



Regent House School

Prospectus 2016

Welcome

Regent House School, opened in 1924, is one of N Ireland's largest schools and is situated in Newtownards, Co Down. We are a co-educational grammar school with 1450 pupils in the Senior School and 125 pupils in the Preparatory Department.

Working in close partnership with our parents we strive to ensure our students leave us as well rounded, confident young adults who have attained their full academic and personal potential. As a community we aim to provide an environment that is not only caring and supportive but one that challenges everyone to aim higher and do better.

We hope you find this prospectus a useful introduction to Regent House but please do visit our website at regenthouse.org.uk to find out more. You are also very welcome to visit us to get a fuller flavour of what our community has to offer.

Michael Carville
Headmaster

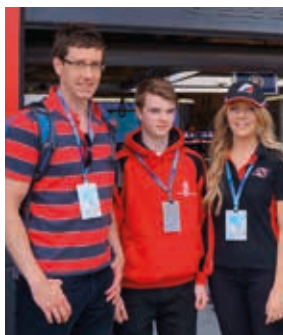




Contents

- 2 Welcome
- 4 Introduction
- 7 School Life
- 8 Curriculum
- 10 Achievement
- 12 Uniform
- 14 Pastoral Care
- 17 Careers
- 18 Sport and PE
- 20 Music
- 21 Drama
- 23 Extra-Curricular
- 24 Local and Global
- 26 Getting Here
- 28 Contact Details

Regent House School



Since Regent House School was founded in the imposing Regency mansion in 1924, it has grown not only in size but also in terms of success.

After significant investment in the Regent House campus, our extensive resources include specialist rooms for all practical subjects, including five IT rooms. Our music and drama facilities offer rehearsal space, a recording studio and a performance theatre.

With our focus on high levels of achievement, we have introduced a rigorous assessment and reporting cycle that analyses pupil performance every 8-10 weeks. Our Heads of Department continually review what is being taught in order to improve pupil performance. Where pupils require additional support, our extensive mentoring programme guides those pupils towards their goals in partnership with their teachers and parents.

We have a long and successful sporting tradition and strongly emphasise the value and benefits of participating in school sport. We are extremely proud of our sporting culture and are fortunate to have many talented young sports men and women who participate on a week to week basis for the school. Our sports facilities are excellent inside and out. They include a gymnasium, sports hall, two fitness suites, three rugby pitches and a synthetic hockey pitch.

At Regent House we have a very strong pastoral ethos. Staff strive to build positive relationships with students in a supportive environment that results in a genuine sense of belonging.

At the same time we set high standards of behaviour that students understand and can respect, both in class and around the school. Our approach focuses on knowing each and every pupil and understanding their personal needs, aptitudes and aspirations.

We offer an exciting extra-curricular programme that enriches pupils lives and enables them to feel involved and valued. Staff devote their time and energy to create opportunities that make the school experience memorable as well as academically successful.

To all this we add a range of local and global opportunities that will provide them with greater awareness and understanding. Recent opportunities include ski trips and sports tours as well as educational trips to London, Paris, New York and Abu Dhabi with our F1 in Schools programme.





School Life

School begins each morning at 8.50am with Form Class and each year group attends a morning Assembly once a week.

A typical Junior School day is shown to the right.

Morning Assembly and the specifications for Religious Education are entirely non-denominational. Parents who prefer that their children do not attend morning Assembly or Religious Education have the statutory right of withdrawal. Arrangements can be made with the Headmaster.

There are 9 teaching periods of 35 minutes each day, a mid-morning break of 15 minutes and a break of 40 minutes for lunch. School finishes at 3.20pm.

Senior School break is held at 10:50am and Senior lunch at 12:55pm to ensure all pupils enjoy a pleasant break and lunch time experience.

Time	Subject
8:50	Registration / Assembly
9:05	Mathematics
9:40	Religious Education
10:15	Break
10:30	Music
11:05	Music
11:40	English
12:15	Lunch
12:55	Chemistry
13:35	Chemistry
14:10	Art
14:45	Art
15:20	Extra-curricular activities

Organisation of Classes

Years 8 - 10

Pupils are allocated to seven classes which ensure a reasonable mix of pupils from different primary schools.

Years 11 - 14

Each pupil's programme of classes is governed by the options chosen.

House System

For the purpose of competition in games and other whole school activities the school is divided into four houses; Castlereagh, Clandeboye, Scrabo and Strangford. Pupils are allocated to a house when they join us.

Curriculum

Enabling all pupils to achieve their academic potential through a broad and balanced curriculum.

Pupils are offered a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which will empower them to recognise and achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives.

Most pupils in Key Stage 4 study nine or ten GCSE subjects but programmes may be adapted to meet the needs of individual pupils.

In Key Stage 5 most pupils study four AS level subjects in Year 13 and three A level subjects in Year 14. Pupils also access an extensive choice of Physical Education options, a comprehensive Careers Education programme and a wide and varied General Studies programme.

Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
Art and Design	Art and Design	Art and Design
Biology	Astronomy	Applied Art and Design
Chemistry	Biology	Applied Business
Citizenship	Business Studies	Applied ICT
Drama	Chemistry	Biology
Employability	Classical Civilisation	Chemistry
English	Computing	Classical Civilisation
French	Drama	Drama & Theatre Studies
Geography	Economics	Economics
German ⁹	Electronics	English Literature
Home Economics	English Language*	French
History	English Literature*	Further Mathematics
Information Technology ⁸	French	Geography
Mathematics	Further Mathematics	German
Music	Geography	Government & Politics
Personal Development	German	Health & Social Care
Physics	History	History
Physical Education	Home Economics	Home Economics
Religious Education	ICT	Journalism
Spanish ⁹	Mathematics*	Mathematics
Technology and Design	Moving Image Arts	Music
	Music	Religious Studies
	Physical Education	Physical Education
	Physics	Physics
	Religious Studies	Psychology
	Spanish	Spanish
	Technology and Design	Technology and Design

Options shown are for 2015/16

⁸ Year 8 only

⁹ Not taught in Year 8

* Compulsory in KS4





Academic Achievement

Regent House is a school with high expectations for all, where the school community is challenged to aspire to excellence in an inclusive, supportive and respectful environment.

To promote high achievement and regular communication with parents we have introduced an assessment and reporting cycle that analyses pupil performance approximately every 8-10 weeks. Our Heads of Department have carefully designed these informative assessments to assist a continuous review of what is being taught and to improve

information on pupil performance.

Where pupils require additional support, our extensive mentoring programme guides those pupils towards their goals in partnership with their teachers and parents.

Public Examination Results 2014-2015

At A level 21 students gained at least 3 A grades.

At AS level 31 students gained at least 3 A grades with 13 students attaining 4 A grades.

At GCSE 50 pupils gained at least 9 A grades with seven pupils gaining at least 9 A* grades.

51% of all GCSE grades awarded last year to Regent House pupils were at grades A or A*.

67 pupils achieved passes in at least 8 subjects at A* or A.

Individual Pupil Success

Three of our pupils excelled within the 2015 CCEA GCSE examinations and were placed in the top 3 high achieving pupils in individual subjects.

In Chemistry Chloe McMurrin was placed first in Northern Ireland and Stewart Rosell was placed second. In Biology Rachel Mooney was placed joint third whilst in Geography, Phoebe McFerran was placed fourth with Chloe McMurrin placed seventh.

Performance Indicator	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*- C	100	95	94	96
% Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*- C	94	88	86	93
% Achieving 3+ A levels at Grades A - C	64	73	60	74
% Achieving 2+ A levels at Grades A - E	100	100	98	100

2015 GCSE Results

96%

of GCSE students achieved
5+ GCSEs at grades A* - C

Further Maths	97.3%	A*-B
Physical Education	97.1%	A*-B
Music	96.6%	A*-B
Art & Design	95.9%	A*-B
Mathematics	92.0%	A*-B

100% A*-C
Further Mathematics
Home Economics
Music
Electronics
Physical Education

% Entered for 7 or more subjects	% Entered for 5 or more subjects	% Achieving Grades A* - C		% Achieving No Grades A* - G
		7 or more	5 or more	
99	99.5	93	96	0

2015 A Level Results

100% A*-A Vocational Art & Design
100% A*-B Music
Spanish

100% A*-C Art & Design
Drama
French
History
Home Economics

Number of Pupils in Final Year of A Level Course	% Achieving	
	3 or more Grades A - C	2 or more Grade A - E
165	74	100

Uniform

The school ethos is promoted through a smart and practical uniform which all pupils are required to wear.

We believe the uniform is an important facet of school life which develops pride and a sense of belonging to the school community. It encourages pupils to express themselves not through clothing but through their personality, academic achievement and extra-curricular involvement.

Boys' Uniform

- Black school blazer with school crest
- Black trousers of conservative cut
- Plain white shirt
- Regent House school tie secured at collar (black with red stripes)
- Plain grey v-neck pullover (Year 13/14 boys may wear a black pullover)
- Plain black socks
- Plain black leather/leather look shoes

The full uniform for boys and girls is stocked by Alan Espey, Select Kidz and D Crawford in Newtownards and also in Bangor by Roberts Schoolwear and James Baillie.





Girls' Uniform

Green school blazer with school crest

Bottle green knee-length skirt

Pale green school blouse
(summer blouse also available)

Regent House school tie secured at collar
(green with red stripes)

Bottle green regulation cardigan or pullover

Bottle green tights.

(Plain fawn knee length socks may be worn in
September and/or Summer Term)

Plain black leather/leather look shoes with flat/
low heel

A Positive Community

A caring and stimulating environment encouraging respect for all.

Our established links with all primary schools in the catchment area ensures that our pastoral care programme begins while pupils are still in primary school. Pastoral staff liaise closely with the feeder schools to facilitate a smooth transition to grammar school.

All our teachers have a pastoral care role but in addition, there is a professionally trained team of dedicated teachers. This team coordinates a pastoral programme both informally and through the formal series of Learning for Life and Work classes which are timetabled for each pupil throughout the school.

Through this programme teachers strive to create a supportive environment in which all pupils can develop the social and personal skills necessary to play a confident and responsible role in society. Therefore, although Regent House is large there is a caring attitude among staff and pupils, and as a result the school has a pleasant and happy atmosphere.

Heads of Junior, Middle and Senior School oversee the pastoral provision at each key stage whilst each Year group has two Year Teachers who look after the welfare and progress of pupils within their allocation. There are also Form Tutors who look after individual classes.

A Special Educational Needs coordinator ensures that individual education plans are put in place where appropriate, through consultation with feeder schools, parents, teachers and the relevant agencies. In this way, it is our aim that the needs of each individual pupil receive attention.

To the same end, parents are warmly encouraged to meet with the Year Staff, Heads of School, or the Vice-Principal (Pastoral), to discuss their children's progress. Parents' meetings are also held on an annual basis for each year group.

As a large school we employ a Matron, who is a fully qualified nurse and can deal with all physical ailments and we also have the services of part-time pupil counsellors.

If you have any concerns about your child's safety, the school has a Designated Teacher, Mrs Haugh, who has specific responsibility for Child Protection. If Mrs Haugh is unavailable, pupils, staff or parents should contact Mrs Sloan or Mr Matchett.

Copies of our anti-bullying, child protection, special needs, discipline and drug education policies are available on request or may be downloaded from our website.







Careers Education

At Regent House we recognise the importance of high quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

In today's complex, competitive and rapidly changing world we provide a high quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme which meets the individual needs and requirements of all of our pupils.

Our main objective is to enable pupils to become effective career decision makers, empowered to manage their own career development successfully and confidently.

Employability classes are provided for all Year 8 – 12 pupils and a variety of careers workshops and talks are given to all Year 13 and 14 pupils as part of the General Studies Programme. Also provided are individualised personal careers advice, psychometric tests matching skills and qualities to suitable career paths, personal career planning (including progress files), assistance with all aspects of UCAS, work experience, practice interviews, a variety of talks and visits, an excellent careers library and advice on career pathways leading to employment.

We believe that contact with parents is essential and the Head of Careers is available to meet parents as required. Year 12 Subject Choice and UCAS Information Evenings are held annually to communicate information and advice to parents. A Subject Choice Information Evening is also provided on an annual basis for parents of Year 10 pupils.

Additional support is available through the Careers Service, who interview all Year 12 pupils, many Year 13 & 14 pupils and attend Year 10 & 12 Parent information afternoons. Further assistance from parents and past pupils enables Mock University Interviews for Year 14 pupils.

Close links are maintained with local employers, FE colleges and universities who not only assist with work experience and taster courses but support our annual careers convention. The Careers Department also works closely with other local schools as part of the Area Learning Partnership promoting STEM subjects and running the yearly UKCAT Kaplan admission test preparation course.

School Leavers' Destinations 2014-2015 (from years 12, 13 and 14)



Sport and PE

We have a long and successful sporting tradition and strongly emphasise the value and benefits of participating in school sport.

We seek to achieve our sporting aims through providing opportunities for all pupils to participate in a broad and balanced range of physical activities delivered both in curricular and extra-curricular time. As well as timetabled Physical Education, pupils are encouraged to attend after school coaching sessions and Saturday morning fixtures. All pupils have the opportunity to participate in at least one activity of their choice, with many choosing to participate in multiple activities.

Opportunities are provided to compete at local, provincial and national levels. Currently we boast provincial and national representation in Athletics, Badminton, Hockey, Rugby, Squash and Swimming.

Sport and Physical Activities Available:

Athletics

Badminton

Basketball

Cricket

Cross Country

Dance

Fitness Training

Football

Golf

Gymnastics

Hockey

Netball

Rounders

Rugby

Self Defence

Spinning

Swimming

Tennis

Trampolining

Volley Ball



Music

Our Music Department provides extensive opportunities for our young people to express and develop their musical talents in a wide range of choirs, bands and orchestras with junior and senior groups being divided usually by the Grade 5 level of ability as opposed to division by age.

As membership of all groups continues to expand, so too does repertoire; in recent years the classical music performed has included works by Vivaldi, Bach, Handel, Haydn and Kodaly, together with Irish premier performances of works by composers

like Kevin Norbury and John Rutter, while popular arrangements of works by Lennon and McCartney, John Williams and James Horner have become firm favourites of both audiences and performers.

Highlights of the year include the annual performance of Handel's Messiah in St Mark's Parish Church at Christmas, a Spring Concert involving approximately 350 students, numerous "Musical Programmes" provided for local and national charities and various national and international choral and wind band competitions.



Drama

Each year the Drama Department performs a senior and a junior play which showcase the amazing talent within our pupil body. Recent productions include the junior performance of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory and the senior productions of Pygmalion and Fiddler on the Roof.

The junior Drama club is led by Sixth Form Theatre Studies students and welcomes all Year 8 pupils who want to hone their drama skills in preparation for auditioning for the junior play.

Participation in the school production is a wonderful

experience for everyone. Up to one hundred people are involved on stage, in the band and in the technical and support crews. The joy of creating something magical is a life-changing experience, and gives the performers a new-found confidence in themselves. There is no better feeling than receiving the applause of the audience after two hours of exhilarating theatre. Great camaraderie is fostered, and new friendships made. The images you see in these photographs will make memories that last a lifetime.





Enriching Opportunities

We provide a wealth of activities beyond the classroom that extend learning, develop teamwork skills and give pupils the opportunity to shine.

Our staff devote their time and energy into much more than the curriculum and offer a wide and varied range of extra-curricular activities that cater for every pupil. We strongly believe in creating opportunities for pupils to pursue their interests, exploring avenues for personal and social development and enabling all to feel involved and valued in Regent House.

We boast two major drama productions each year and the Music department present an annual Carol Service and Spring Concert to consistently high professional standards.

Our Air Training Corps and Duke of Edinburgh groups are amongst the largest providers of outdoor education in Northern Ireland schools and our involvement with the Young Enterprise scheme encourages pupils to develop their personal and business skills.

Through the extra-curricular programme we aim to instil pride, self-belief, responsibility and integrity in an atmosphere of mutual respect and to develop a strong partnership with the wider school community.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Air Training Corps | Library Club |
| Art Club | Maths Club (Junior & Senior) |
| Athletics/Cross Country Club | Music Theory Class (Junior & Senior) |
| Badminton Club | Netball Club |
| Big Band | Recorder Exam Class |
| Board Games Club | Rugby Club |
| Brass Consort | Science Club |
| Camera Club | Scripture Union (Junior & Senior) |
| Choirs (Junior & Senior) | Senior Chamber Choir |
| Cricket Club | Senior Charity Committee |
| Debating & Public Speaking Societies | Senior Clarinet Ensemble |
| Drama Society | Senior Saxophone Ensemble |
| Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme | Senior String Octet |
| Engineering - Sentinus Research and Development Team | String Orchestra (Junior & Senior) |
| European Studies | Swimming Club |
| Film Club | Table Tennis Club |
| Football Club | Tennis Club |
| Golf Society | Theatre Group |
| Green Club | Wind Band (Junior & Senior) |
| Hockey Club | Woodwind Ensemble (Junior & Senior) |
| Horse Riding | Young Enterprise Scheme |

Full details of all aspects of school life can be viewed on our website.

Local and Global

Committed to respecting and valuing the diversity which exists in the wider community.

We are committed to respecting and valuing the diversity which exists in the wider community and encourage pupils to participate in a range of cross-community projects to gain greater awareness and understanding of the multiple identities in Northern Ireland.

Through these experiences pupils are guided and supported to build the skills required to live and work as global citizens. Opportunities are provided through our charity committee to volunteer and support a range of local, national and global charities such as, CLIC Sargent, Action MS, St Vincent de Paul, National Citizen Service, Positive Futures and Habitat for Humanity.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme is offered at all levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold, and encourages further pupil engagement in voluntary and charitable pursuits. We are one of the largest participating schools within the scheme in N Ireland and this year 70 pupils have enrolled in the Bronze award, 42 in Silver and 60 in Gold.

School Trips

A wide and varied range of school trips are made available to all pupils both home and abroad, providing educational insights into different cultures.

Recently pupils have participated in ski trips and sports tours to Italy as well as educational trips to London, Paris, New York and to Abu Dhabi with F1 in Schools.





Austria

New York



Paris



Getting Here

Pupils travel to Regent House from a wide catchment area in North Down and Belfast. The school is located within a single campus on the Circular Road in Newtownards that is easily accessible by a number of local bus routes. Bus routes include:

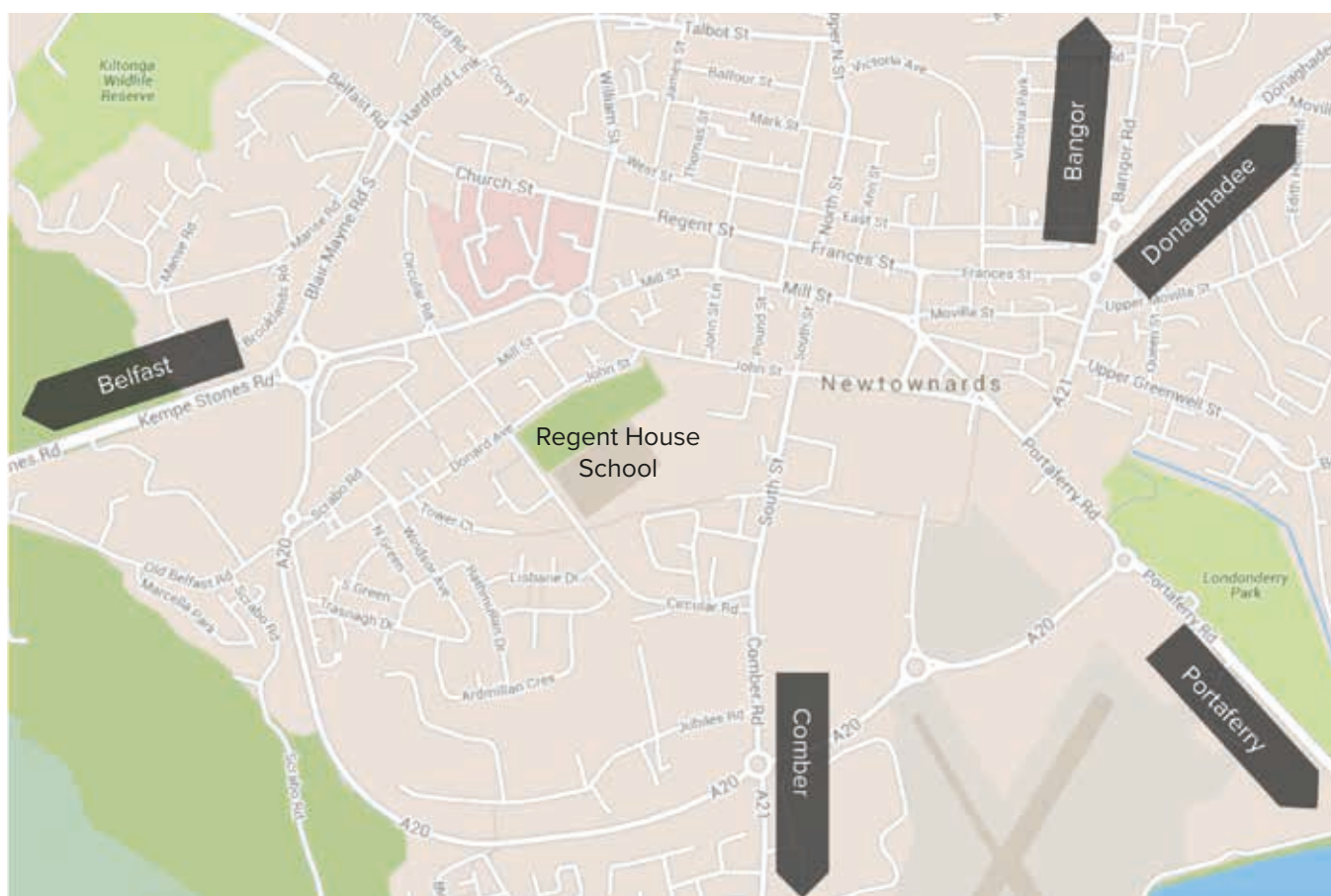
Ballyhalbert
Ballywalter
Bangor

Carrowdore
Cloughey
Comber

Donaghadee
Glastry
Greyabbey

Kircubbin
Millilse
Portavogie

For more information visit: www.translink.co.uk/ulsterbus



Supplemental Information

In addition to this booklet, our Prospectus Supplement contains information on admissions criteria for entrance to the school and further details on pupil performance in recent public examinations.

The Prospectus Supplement can be viewed on our website and hard copies are accessible on request by contacting the school office. School policies can also be downloaded from our website.





📍 Regent House School
Circular Road
Newtownards
Northern Ireland
BT23 4QA

🏠 www.regenthouse.org.uk
📞 028 9181 3234
✉ office@regenthouse.org.uk
🐦 @RegentHouseSch