



Regent House

Prospectus 2024

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 www.regenthouse.org.uk to find out more. We would be delighted to welcome you into our school as we approach our Centenary celebrations.

Michael Carville
Headmaster



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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 co-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, Berlin and a Borneo jungle expedition with Camps International.





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 Studies
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	Co-curricular activities

Organisation of Classes

Years 8 - 10

Pupils are allocated to seven or eight 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. 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 are adapted to meet the needs of each individual pupil. Additionally, all pupils will study LLW, PE, Games and will be given the opportunity to study a short course in Religious Studies.

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

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, balanced and relevant curriculum.

Curriculum options for 2024/25

Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
Art and Design	Agriculture & Land Use	Art and Design
Biology	Art and Design	Biology
Chemistry	Biology	Chemistry
Citizenship	BTEC First Sport	Classical Civilisation
Drama	Business Communication Systems	Drama & Theatre Studies
Employability	Business Studies	Economics
English	Chemistry	English Literature
French	Child Development	French
Geography	Classical Civilisation	Further Mathematics
German**	Digital Technology Computing	Geography
Home Economics	Digital Technology Multimedia	German
History	Drama	Government & Politics
Information Technology	Economics	Health & Social Care
Mathematics	English Language*	History
Music	English Literature*	Information Technology (CTech)
Personal Development	Food and Nutrition	Life and Health Sciences
Physics	French	Mathematics
Physical Education	Further Mathematics	Media Studies
Religious Education	Geography	Music
Spanish**	German	Nutrition & Food Science
Technology and Design	History	Physics
	Leisure, Travel and Tourism	Physical Education
	LLW	Professional Business Services
	Mathematics*	Psychology
	Music	Religious Studies
	Occupational Studies Technology and Innovation	Sport (BTEC Extended Certificate)
	Physical Education	Sociology
	Physics	Spanish
	Religious Studies	Technology and Design
	Single Award Science	Travel & Tourism (BTEC Extended Certificate)
	Spanish	
	Technology and Design	

* Compulsory in KS4
 ** Not taught in Year 8



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, we have introduced a rigorous assessment and reporting cycle that analyses pupil performance approximately every 8-10 weeks. Our Heads of Department have carefully designed these informative assessments and continually review what is being taught, to better inform everyone 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 2022-23

- **At A level** 33 students gained at least 3 A grades; 7 students attained at least 3 A* grades; and 2 students attained at least 4 A* grades
- **At GCSE** 46 pupils gained at least 9 A grades with 4 pupils gaining at least 10 A* grades.
- 80% of all GCSE grades awarded last year to Regent House pupils were at grades A* - B.
- 66 pupils achieved passes in at least 8 subjects at A* or A.



Performance Indicator	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A* - C	99	98	99	98
% Achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A* - C	96	95	97	94
% Achieving 3+ A levels at Grades A* - C	99	97	90	90
% Achieving 2+ A levels at Grades A* - E	100	100	100	100

2023 GCSE Results

94%

of GCSE students achieved 7+ GCSEs at grades A* - C

100% A* - C

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Drama | History |
| Digital Technology (Multimedia) | Further Mathematics |
| Economics | Music |
| English Literature | Occupational Studies |
| Food and Nutrition | Sport (BTEC) |

% 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	
97.6	99.5	94	98	0

2023 A Level Results

90%

of A level students achieved 3+ GCE A levels at grades A* - C

100% A* - C

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Art and Design | German | Professional Business Services |
| Drama | Health and Social Care | Religious Studies |
| Economics | Information Technology | Spanish |
| French | Mathematics | Sport (BTEC) |
| Further Mathematics | Music | Technology |
| Geography | Physical Education | Travel and Tourism (BTEC) |

Number of Pupils in Final Year of A Level Course	% Achieving	
	3 or more Grades A* - C	2 or more Grade A* - E
158	90	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 co-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 black v-neck pullover
- Plain black socks
- Plain black leather/leather look shoes

The full uniform for boys and girls is stocked by: Alan Espey, D Crawford, Focus and School Days in Newtownards and by Roberts Schoolwear in Bangor.



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 Mr Matchett, Mr Thompson or Miss Ritchie.

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 trip to the new Ards and North Down Borough Council Leisure Centre site



Careers Education

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

All of our students are fully informed of the range of career opportunities and pathways available to them. They are encouraged and supported to maximise the options open to them, and most importantly, they are empowered to make career decisions which enable them to manage their own career development successfully and confidently. In today's complex, competitive and rapidly changing world we provide a high quality CEIAG programme which meets the individual needs and requirements of all of our pupils.

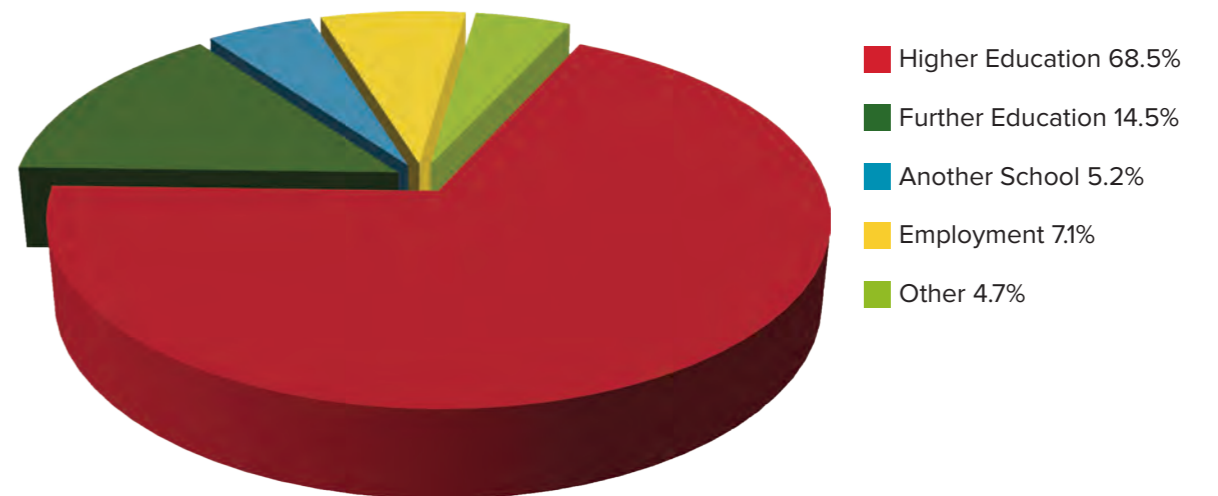
Employability classes are provided for all Year 8 – 12 pupils and a variety of careers workshops and talks are given to sixth form pupils as part of the General Studies Programme. Pupils have access to individualised personal career planning and advice, psychometric tests and an excellent careers library. Using Unifrog, an online Careers Education platform, pupils from Year 10 onwards can research, collate and store information about career pathways which interest them and begin to build an employment profile which they will develop through KS4 and KS5. From Year 12, pupils also have the

opportunity to gain work experience, participate in practice interviews, and attend a variety of talks and visits, to fully equip and inform them of all pathways available to them.

We value the major role that parents play in helping pupils decide on future study and career choices and the Head of Careers is available to meet parents as required. Subject Choice Information Evenings are provided on an annual basis for parents of Year 10 and Year 12 pupils and virtual UCAS Information Evenings are held annually for parents of pupils in Year 14. Additional support is available through the Careers Service, who interview all Year 12 pupils. This independent service is also available to Year 13 and 14 pupils.

Close links are maintained with local employers, FE colleges and universities who not only assist with work experience and taster courses but also attend our Careers events within school. Students also have the opportunity to attend the UCAS Discovery Day in Year 13.

School Leavers' Destinations 2022-2023 (from years 12 - 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 co-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.

Sport and physical activities available include Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Dance, Fitness Training, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Horse Riding, Netball, Rounders, Rugby, Swimming, Tennis, Trampolining and Volleyball.

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



Music

There are many opportunities to develop musical skills at Regent House. The Music Department has numerous groups and ensembles which include Junior Choir, Junior Chamber Choir, Junior Concert Band, Junior String Orchestra, Senior Choir, Senior Chamber Choir, Senior Concert Band, Senior String Orchestra and Big Band. There are also a number of smaller ensembles such as Brass Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble, Senior String Octet and Saxophone Quartet.

Over 150 pupils take music lessons in Regent House each week. Lessons are available on

piano, guitar, percussion, drum kit, flute, clarinet, saxophone, brass instruments and stringed instruments. The Spring Concert held in March is one of the highlights of the musical calendar.

The choirs and bands also perform at external events for local charities and participate in music competitions. In 2017 the Chamber Choir won the BBC Radio Ulster School Choir of the Year competition and were Runners Up at the prestigious Open Choral Section at the Bangor International Choral Festival in 2023.

Drama

Each year the Drama Department performs two plays which showcase the amazing talent within our pupil body.

Recent productions include the musicals 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' for senior pupils and 'Matilda' for junior pupils.

Participating in a school production is an excellent experience for everyone, from Year 8 to Year 14. 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 co-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 at least one major drama production 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 provide opportunities for pupils to develop a range of personal skills and capabilities to meet future challenges in this ever changing world.

Through the co-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
- Art Club
- Athletics/Cross Country Club
- Badminton Club
- Big Band
- Brass Consort
- Charity Committee
- Choirs (Junior & Senior)
- Concert Band (Junior/Senior)
- Cookery Club
- Cricket Club
- Crochet Club
- Dance Club
- Debating and Public Speaking
- Drama Club
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- Film Club
- Football Club

- Golf Society
- Hockey Club
- Horse Riding
- Library Club
- Library Committee
- Maths Club
- Netball Club
- Rugby Club
- Science Club
- Scripture Union
- Senior Chamber Choir
- School Council
- Senior Saxophone Quartet
- Senior String Octet
- String Orchestra (Junior & Senior)
- Swimming Club
- Technology - Practical
- Tennis Club

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 and Habitat for Humanity.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Currently 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 each year on average 70 pupils enrol in Bronze, 45 in Silver and 40 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, Berlin and jungle expeditions to Borneo and Peru.



Italy



Peru



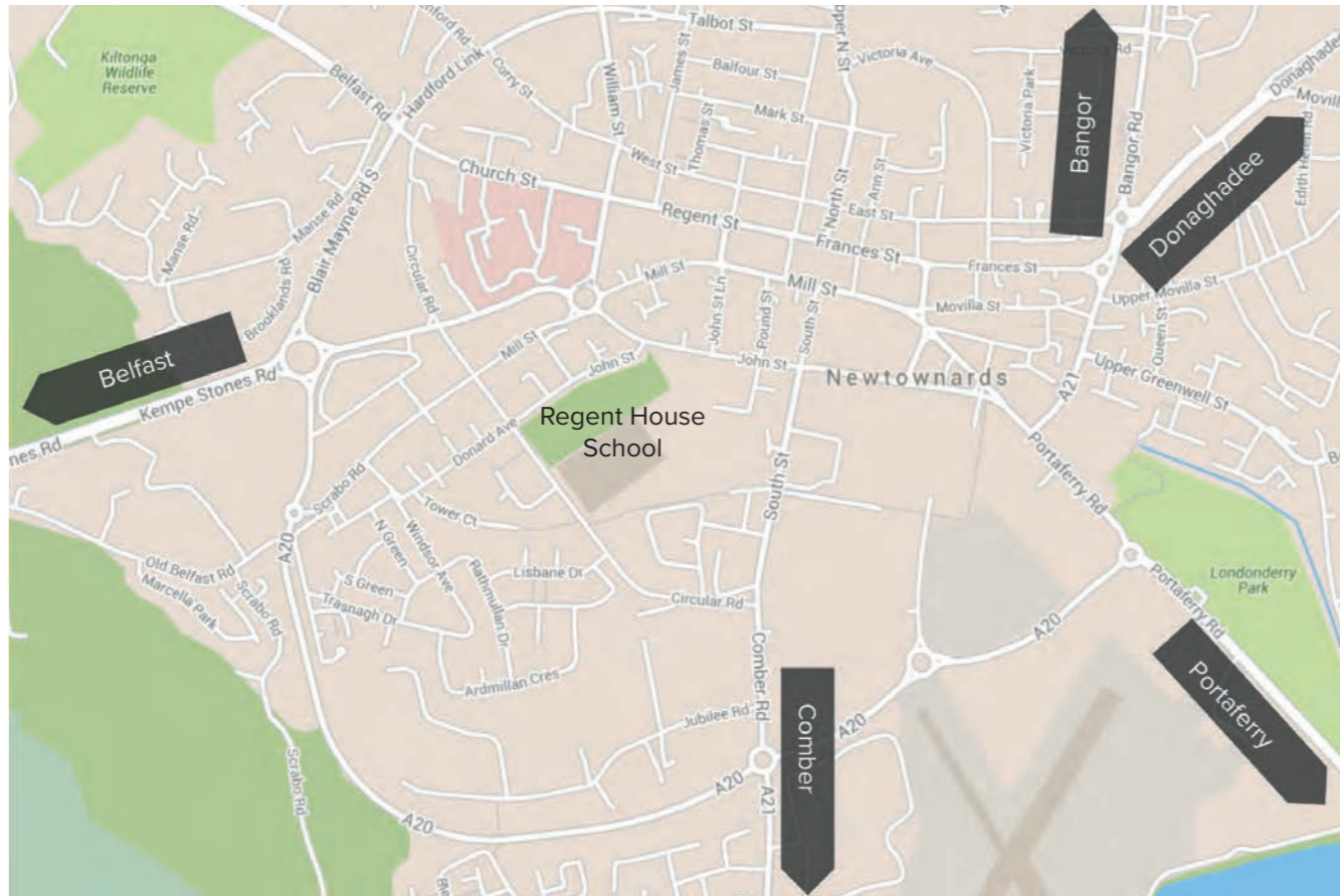
New York

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 Translink routes. Routes include:

Ballyhalbert	Cloughey	Glastry	Millisle
Ballywalter	Comber	Greyabbey	Portavogie
Bangor	Donaghadee	Killinchy	Saintfield
Carrowdore	Dundonald	Kircubbin	

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



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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. See back cover.

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.



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