

JOIN US IN



Ashfield Girls' High School

IN

SEPTEMBER 2018

OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 16th January 2018

from 6.30pm to 9.00pm

Principal's Welcome at 6.45pm and 7.30pm
There will be an opportunity to view the School.

Sixth Form entry 2018

6.00pm - 6.30pm in the staff room.





Abbi McCabe

Year 8

Strandtown Primary School

My name is Abbi McCabe and I'm currently in Year 8 at Ashfield Girls' High School. This time last year I was in Year 7 at Strandtown Primary School and was in the midst of AQE examinations.

I had begun going to see various schools close to where I live, but from the moment I stepped into Ashfield; I had a lovely feeling and knew this was the right school for me, even with setting myself the challenge of doing the AQE. I always pictured myself in the nice, blue uniform and I have to admit that wearing it now, I feel incredibly smart and proud!

I used to say to my Mum, "I'm going to love Ashfield" and she used to reply back, "Ashfield is going to love you too!" Before starting, I won't lie, I did feel nervous. I was also sad at leaving Strandtown where I had lots of amazing friends who were going on to different schools, but I was excited also to know that I would meet a new set of friends.

When I first started, I found it very different as we were switching classrooms and I was afraid of being late for each one. I also have made nice friends and we enjoy going to the canteen every day for lunch. My favourite subjects are Science, HE and Business Studies and I'm hoping to join the netball club as I enjoy sports.

If you are lucky enough to get offered a place at Ashfield, you won't be disappointed. I used to want to go to a grammar school and I put pressure on myself to do so, but I'm so thankful and happy to be at Ashfield where I know I still can follow my hopes and dreams for the future.

I look forward to seeing all the Year 8 pupils in September.

Good luck!

**Lola Hall****Victoria Park Primary School****Year 8**

Hello and welcome Primary 7! My name is Lola Hall and I attended Victoria Park Primary School. I hope you all feel as excited as I did when I was in the exact same place as you are now: deciding which school to attend.

Ashfield Girls' wasn't my first choice of school, but I am delighted I got a place here. As the first week of September went by I, surprisingly, settled in quite quickly and met many new friends and that's how I knew Ashfield Girls' was the school for me.

The reason I love Ashfield Girls' is because the older pupils are kind and supportive and the teachers are very understanding.

My favourite subject in school at the moment is Science, because it is a new subject and I find it very interesting and I think you will too.

There is also a wide variety of clubs that you can choose from and enjoy. There are hockey, netball, football, trampolining clubs and lots more in which you can take part.

I will be looking forward to welcoming you all in September and for you to have an exciting future at Ashfield Girls' High School.



Chelsea Taylor

Year 8

Knocknagoney Primary School

Hi! My name is Chelsea. I know what it's like to leave Primary School and to go on to High School. This time last year, I was exactly in your position - deciding my future school.

When I first started, I was worried and knew no one in my class. I was shy but my Form Teacher, Mrs Sharpe, is lovely and so are all the rest of the teachers.

I attended Knocknagoney Primary School and I loved helping all the P1 and P2 pupils at lunch time. The reason I chose Ashfield Girls' is because I wanted a change. Ashfield is a big high school and has so much to offer, and to be honest, I love just sharing a class with girls.

The first few days I was frightened and a bit lost, but after a few days I made friends and met all my teachers and it was great! A big difference in High School is all the different subjects. My favourite subjects are History, Science, French, Technology & Design and many more. I love school and enjoy learning in Ashfield. A priority in High School is to try your best and never give up.

I would recommend Ashfield Girls' High School because all the teachers are friendly and so are the pupils. Furthermore, there is so much to do and so many clubs to join. Also, if you played an instrument in Primary School and even if you didn't, you can learn one. I play the piano and I love to play.

I hope you decide to join Ashfield Girls' and thank you for taking the time to read this.



Keris Dodds

Strandtown Primary School

Hi! My name is Keris Dodds and I attended Strandtown Primary School before moving to Ashfield. In Strandtown, I experienced some of the best years of my life and I'm hoping to do the same in Ashfield: challenging girls today; creating women of value in the future. I chose Ashfield because I loved the Open Night and the classroom seemed to have a good atmosphere.

Most of my family attended both Ashfield Girls' and Ashfield Boys' in their school years and I have always wanted to attend Ashfield when I was in Strandtown and when I was younger.

This time last year, I was terrified and nervous about starting secondary school, feeling like a little fish about to take a swim into a big ocean. But trust me! It's actually a chance to take amazing opportunities and make a much bigger group of friends.

When my first day of Ashfield arrived on the calendar, I was really sad because my best friends attend different schools from me now; but walking through those big, happy school doors and seeing the joyful smiles on the teachers' faces really lifted my spirits. Now, being in Ashfield Girls' for some time, I realise that this is definitely the school for me; the teachers are amazingly kind, I made the right choice and hopefully you will too.

What I like about Ashfield Girls' is our great Library which we are very fortunate to have; it provides a comfy seating area and a computer corner. I also enjoy our delicious canteen food, especially on pasta pot days. In Ashfield, there are many usual subjects like Maths, English and History; but you will also discover some new, unexpected subjects such as Citizenship, Business Studies and Geography. My favourite subjects are Art & Design and History, and you can find Artwork displayed on the Ashfield walls created by previous Ashfield Girls' students.

Finally, if you want to spend the next years of your school life at Ashfield Girls'. I and the rest of the students and staff would be happy to bring you into our happy Ashfield family. I would 100% love to see you all in September and would recommend Ashfield to you because it's such a heart-warming school and you'll have a great time!



Emma Dallas
Strandtown Primary School

Year 14

Deputy Head Girl

My name is Emma Dallas and six years ago I made the intimidating transition from Strandtown Primary School to Ashfield Girls' High School. Leaving Primary School was a frightening prospect for myself. However, as soon as I arrived at Ashfield I knew it was the right school for me. The extra curricular activities and support that Ashfield offers is exactly what I needed to gain confidence in myself and create friendships that I continue to value to this day.

When I was at Primary School I did not excel academically and never thought I would, I didn't even do the transfer test as I had no confidence that I would pass it. Yet, as my time at Ashfield draws to a close I have realised that I have always had the ability to do well, but it has been the support and encouragement from my teachers which has given me the drive and determination to succeed.

Furthermore, this resulted in me achieving an A and 2 Bs at AS level.

I will forever cherish the memories I have made at Ashfield ; but will not reminisce on my time here as I know that I am ready to enter further education having achieved everything I ever could have wanted all thanks to Ashfield Girls' High School.



Savannah Stoops

Strandtown Primary School

Year 14

Head Girl

My name is Savannah Stoops and I am currently Head Girl of Ashfield Girls' High School. When I first joined Ashfield after my time in Strandtown Primary, I was extremely nervous as I thought I wouldn't make any friends or achieve great results. From spending seven years at Ashfield, I can confidently say I was anxious for nothing. Since my first day, I automatically felt welcomed into all aspects of school life by getting involved in activities such as netball and the ski trip, and by creating friends who have stayed with me since Year 8.

I have also achieved amazing results from choosing to attend Ashfield as I have 10 GCSEs, with 6 As, 2 Bs and 2 Cs, and 4 AS Levels with 3 Bs and a C. I could not have achieved both my GCSE and AS Level grades without the constant encouragement and support from all staff at Ashfield, as they go above and beyond to help all students. With help from all my teachers, I hope to achieve amazing A-Level results next year and to progress to University to study Law.

Throughout my time in Ashfield, I have thrown myself into activities such as completing my Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award; becoming a Year 8 mentor, becoming a Senior Librarian, dancing with the Senior Dance Team and attending New York in 2016. In Sixth form alone, I have embarked on a trip to Auschwitz with the Holocaust Educational Trust, become involved in the Albert Schweitzer Leadership for Life Programme and participated in the Living Law Programme. Each of these activities have allowed me to gain new skills and meet new people, which will help me with life beyond school.

When choosing your secondary school, prioritise Ashfield Girls' High School as it has amazing staff and facilities and allows you to achieve your best potential.



Tabitha Smyth
Orangefield Primary School

Year 14

Deputy Head Girl

My name is Tabitha Smyth, and I am a Deputy Head Girl here in Ashfield Girls' High school. Throughout my seven years in Ashfield, I have become a much more confident and well-rounded individual thanks to the incredible opportunities I have been given during my time here. From day one, I have been encouraged and supported by our incredible teaching staff, who have helped me achieve grades and goals I never thought imaginable. I have made friends that will last a life time, and have made incredible memories I will never forget.

Coming from a small primary school knowing practically no one, it's safe to say I was incredibly nervous to start Ashfield. However, these worries and concerns all disappeared very quickly after my first day. The teaching staff and all the pupils were nothing but helpful, friendly and kind. They made me feel welcome, and part of the Ashfield Girls' family as soon as I walked through the front doors.

When I arrived in Ashfield, I was an extremely shy and quiet pupil, with barely any confidence. I struggled speaking in front of people, and liked being in the background.

However, after playing lead roles in two school productions, performing in prize days and assemblies, singing in Spring Spectaculars and Christmas Services, being part of the choir and senior dance team, I have completely changed into a much more confident, creative and self-assured person, all thanks to the fantastic opportunities Ashfield Girls has given me.

Overall, my time in Ashfield Girls' High School has been nothing but positive. I take so much pride in being a member of such a fantastic school, and I'm looking forward to spending my final year as a Deputy Head Girl.



Tegan Dunbar
Strathearn Primary School

Year 14

My name is Tegan Dunbar and I recently moved to Ashfield Girls' High School at the beginning of Year 13 as I previously studied at Strathearn School. When I became aware I was going to attend Ashfield and move school, I was nervous as I was afraid I would not know any people or make friends quickly. Little did I know I would soon have a large group of great friends that I have had many good times with, inside and outside of school life.

Although my time at Ashfield has been short, it has been filled with many memories and great opportunities. In March 2017, I embarked on the opportunity of a life time, becoming a Holocaust ambassador and visiting the terrible remains of the Holocaust in Auschwitz Concentration camp and Birkenau death camp.

During this visit, we toured the camps and gained a first-hand experience of the tortuous experiences which happened here such as visiting the gas chambers and the vast remains of the victims. This was an immense opportunity that I was chosen to go on by Mrs Mungavin, alongside one of my great friends, Head Girl Savannah Stoops. Had I not moved to Ashfield I would not have gained this experience and it is one of many which I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to do.

As well as this, I have become a senior librarian and a year 8 mentor. Having taken on these roles has further enhanced my decision on my profession after school to become a primary teacher. The year 8 mentor programme was especially helpful as it is rewarding to help other students within the school. I am also the Harland House Captain this involves running and organising house events such as the School council elections.

Overall, my time at Ashfield has been amazing and I am exceedingly grateful for all the support from the teachers and staff as well as the incredible opportunities I have had the chance to complete. I am proud to say that I have been a member of Ashfield Girls' High School and I would completely recommend it to any other girls in the same position.



Britney Alexander
Brooklands Primary School

Year 14

Deputy Head Girl

My name is Britney Alexander and I am one of three Deputy Head Girls' at Ashfield Girls' High School. During my time at Ashfield I have had countless opportunities and I have excelled academically.

This academic success would not have been capable without the support from my teachers; my teachers have helped and supported me from day one guiding me to achieve 2 As 5 Bs and 2 Cs at GCSE level and 3 Bs at AS level.

In the last seven years at Ashfield I have made many memories that I will cherish forever and made life long friends. I took part in Rock challenge from years 8 to 10. I also became a member of the student council in junior school, and I am now part of the senior council.

I have had the opportunity to take part in several cross community residentials such as the LET programme in year 9, which allowed me to gain important life skills and I made friends who I would still keep in contact with today.

I also took part in the Entwined History Project which was a residential where we put together a drama performance including singing, dancing and acting scenes from the historical event known as the Dublin Lockout, which allowed us to educate ourselves and others in a non-classroom environment.

Overall, Ashfield Girls' High School has provided me with some of the best experiences of my life, both academically and socially.

I have mastered skills on how to improve as an individual and I have built relationships and friendships that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Ashfield has helped to define me as the person I am today.

Ashfield Girls' Success Stories GCSE Results 2017



Life in Ashfield



*Challenging girls today;
creating women of value in the future*



Principal: Mrs A Mungavin BA DipEd PQH (NI)

Hollywood Road, Belfast
BT4 2LY

Tel: 028 9047 1744
Fax: 028 9067 2416

www.ashfieldgirls.org
info@ashgirls.belfast.ni.sch.uk