

13.01.21

Dear Parent,

**Breaking news from the BBC NI - AQE Transfer Tests Cancelled - click link below:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-55652693>

**DE have also just published a Statement from Minister Weir – click link below:**

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/news/statement-education-minister-aqe-test>

I have also re-attached the letter that myself, Colin Torrens (Lisnagelvin P.S.) and Brian Guthrie (Ebrington P.S.) sent to Foyle College in June 2020 – please take time to read it again and come to your own conclusions about the highly unsatisfactory position that children as young as 10/11 years of age have had to endure since March 2020.

Having read the BBC News and reflected on the Minister of Education's Statement I am both hugely frustrated and disappointed for our P7 pupils (and parents & staff) who have continued to work so hard and prepare so diligently for the CEA assessment since March 2020 right through to this point.

It has certainly been an emotional rollercoaster for our pupils and parents. I, along with my fellow Primary School Principals in the city, have been voicing our concerns and asking our local selective Post-Primary schools to consider alternatives. As you have read, we even went as far as asking them to abolish the use of AQE/CEA Test for selection purposes since June 2020!

We now must ultimately put our trust in the Boards of Governors of the selective Grammar schools to carefully consider what is proper and just so that neither our own pupils or other pupils wishing to transfer from their 'traditional contributory primary schools' are not discriminated against in any way.



T.R. McMaster  
Principal