on the application or provided directly to the school. Parents/Guardians should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the School's Admission Criteria is stated on the application or provided directly to the school as supporting evidence for it by the deadlines detailed.

WAITING LIST POLICY – RELEVANT UNTIL 30 JUNE 2026

If you had applied to Mill Strand Integrated School and had not been allocated a place at our school following the Open Enrolment Process, your child's details will automatically be placed on the Waiting List. Parents do not need to reapply. Mill Strand Integrated School's policy on the consideration of applications after the Open Enrolment Admissions procedure has been completed is that should a vacancy arise, Governors will, in the following order:

- Consider all available information with reference to children who have special personal or home circumstances. Each case will be dealt with on their own merit and must be accompanied by supporting evidence from relevant professionals.
- Apply the original criteria to all pupils remaining on the waiting list.

Parents whose child is offered a place at this stage, will be notified by letter by the principal who has been delegated responsibility by the Governors for this role.

ADMISSION TO P2-P7

The Board of Governors holds a waiting list for admission to Mill Strand Integrated Primary School for pupils P2 – P7, which is held for one academic year. Available places in these year groups are offered in order of the receipt of the application for a child to be put on the waiting list. Parents/guardians who wish their child to remain on the waiting list after the end of the academic year must reapply annually.

It is the responsibility of parent/guardians to make all relevant information available to Governors at the time of application. It should be noted also that parents may be required to produce information pertinent to the verification of the above criteria.

APPLICATIONS & ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY 1

Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/2024	49	46
2024/2025	37	37
*2025/2026	57	57

****The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 includes all P1 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)***