

The SEAG 2025 Entrance Assessment – A Summary for Parents and Guardians

- All 63 post-primary school in N. Ireland which use academic selection are member of SEAG and plan to use outcomes from the 2025 Entrance Assessment within their 2026 Year 8 Admissions Criteria.

Key Dates:

Registration Period:	Monday 19 th May 2025 (8.00am) – Friday 19 th September 2025 (11.59pm)
SEAG Entrance Assessment Paper 1:	Saturday 15 th November 2025 (am)
SEAG Entrance Assessment Paper 2:	Saturday 22 nd November 2025 (am)
SEAG Outcomes released to parents / guardians	Saturday 24 th January 2026 (am)

Parent and Pupil Registration

- Registration is through a portal on the website www.seagni.co.uk.
- Parents / Guardians first register themselves to create an account with SEAG and then complete a Pupil Application to register their child.
- When registering as a parent / guardian you have the opportunity to include a recovery email address. The advantage of doing this is that if, some time later, you cannot use the main email account you have another way of accessing your SEAG account and your child's Application. If you choose not to add a recovery email and, later you cannot use the main email account it will not be possible for you to access your child's Application e.g. to change information or to view your child's SEAG Outcomes.
- Take time to complete the Pupil Application form accurately. Last year around 10% of applications contained errors. Some of those happened because parents were concerned with getting the form submitted as quickly as possible rather than as accurately as possible.
- Parents / Guardians need to have the following documentation ready to upload as part of the Pupil Application: Child's Photograph (head & shoulders – passport style); Child's Birth Certificate OR Passport or Residence Permit (both sides); plus, if claiming exemption from the £20 Administration Fee, Free School Meals Entitlement **approval** evidence.
- There are thousands of places available at the different Assessment Centres. Most will have spaces up to September 2025; judging from last year no Centre ran out of spaces in the first week or two.
- Please plan to have your Pupil Application submitted before the 19th September 2025 deadline – don't risk missing the deadline.

- **Only pupils who have been registered during the Registration Period (or the short Late Registration Window – if available*) can sit the SEAG 2025 Entrance Assessment. If a pupil has not been registered he / she will NOT be able to sit the Entrance Assessment.** **For 2024 SEAG was able to add, in September, a 4-day Late Registration Window, with a non-refundable £50 Administration Fee. The availability of a Late Registration Window for 2025 will only be known in September 2025. If it is available it will be publicised in the "Latest News" Section on the front page of www.seagni.co.uk by 12th September 2025.*

When making a Pupil Application to register your child:

- the name and date of birth **must be identical to** the birth certificate / passport / residence permit information.
- you must provide a **copy of the birth certificate* OR passport* OR residence permit (both sides)*** to confirm your child's name and date of birth (*or a copy of the Deed Poll if the child's name has been legally changed).
- you must provide an appropriate **passport style photograph of your child**, to confirm identity.
- you need to provide details of an adult, other than yourself, who can act as a second contact person.
- take care when selecting the Assessment Centre (SEAG school) where you would like your child to sit the Assessment. **You will be able to choose from all those that have places available at the time you make the Pupil Application.** Last year a few parents chose Centres which were many miles away – by mistake.
- be aware that some Centres may use rooms, others may use halls and some may use a combination BUT many Centres won't be able to work out their arrangements until after Registration has ended in late September.
- you will, during the pupil application process, move to a "Review" page where **you must check that everything you have entered or selected is correct.** Please check that the birth certificate / passport / residence permit and photographic ID meet SEAG requirements. If necessary, please edit anything that is incorrect before moving to the "payment" section.
- **you will also need to confirm that all the information you have provided is accurate, accept liability and responsibility AND you will need to accept the SEAG Terms and Conditions.**

Pupil Registration (continued)

- you are required to pay a non-refundable Administration Fee of £20 through a secure online payment method.
- those entitled to Free School Meals (FSME) are exempt from the £20 fee, **but must provide current approval evidence from the Education Authority**. A copy of a FSME confirmation email from the Education Authority (EA) OR screenshot from your EA Portal account which provides evidence of FSME OR a copy of an EA “Entitlement Letter” are suitable. Documents must show the child’s name, date of birth and that the FSME is current.
- if you are claiming the FSME £20 exemption but cannot locate the confirmation email and cannot provide a screenshot then you can request an Entitlement Letter from EA by ringing their helpdesk (028 90418044) or by emailing info@eani.org.uk and providing your details and your child’s details.
- NB As soon as the Administration Fee has been paid or approved FSME payment exemption documentation has been uploaded, the pupil’s place at the Assessment Centre you have chosen is secured.

After you have submitted your Pupil Application you will receive an email from SEAG to confirm that your child is registered, pending verification by SEAG.

- SEAG will check e.g. that the name and date of birth entered match those on the birth certificate / passport / residence permit, that the photographic ID is appropriate and, if FSME registration fee exemption has been claimed, that correct evidence has been provided.
- **If there is an issue with the Pupil Application SEAG will send the parent / guardian a follow up email.**
- **If there is no issue with your submitted Pupil Application then there is NO follow up email.**
- In the Application we ask you to indicate if your child has Special Educational Needs and/or a Medical Condition and/or English as an Additional Language AND we ask if you are Requesting Access Arrangements.
- If you answer “yes” to any of these 4 questions you will be taken to the Access Arrangements Section of the Application Form later in the process. (e.g. you may want to let us know that your child has a Medical Condition and then in the Access Arrangements Section let SEAG know that he / she has asthma and that you are requesting that he/she brings an inhaler to the Assessment Centre.)
- If your child has English as an Additional Language you only need to answer “yes” if he / she has been at school in the United Kingdom or Ireland for **less than** 3 academic years.
- If your child has a medical condition which the Assessment Centre could need to know about you should answer “yes”.
- If Access Arrangements have been requested the documentation is reviewed separately, by the Independent Access Panel, and the parent will receive an email once an Access Arrangement decision has been made.
- **After the Pupil Application has been submitted, the parent can edit the form if there is e.g. a change in address, phone number, email address or primary school.**
- **However, to change the Assessment Centre, a new Pupil Application must be made and, after that, the original Application must be withdrawn.**

Parents indicate which Access Arrangements they are requesting and/or tell us about the “SEN”, the Medical Condition and/or EAL AND, if requesting Access Arrangements, they upload the documentary evidence they wish to submit to support their request(s).

- Parents can complete and submit the Access Arrangements Section **at any time** up to the close of registrations – 19th September 2025 (11.59pm). However, and particularly if the request is complex, it is advisable to submit Access Arrangements requests well before the deadline.
- NB Before the Access Arrangements Section is submitted, parents can edit their Access request(s) and add to or amend uploaded supporting evidence as much or as often as they need to.

NB If a Pupil Application is completely withdrawn, for any reason, the place in the chosen Assessment Centre is also withdrawn. That Centre may or may not have places available if a new Pupil Application is made.

SEAG Entrance Assessment Papers

- The Entrance Assessment consists of two Papers taken a week apart – **Saturday 15th and 22nd November 2025**. The format is the same as for SEAG Practice Papers and is set out in the SEAG website.
- Pupils sit **both** Papers. It is not a choice between sitting Paper 1 (15th November) or Paper 2 (22nd November).
- Invigilators take pupils through the Practice Test section. They then tell them when to start the Main Test and that they have 60 minutes* to work through it (*unless granted additional time through Access Arrangements).

SEAG Entrance Assessment Papers (continued)

- Each pupil is free to start with the English (or Gaeilge) or the Maths.
- Each Assessment Centre provides pencils and rubbers. Pupils may bring and use their own highlighters which can be used on the Question Paper or rough work paper (provided by the Centre) but not on the Answer Sheet.
- Pupils answer a multiple choice question by drawing a horizontal line in the little box on the answer sheet or, pupils may, if they choose, fill in the little box instead of drawing a line. SEAG can assure pupils that either method is acceptable.

SEAG Outcomes

- It is planned that these will be available **online** from **Saturday 24th January 2026**.
- SEAG provides parents with a Statement of Outcomes which includes all their child's SEAG Outcomes.
- The key outcomes which tend to be used by SEAG schools within their Year 8 Admissions Criteria are the **Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS)** and the **Band**. Some schools use TSAS, some use Bands and some may use both.
- The TSAS is the overall standardised outcome worked out by adding the English / Irish SAS to the Maths (SAS).
- The **Standardised Age Score (SAS) for English/Irish** computation is based on how many English/ Gaeilge questions were answered correctly, the difficulty of the Assessment and the age of the pupil. The English/Irish SAS range is 69-141 and the mean (or average) is 100.
- The **Standardised Age Score (SAS) for Maths** computation is based on how many Maths questions were answered correctly, the difficulty of the Assessment and the age of the pupil. The Maths SAS range is 69-141 and the mean (or average) is 100.
- The Total SAS range is 138-282 with a mean (or average) of 200. An SAS takes account of a child's age when he/she took the assessment, the number of correct answers and the difficulty of the assessment.
- There are six SEAG Bands – Band 1, Band 2, Band 3, Band 4, Band 5 and Band 6.

SEAG Band	1	2	3	4	5	6
Cohort Percentile	60%+	50-59%	40-49%	30-39%	20-29%	<20%

A Cohort Percentile which is 60% or higher (Band 1) means pupils who are in the top 40% of all those who sat the Assessment; 50-59% (Band 2) means pupils who are in the top 50% but not the top 40% of those who sat the Assessment, etc.

- Although the Cohort Percentile needed for each Band remains the same from year to year the TSAS needed for each Band may vary slightly from year to year.
- In addition to the standardised Outcomes SEAG provides parents with "raw score" Outcomes relating to e.g. how many questions their child answered correctly in English (or Gaeilge) and in Maths and also how their child performed in Paper 1 and in Paper 2.

Contacting SEAG

- As soon as a parent has created their own account they are able to access a SEAG helpline, by email, which is linked to their account. This is the best way for parents to contact SEAG.
- If a parent or someone else has not created their own account they can access a more general SEAG helpline by emailing admin@seagni.co.uk.

Contingency

- SEAG has set aside 29th November 2025 as a contingency Assessment Day. This date will only be used in the event that it is not possible to hold the Assessment at all on either 15th or 22nd November 2025.

Information as known at 1st May 2025