

St Mary's Primary School Nursery Unit
Melmount/Ballycolman
43 Melmount Road
Strabane
BT82 9EF

Voluntary Maintained
Age Range 2-4

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Principal: Mrs Sandra O'Doherty

Chairperson: Ms Liz Kavanagh

Admissions No: 104

Roll: Full-time 104

GENERAL INFORMATION

St Mary's Nursery is a Co-educational Nursery based on a split site situated in the grounds of St Mary's Primary School, Melmount and Ballycolman. The Melmount Nursery unit which is purpose built and self-contained consists of two playrooms, two quiet rooms, an enclosed outdoor play area, toilet facilities (which can cater for disabilities, utility room, a staffroom and Parent Area. The Ballycolman Unit is a purpose built Nursery and consists of two playrooms, two quiet rooms, a large enclosed outdoor play area, toilet facilities and a large entrance hall.

The Nursery caters for 104 children on a full-time basis. It is staffed by a well qualified and experienced team whose aim is to provide quality Nursery education within a secure, safe and caring environment.

The Nursery Curriculum offered will stimulate and promote the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of each child.

The staff are also strongly committed to partnership with parents in providing an enjoyable and enriching pre-school education.

The term 'brother/sister' in all the criteria below also includes step-brother / step-sister /half-brother / half-sister /foster brother /foster sister living at the same address.

Admissions Criteria

'When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or attached to it. Examples of such information include*(whether the child is the eldest child/has brothers or sisters attending or previously enrolled in the school/nursery).'

Parents should indicate on their form whether they would prefer the Melmount Road or Ballycolman site. In the event of oversubscription for either site and after the application of Statutory and Sub-Criteria the final places will be determined by the sub-committee of the Board of Governors based on the distance from home to the nearest site. This will be determined by the shortest distance by public footpath.

Children who are not normally resident in Northern Ireland will not be considered for places until all children who live in Northern Ireland have been considered.

The Board of Governors have determined that, in the event of there being more applicants than places available the following criteria will be applied, in the order set down, to select children for the available places.

Priority will be given to applicants who select St Mary's Nursery as their 1st preference.

Statutory Criteria

1. Children born between 2 July 2010 and 1 July 2011 whose parent(s) guardian(s) is/are in receipt of Income-based Jobseekers Allowance or Income Support.
2. Children born between 2 July 2010 and 1 July 2011 whose parents or guardians reside in the Parish of Mourne.
3. Children born between 2 July 2010 and 1 July 2011.
4. Other children of a pre-school age from the parish of Mourne.
5. Other children of a pre-school age

Sub-Criteria

In the event of more pupils satisfying the last criterion, which can be applied, then selection for the remaining places will be on the basis of the following sub-criteria.

1. Children with brothers / sisters presently enrolled in St Mary's Primary School, Melmount Strabane or previously enrolled in Ballycolman Nursery or St Mary's Girls' PS Nursery
2. Children whose parent/guardian is currently a permanent employee at St Mary's Primary School and Nursery Units, Melmount, Strabane.
3. Children with significant special educational needs, which indicate that the child would benefit from nursery education. Documentary evidence must be submitted to the Board of Governors.
4. Children who in the opinion of the Board of Governors, have special home circumstances considered in the following order:
 - a) a child who has one or both parents deceased;
 - b) a child whose parents has a serious long-term illness-medical evidence required;
 - c) a child from a family of three or more pre-school children;
 - d) children who are twins (or other multiple births);
 - e) children currently on the 'At Risk' Register maintained by the Western Health and Social Care Trust.
5. Other children.

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion which can be applied then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname, in the order set out below:-

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

The order was determined by randomised selection of the letters of the alphabet.

In the event of surnames beginning with the same letter the subsequent letters of the surnames 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.

It is important that parent(s) guardian(s) when submitting the application from give all the relevant supporting information and written evidence that may be needed, including the child's birth certificate. If a place is offered on the basis of incorrect or misleading information then the Board of Governors may withdraw the offer. All criteria will apply as at the closing date on the application form.

The Admission Criteria will be applied by a sub-committee, subject to the final approval of the Board of Governors.

Applications after 1 September 2014

The same criteria will apply.

Parents/Guardians should also note that if their child is seeking nursery provision of the 2nd year they MUST reapply.