

## Curriculum Structure

Area of learning	Contributory Elements
Language and Literacy	English including Media Education
Mathematics and Numeracy	Mathematics including Financial Capability
The Arts	Art and Design Drama Music
Environment and Society	Geography History
Modern Languages	French German Spanish
Science and Technology	Science Digital Technology Technology and Design
Learning for Life	'Skills Development, Personal Development, and Cultural Studies / Mandarin  Home Economics
Physical Education	Physical Education and Games
Religious Education	Religious Education



### Pastoral Team

#### Head of Year

Miss E. Forsythe

#### Pastoral Adviser

Mr A. Blacoe

#### Tutors

Miss T. Bassett / Mrs V. Walker  
Mrs A. Hannawin / Mrs K. Reid  
Miss G. Allen / Mrs T. McLeister  
Mrs A. Douglas / Miss A. Fry  
Mrs L. Doherty / Mr A. McCrory  
Mrs A. Martinez Linares  
/ Mrs H. MacCorkell

#### Teacher in Charge of Pastoral Care and Child Protection

Mr R. Ross

#### Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Dr C. Donnelly

#### Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator

Mrs R. Matchett

## Parents' Information

Year 8  
2025 - 2026

### Ballymena Academy



Mr. S.W. Black M.Sc. (Principal)

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## Term Dates

### School Commences

28.08.25

### Half Term Holiday

27.10.25 - 31.10.25

### Christmas Holiday

22.12.25 - 02.01.26

### Half Term Holiday

09.02.26 - 13.02.26

### Easter Holiday

30.03.26 - 10.04.26

### May Day Holiday

04.05.26

### Last Day of Summer Term

30.06.26

## Calendar of Events

Annual Prize Distribution 24.10.25

Carol Service - St. Patrick's Church 17.12.25

Annual School Concert 25.03.26 - 26.03.26

### Year 8 August - October

Parents' Information Event

'Eye4Education' Event

Health Talks

Learning to Learn Workshops

Independent Learning Presentations

School Photographs

Talk: The Gideons

European Day of Languages

### Year 8 November - December

Anti-Bullying Week

Junior School Exams

Christmas Party

Junior Carol Service

### Year 8 January - February

Pupils assist with Open Events

Junior CU Weekend

Parents' Consultation

### Year 8 March - June

Summer Examinations

Elections to Junior School Council

Digital Safety Talks

Presentation of Awards

Wellbeing Talks

## Timetabled Games Activities

### Boys

#### Winter - Spring

Rugby / Swimming / Gymnastics / Fitness

#### Spring - Summer

Athletics / Tennis / Cricket / Football / Softball

### Girls

#### Winter - Spring

Swimming / Hockey / Gymnastics

#### Spring - Summer

Athletics / Tennis / Rounders / Football /

Softball / Tag Rugby

## Co-Curricular Activities

### Girls

Hockey / Netball / Gymnastics / Rugby

### Boys

Rugby / Gymnastics / Basketball

Summer Football

### Girls and Boys

Percussion / Strings / Orchestra

Choir / Wind Band / Cricket / Tennis

Public Speaking / Swimming / Table-tennis

Circuits / Cross-country / Football

Drama / Athletics / Chess

Young Environmentalists Society

Christian Union / Showjumping / Debating

Walking / Science / Computers / Languages

Creativity Club / Maths Club

## Exceptional Closure days

30.09.25

26.11.25

08.01.26

17.03.26

25.05.26

## Weekly Format

### Main Assembly

Monday

### Year Assembly

Tuesday/Wednesday

### Extended Registration /Tutor Group

Thursday / Friday

### Games

Friday Periods 9 and 10