



GLENLOLA
COLLEGIATE
SCHOOL
BANGOR

A photograph of six young women in school uniforms walking across a paved area in front of a large brick building. They are all wearing blue blazers, white shirts, and red ties. The building behind them has a prominent gabled roof and a balcony with a metal railing. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a clear day.

APPLICATION PACK FOR
THE POST OF PRINCIPAL



Excellence through commitment, contribution and caring.



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Welcome from the Chair of the Board of Governors

Thank you for your interest in the post of Principal of Glenlola Collegiate School, Bangor. The post will become vacant from 1 January 2027 on the retirement of Mr Eric Thompson who has been Headmaster since March 2010.

Glenlola Collegiate is a successful and dynamic controlled grammar school for girls set in the heart of Bangor, serving the Ards & North Down community for over 125 years. As a school we focus all our efforts on being child-centred and we have high expectations for every pupil in our care. We believe that every girl has her own potential and our subject-specialist teachers and staff strive to help each individual to discover and develop her talents to the fullest extent.

Our grammar school environment fosters strong academic achievements and offers a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities tailored to meet the needs of our pupils.

At Glenlola Collegiate, we have a strong tradition of House Events which help to encourage participation across all age groups and nurture the positive values of the School.

We are proud to note that our pupils regularly outperform girls of the same ability in other schools in both GCSE and A-level examinations. This success is a result of the strong and supportive relationships which exist between pupils and staff, coupled with high expectations which form such an important part of the Glenlola Collegiate ethos.

I hope that you find this pack helpful as you consider a future career at Glenlola Collegiate.

Mr Ivan Thompson
Chair of the Board of Governors

Our Core Values

At Glenlola Collegiate, everything we do is shaped by four core values:

Excellence through Commitment, Contribution, and Caring.

These principles are not abstract ideals but purposeful qualities that we nurture in each student, preparing them to flourish academically, personally, and socially in an ever-changing world.

Excellence

Excellence forms the heart of our educational vision. We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to achieve her full potential, whether in the classroom, on the sports field, in creative spaces, or through leadership. Excellence for us is not simply about high achievement, it is about ambition, curiosity, and striving to be the best version of oneself. Through a culture of high expectations and personalised support, our students learn that excellence is a habit formed through effort, reflection, and resilience.

Commitment

Commitment is the engine of progress. We encourage our students to approach their learning with perseverance and purpose, recognising that lasting success comes from consistent dedication. From Year 8 to Year 14, students develop strong work habits, responsibility for their learning, and a determination to overcome challenges. Commitment also means being part of something greater than oneself: investing in school life, engaging deeply with opportunities, and adopting a mindset that values continuous growth.

Contribution

We are a community that believes in making a positive difference. Contribution is about recognising that each student has something unique to offer, through leadership, service, creativity, or kindness. Our students learn that their voices matter, that their actions have impact, and that by working together they can shape a school environment in which everyone thrives. Through clubs, mentoring, charity work, and collaborative learning, students develop confidence and learn the value of giving generously of their time and talents.

Caring

Caring underpins the strong and supportive relationships that define our School. We believe that academic success flourishes in an environment where young people feel safe, valued, and understood. Caring means showing empathy, respecting others, and celebrating diversity. Our pastoral systems ensure every student has trusted adults and peers who guide her through challenges, encourage her strengths, and help her grow into a compassionate, responsible young woman.

Together, these values shape confident, capable young women.



Excellence encourages ambition;
Commitment builds perseverance;
Contribution fosters leadership;
Caring cultivates character.



Proudly educating girls

At Glenlola Collegiate, we are proud to provide an environment where every girl can step forward with confidence, curiosity, and ambition. An all-girls grammar setting offers a distinctive blend of academic focus and personal empowerment, enabling pupils to discover who they are and what they can achieve without the pressures or expectations that can sometimes shape mixed gender classrooms.

Research consistently shows that girls in single sex schools participate more readily in subjects where they might otherwise feel self-conscious, particularly in areas such as mathematics, sciences, and technology. Here, these subjects are not only embraced but celebrated, with pupils encouraged to take intellectual risks, explore deeply, and lead with conviction. Free from comparison or gendered assumptions, our pupils engage wholeheartedly, guided by teachers who understand how best to nurture their strengths.

Beyond academic excellence, the all-girls environment fosters leadership, collaboration, and resilience. Pupils take centre stage in every role, developing the confidence to voice their ideas and shape their community. They learn to uplift one another, forming friendships built on encouragement rather than competition.

Our school culture is defined by warmth, respect, and ambition. We believe that young women thrive when surrounded by role models who reflect their potential, and our community is rich with examples of past pupils who have gone on to excel in diverse fields. Their successes remind our students that there is no limit to what they can aspire to.

Above all, we aim to empower every girl to leave our school with a strong sense of self, ready to meet the world with courage, compassion, and a lifelong love of learning. An all-girls education gives them the space to grow and the freedom to lead.



Academic Curriculum

At Glenlola Collegiate, we offer students a high quality learning experience supported by well qualified and enthusiastic teaching staff. Staff regularly review and adapt classroom activities to meet the needs of individual learners to ensure all pupils are supported sensitively and effectively.

We aim to educate and develop the whole person by providing a wide range of learning experiences that are both stimulating and challenging. This equips our pupils to cope with life in the twenty-first century. It is with these thoughts in mind that we have developed an exciting and well-balanced curriculum.

Glenlola Collegiate enrolls girls from all sections of the community.

Accordingly, the School complies with the requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum in terms of the Statutory General Learning Areas and Learning for Life and Work at Key Stage 3 and with regard to the learning opportunities and Learning Areas at Key Stage 4.

Instrumental and singing tuition is provided through the School's own tutors.



Junior School Years 8-10

Pupils in Junior School follow a broad course of study for the first three years. This comprises all or some of:

- Art and Design
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics in Year 10
- Careers in Year 10
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- History
- Home Economics
- ICT
- Learning for Life and Work
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages
French and Spanish
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science in Years 8 and 9
- Technology and Design

Middle School Years 11-12

In Years 11 and 12, each pupil chooses 9 or 9.5 GCSE subjects from the following options:

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Child Development
- Digital Technology:
Multimedia
- Digital Technology:
Programming
- Drama
- English Language
- English Literature
- Food and Nutrition
- French
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- Government and Politics
- History
- Learning for Life and Work
- Leisure and Tourism
- Mathematics
- Moving Image Arts
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Religious Studies
Long and Short Courses
- Single Award Science
- Spanish
- Technology and Design

Senior School Years 13-14

Each pupil takes 3 or 4 subjects at Advanced Level. Pupils may enter Senior School for post-16 options following a successful completion of the GCSE programme.

The subject choice is extensive:

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Digital Technology
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- Government and Politics
- History
- Health and Social Care
- Life and Health Science
- Mathematics
- Moving Image Arts
- Music
- Nutrition and Food Science
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Technology and Design
- Theatre Studies

As a large grammar school, Glenlola Collegiate is in a position to offer an extensive range of GCSE and A-Level subjects.

A number of additional subjects is offered in collaboration with other local schools through the Bangor Learning Partnership and SERC.

These include:

- BTEC Engineering
- BTEC Hospitality
- BTEC Sport & Exercise Science

In addition to the post-16 programme of study, pupils in Senior School also have the opportunity to undertake a programme of study skills, career planning and university entry guidance which helps them to develop a wider range of personal skills and interests.

Additional Curriculum Enrichment opportunities are offered in British Sign Language, Managing Money, Chinese Culture and Introduction to Mandarin, Teaching Practice and Volunteering.

The School aims to provide every pupil with a clear pathway that best suits their individual learning needs.



Academic Curriculum

Homework

This is an essential aspect of each girl's learning experience and teachers make every effort to set homework which is purposeful, to mark it and retain a record illustrating progress. Parents are encouraged to exercise helpful supervision over their daughter's homework and to provide suitable conditions for study. Both pupils and staff make use of Google Classroom as a way of setting and monitoring work.

Examinations

CCEA is the main Examination Board for external examinations. Other boards are used by agreement with the Headmaster. Consistently high achievement at GCE Advanced and GCSE levels, enables a majority of our pupils to progress into higher and further education.

Parents are encouraged to exercise helpful supervision over their daughter's homework

Reporting

All pupils receive detailed subject reports once a year via School Gateway – Years 12, 13 and 14 in January, Year 11 in March and Years 8, 9, 10 in June. These are based on continuous assessment which occurs in all subjects and may include classwork, homework and class tests as well as examination results.

Interim progress reports are issued to all Year Groups. A Parent Consultation meeting for each year group is organised throughout the year and is designed to provide parents with the opportunity to discuss their daughter's progress with individual subject teachers.

There are also further information meetings with various year groups as necessary to deal with academic target setting, subject choice and careers.

Glenlola Collegiate prides itself on good working relationships with parents. Year Heads and Heads of Section are available for consultation by appointment should the need arise.

It is expected that students will be dynamic in their contribution to the ethos of the School



Student Council

Consisting of two pupil representatives from each year group, the Student Council meets weekly to discuss a range of issues that are of interest to staff and pupils alike. Through participation in School Council meetings, it is expected that students will be dynamic in their contribution to the ethos of the School and that these successes will contribute to the already high quality of educational experiences that they are presented with.

The School Day

	Mon-Wed	Thurs -Fri
Registration	08.45	08.45
Period 1	09.10	09.15
Period 2	10.10	10.15
Break	11.10	11.15
Period 3	11.30	11.30
Lunch	12.30	12.30
Period 4	1.15	1.15
Period 5	2.15	2.15
Day ends	3.15	3.15

Care and Positive Behaviour

Our pupils take pride in their appearance, and the uniform is worn throughout the school day, when travelling to and from School, and when representing the School at special events. This high standard is maintained through the strong partnership and cooperation between staff and parents.

A full uniform list is available on the School's website. Each girl receives a Code of Conduct upon joining the School, and we value parental partnership in supporting the implementation of these standards.

We operate a merit award system which rewards pupils who behave in a way that is significantly positive.

Our achievement system reflects our School vision "Excellence through Commitment, Contribution and Caring", and gives pupils the opportunity to have their everyday achievements recognised in a formal way.

Pupils can gain achievement points by showing impressive commitment, contribution and caring in any aspect of school life. These are then formally recognised on individual records.

In addition, a School Honours system is in place to recognise and to celebrate the commitment and achievement of pupils in extracurricular activities. Girls may be awarded Full, Half or Junior Honours depending on the nature of their achievement and their year group.

Full School Honours

Entitles Senior pupils to an Honours blazer, an Honours badge and certificate.

Half School Honours

Entitles pupils to a silver wire blazer badge displaying the award field and a certificate.

Junior Honours

Entitles pupils in Junior School to an Honours badge and a certificate.

Academic Standards

As an academic institution, learning must come first and we pride ourselves on our academic achievements. We benchmark and set achievement goals for each girl and we celebrate every success, not just the A*.

We encourage all girls to get the most out of their time at Glenlola Collegiate and we want them to move on to the next stage of their life knowing that they have fulfilled their full potential.

GCSE and A-Level Results 2025

At GCSE level, 94% of pupils secured five or more A*-C grades and 89% of pupils secured seven or more A*-C grades.

At A Level, our pupils achieved a pass rate of 100%. Over two thirds of all grades were A*-B, with 93% of pupils securing three A*-C grades.

We are proud to celebrate the individual successes of all kinds at our annual Prize Day in October.

Parental Feedback



I have been so pleased over the past decade to witness how Glenlola has helped to foster the growth of my three, very different, daughters. The social, pastoral and academic skills that they have honed within the walls of this school will, I have no doubt, set them on the best path to becoming the amazing women I know they will be.



My daughter has had the most amazing start to Glenlola and we are hugely grateful for everything.

My daughter knew from early on that Glenlola was the right choice of school for her.



One of the main reasons my daughter has settled so well into Year 8 is the support and kindness of the older girls at the School. The Peer supporters visit the class every week, often bringing treats! Some older girls even supported my daughter travelling to school when she first started which really helped in building her confidence using public transport and travelling alone. The caring attitude towards the younger girls to help them settle in has been demonstrated by the teachers and staff.



House System



At Glenlola Collegiate School, we have a House system that we are notably proud of. It is a longstanding tradition and a vibrant part of School life. Upon entering Year 8, pupils are assigned to one of the six Houses:

Clanmorris	Dufferin
Hamilton	Harte
Ward	Weir

Each House is identified by its own colour. Sisters are allocated to the same House and pupils are placed in the same House as their mother, if possible. Membership of a House is indicated by the colour of stripe at the top of the school blazer pocket.

The House system encourages collegiality and healthy competition amongst our pupils. It promotes good behaviour, encourages teamwork, provides opportunities to take on responsibilities and brings everyone in the School together. All pupils have the opportunity to represent their House in a number of inter-House events held throughout the year. These include sporting events, the annual House choral competition, dance competition and bake-off challenge, to name a few. The wide range of events varies from year to year and includes events for individual year groups as well as whole school activities.

The House system brings everyone in the School together.

Each House is led by a team of senior pupils; the House Captain, Deputy House Captain, Sports Captain, Assembly Organiser, Publicity Officer, with a member of staff as the Head of House. This team plans and leads weekly House assemblies and is responsible for motivating, involving, and organising all House events.

We are proud that the House system provides opportunities for pupils to lead and create camaraderie between all the different year groups. The House year begins in June with sports day and continues through to May of the following year when it culminates in the whole school House Winners Assembly, when all the hard work pays off and the winners are announced.

Sporting Activities

Physical education is an integral part of our curriculum and the School provides a wide range of activities for both team and individual performers: athletics, badminton, basketball, dance, gymnastics, hockey, netball, rounders, outdoor gym, swimming, tag rugby, football, tennis and volleyball.

Our main aim is to develop a healthy and active lifestyle and to enjoy the benefits from participating in sport long after the girls have left school.

Glenlola Collegiate has been successful in many sports with pupils representing Northern Ireland, Ireland and Great Britain.

Facilities include a sports hall, gymnasium, fitness suite and The Finlay Hall.

There are three netball courts and an astroturf hockey pitch on site, as well as a smaller astroturf training area.

Regular use is also made of Bangor Aurora aquatic and leisure complex and Ward Park tennis courts.

Hockey and netball teams have gone on tours to England, Scotland, Republic of Ireland and Spain, and are very excited about their joint tour to Australia in 2027.



School Tours

Every year tours are organised by members of staff for approved visits. The aim is to widen cultural and personal horizons with, at times, the more specific objective being to develop linguistic skills. Such tours or visits are offered as optional extras, on a voluntary basis, on payment of the appropriate charge.

Destinations vary from year to year. Recent visits have included Italy, Uganda, France, Spain, the United States, Iceland and Berlin, drama trips to Barcelona and Paris, ski trips to Canada, Austria and Italy as well as sports tours to Great Britain and Spain.



Music

We offer lessons on piano, music theory, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, recorder, violin, viola, cello, trumpet, cornet, French horn, tenor horn, trombone, baritone, singing and drums. We also host ABRSM exams three times a year in School.

There are many opportunities for pupils to perform in public throughout the year. These include Prize Day, the Carol Service in Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church, choir visits to local Primary Schools, Open Night, Women's World Day of Prayer and the Spring Concert.

The talents of our music, drama and dance pupils are showcased in our incredible musical productions. These have included, 'Sister Act', 'Mary Poppins', 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', 'Joseph and his technicoloured dreamcoat', 'Annie' and more recently, 'Oliver!'

Our extra-curricular programme consists of Concert Band, Jazz Band, Senior Chamber Choir, Junior Chamber Choir, String Orchestra, Rock Group, Junior Choir, Junior and Senior Drumming Groups, Modern Language Choir, Clarinet Ensemble, Recorder Ensemble and Flute Ensemble.

Over 60

Extra-curricular activities.

We know that a happy girl is best placed to learn and that is why we have an extensive extra-curricular program to help girls fit in, make friendships, have fun and importantly, build confidence. Our dedicated teaching staff are committed to running this program in their own time, before school, during lunch, after school and on weekends. With so many diverse sports, clubs and societies there is something for everyone. This means that every girl is able to find their place at their pace.



Sport

Hockey, Netball, Cross Country



Music

Musical Instruments, Orchestra, Choirs



Drama

School Productions



Clubs & Societies

CCF (Cadets), DofE, SU, Film, Gardening, Games, Science, Dance, Baking, Debating

Pastoral Care

As we navigate the complexities of the modern world, we are steadfast in our resolve to provide a nurturing and supportive environment where every student can flourish academically, emotionally, and socially.

Our unwavering commitment to the well-being and success of our students has been recognised by the National Association of Pastoral Care in Education (NAPCE) Special Recognition Award. Mrs Law received the Outstanding Contribution to Pastoral Care Award, recognising her exceptional dedication to the wellbeing and personal development of students.

The School views the Pastoral Care system as being central to its aim of providing a safe, caring and purposeful learning environment. While it is directed by the Head of Pastoral Care and the Pastoral Care Team, working alongside Section Staff and Year Heads, all staff understand their important pupil welfare role.

In each year group, pupils are divided into Form Classes under the care of a Form Teacher who makes a major contribution to the personal and social development of each girl. They provide advice, guidance and support in matters of examination preparations and study methods to ensure a sound framework within which each girl can pursue her academic work.

The Preventative Curriculum is delivered through our LTC³ programme; an opportunity for pupils to 'Learn to Commit, Contribute and Care'. The weekly sessions support pupils to gain knowledge and skills to make informed choices, develop, and keep themselves safe.

Each year group follows a bespoke programme informed by statutory requirements and shaped through pupil voice.



The Cygnet Wellness Centre comprises a Wellness Room, a Relaxation and Sensory Room and a counselling office. We employ a full-time Pastoral Support and Welfare Officer and a Nurse to deal with ongoing or emergency health issues. We also employ a Counsellor who is available to girls on request. In addition, an independent counsellor from the HOPE service is available for six hours per week.

The School's Peer Supporter Scheme aims to nurture a sense of community within each Junior School Form Class. It also provides a safe opportunity for pupils to share concerns and explore their own solutions to a range of difficulties. The scheme selects and trains senior girls who work as active listeners and facilitators. Many of our Peer Supporters are also Peer Listeners and are available, along with the Pastoral Care Senior Prefect, at lunchtimes in the Wellness Room.

Glenlola Collegiate complies fully with the requirements of the Children (NI) Order 1995 and DE (2024), *Safeguarding and Child Protection: A Guide for Schools* with regard to Child Protection/ Safeguarding. The Designated Teacher and Deputy Designated Teachers are part of the Pastoral Care Team.

We provide a safe opportunity for pupils to share concerns and explore their own solutions to a range of difficulties.

Senior School

The Senior School pupils are involved in collaborative projects with professional organisations and local universities. By participating in a range of different and exciting challenges they can apply their theoretical knowledge to practical situations whilst learning vital presentation and oratory skills.

Senior School pupils have a dedicated Senior School Centre with its own catering facilities. There are also two supervised study areas to ensure quiet working conditions. ICT equipment and learning resources are made available to all Senior pupils in this pleasant and businesslike study environment. All Senior pupils are encouraged to volunteer with local charities and in 2019 Glenlola Collegiate was awarded a 'Welcome Award' in recognition of its work with Positive Futures.

Much valued is the School's partnership with local feeder primary schools who accept a high number of Year 13 and Year 14 pupils for periods of teaching practice each year.

Highlights in the Senior School calendar include the Team Building day at Lorne, the annual School Formal, the Year 14 Charity Extravaganza, Car Trials and Leavers' Dinner in May.



Careers Education

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance covers a wide variety of activities throughout the year groups. These include individual interview skills training, assessment of personal skills and aptitudes, individual career and subject choice interviews, career research and planning as well as special careers information events.

At Glenlola Collegiate, we have strong links with local businesses and are able to harness their expertise in developing the communication, marketing and interview skills of our pupils as they prepare for Further and Higher Education, Higher Level Apprenticeships or employment.

All year groups complete modules in Careers and Employability. They may also participate in conferences, conventions, work related learning and work experience. These give our pupils the opportunity to gain first-hand experience and the knowledge and awareness to support their chosen career path. When subject choices are made as pupils enter Middle and Senior School, we co-ordinate direct consultation with parents, teachers and career advisors, taking account of potential career paths.

Our careers team also supports Senior pupils in establishing choices for higher level education, guiding them in the preparation and submission of their applications through UCAS and CAO.

Pupils in all year groups benefit from access to Unifrog, an online careers platform that supports them in exploring their interests, researching career pathways, and identifying post-school opportunities. This resource helps students successfully plan and apply for their next, best step after leaving School.



Charities

Charity fund-raising to support medical research, social and humanitarian projects at home and abroad has always been an important aspect of the work of Glenlola Collegiate. This encourages pupils to appreciate the privileges which they enjoy and often take for granted and gives them an opportunity to respond positively to the needs of others in less favourable circumstances.

Senior Prefects meet at the beginning of each school year to discuss potential projects and make a firm decision on which Charities will be supported. Events are then held throughout the year to raise funds for the chosen causes. The emphasis is always on fun and enjoyment, involving as many pupils and staff as possible.

In 2025 our pupils raised

£25,410

Our School Partnerships

As well as developing teaching and learning opportunities inside the classroom we believe it is very important to enrich our pupils' experience by developing partnerships beyond the School environment. As well as providing a relevant context for increasing knowledge and understanding, these types of activities promote transferable skills such as working together, communication, managing information and decision-making.



Primary School Links

Great emphasis and importance is placed on the relationship that Glenlola Collegiate has with local Primary Schools. Every year, a committee plans and organises a programme of events which pupils from these schools are invited to attend. These vary from fun sports' days and musical/drama performances to cross-curricular learning days and an Induction Evening.

In addition to these organised events, a significant number of our Senior pupils take part in the 'Teaching Practice' programme, visiting local primary schools to gain vital career experience and provide literacy and numeracy support to pupils.

Primary 6 pupils are also invited into School to take part in a Learning Day which is aimed at giving them experience in subjects such as Science, Technology, Home Economics, PE and many others.

Bangor Learning Partnership

Working in partnership with other post primary schools in Bangor enables us to broaden our curricular and careers provision, as well as wellbeing and leadership opportunities.



Charlene's Project – Uganda

In 2013, Charlene's Project was chosen as our whole school charity. Charlene Barr had a vision to create better futures for children in Uganda by building primary schools and strengthening local communities. Unfortunately, suffering from cystic fibrosis, Charlene died in 2010 at the age of 20. One of our staff members, Mr David Barr, is Charlene's brother and in the summer of 2014 and 2016, pupils and staff members travelled to Uganda as part of a larger team from Charlene's Project. In summer 2024 a team of staff and Senior pupils travelled to Uganda to take lessons in primary schools, run sports camps, and provide medical education and aid in very under privileged areas.

Donations from Glenlola Collegiate have been used to support Kahara Primary School and seven other primary schools in rural Western Uganda. Staff and pupils have already raised over £85,000 to build a kitchen, staff accommodation, boarding facilities, latrines and provide agricultural equipment to support the local community.

In addition, it has been a wonderful privilege to contribute to the opening of the much-needed Charlene Secondary School in the Masindi area of Uganda in 2022. This is a really exciting opportunity for us as we continue to partner with Charlene's Project and our team cannot wait to visit the new school when they are in Uganda this summer.

Each School House sponsors a girl from the Kahara area.

www.charlenesproject.org



Tallwood High School

Glenlola has a long-standing collaboration with our partner school in America. Every two years, Glenlola and Tallwood High School in Virginia Beach take part in an enjoyable and beneficial exchange programme. As well as experiencing American home and school life with their host partners, pupils are required to give presentations on the education system, culture, history and politics in their respective countries. Local attractions are visited, culture is experienced, and lasting friendships formed. This collaboration between Sister Cities really expands the horizons of each participant and is very much valued by each school.



Loreto Exchange Programme

Our relationship with Loreto College Dublin began in 1986 during what was a sensitive political situation in Northern Ireland.

The programme involves approximately 20 Year 11 pupils from each school. Pupils and staff from Loreto College travel to Bangor once a year and take part in joint cultural, educational and social activities such as trips to Stormont, Belfast Castle and Belfast City Hall. There is also a more relaxed activity such as Hip Hop Dancing, Basketball Tournaments and Samba drumming which allows the two groups to get to know each other better. Pupils and staff from Glenlola Collegiate travel to Dublin later in the year and enjoy a similar programme of events. This has remained a very successful event in the School Calendar with both student and staff friendships being formed over the years.

2025 A Year of Successes



- Junior Tennis Team win the Junior Ulster Tennis Cup
- Year 9 Cybersecurity Team 3rd place in the NI CyberFirst Girls' Competition
- Year 10 Cyber Explorers Team 3rd place in the NI Cyber Explorers Cup
- Eva Holmes wins Level 1 Italian (NI) Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators
- Faith Holmes wins Level 2 Italian (NI) Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators
- Bella Graham wins Ab-Initio Russian (NI) Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators
- Intermediate and Senior Netball teams NI Plate Finalists
- Years 8, 10 and 11 Netball teams runners up in TAGSA Netball League
- Year 9 Netball team win TAGSA Netball League
- Scarlett Duncan - Northern Ireland U17 Netball Team
- Amelie Reid - Northern Ireland U17 Netball Long Squad
- Senior School Trip to Uganda with Charlene's Project to work with our partner schools
- Year 10-11 Football team win the Inspire Cup
- Daisy Moore - Northern Ireland U16 Football Squad
- Ellie McLarnon, Daisy Moore & Hannah Breadon - QUB Future Stars for football
- Stella Ginty & Anya Birkett win the Eco Schools 'Young Reporters for the Environment' Photography Competition
- Eco Council win Year 14 category of the Challenge Biodiversity Competition
- Only post primary school awarded Scoil Spreagtha status for encouraging Irish in English medium schools
- CCF Royal Navy Section win National Regatta
- CCF Army Section win Regional First Aid Competition
- Isla Parkes - 3rd at British Schools Finals - U19 Tumbling
- Ashten Adair - Winner Northern Ireland Schools - U19 Tumbling
- Eliza McGill - Winner Northern Ireland Schools - U14 Tumbling
- Junior Relay Team - 3rd place at Swim Ulster Schools Cup
- Chloe Stewart - Silver and Bronze individual medals at the Swim Ulster Schools Cup
- Isabella Newman - Silver medallist Ulster Schools KS3 Gala
- Lauren English & Summer Lin - 7th out of 914 national teams in the Cambridge, Biology Challenge
- Eva Posner - winner of Regional NI Soroptimist Public Speaking Competition
- Junior Dance team - 1st place at Ulster Fusion, NICMAC and 5678 Take it to the floor
- Senior Dance team - 1st place at Ulster Fusion and 2nd place at 5678 Take it to the floor
- U19 & U14A groups - 2nd place NI Schools Acrobatic Gymnastics competition
- U14B group - 3rd place NI Schools Acrobatic Gymnastics competition
- Emma Reid - Ulster & District discus record holder, Ulster Schools shot putt and discus Champion
- Irish Schools junior discus Champion and bronze shot putt
- Poppy Earl - Minor District and Ulster 75m Hurdle Champion
- Jessica Liddle - Minor District Champion and High Jump record holder. Ulster silver medalist
- Year 8 4x100 relay team District Champions and Ulster silver medalists
- Lily Hall - Ulster U18 Interprovincial Tennis Squad
- Vanessa Monaghan - Ulster U18 Hockey Squad and QUB Future Stars Programme
- Olivia Gibson - Ulster U16 Hockey Squad
- Matilda Urry & Keira Creaney - Irish U18 Water Polo Squad
- Hannah James (U17) and Chloe Stewart (U15) - Ulster Interprovincial Water Polo Squad
- Mollie Rainey represented GB at ISU Solo Ice Dance competition - 4th of 70 international skaters
- Mr R Spence wins 'Post Primary Teacher of the Year' Local Women Magazine Education Awards
- Pastoral Care Team win NAPCE Special Recognition Award for Providing Effective Pastoral Care for Learners
- Mrs H Law wins 'Outstanding contribution to Pastoral Care' at the NAPCE Awards



History of our School

Glenlola Collegiate School has been at the heart of education in Bangor since 1880. From its beginnings as the Ladies Collegiate School and subsequently renamed as Bangor Collegiate School, its rollbook and reputation grew.

Nearby, a school founded by Miss Ruby Harte and her family opened in 1897 taking its name Glenlola from the house name that the school occupied. Both schools had a strong Methodist background encouraged by the Weir and Harte families who were the driving forces behind both schools' development.

The post war years saw the size of Bangor change dramatically and discussions took place to consider the possibility of an amalgamation of both schools to create a new school for girls in Bangor. Glenlola Collegiate School was established as a single entity in 1957, although it still had to operate from four old fashioned buildings in various parts of the town. The weekly games session meant that girls had to cycle two miles from Pickie Terrace to the Valentine Playing Fields in the Castle Grounds

By the time a new School building was provided in 1963, almost 700 pupils were on the roll and a Coat of Arms was awarded, the first school of its kind in the United Kingdom to be granted this privilege. The School's motto 'Nisi dominus frustra', from Psalm 127 (Except the Lord build the House) acknowledges the School's strong Christian tradition.

Before long, the need for a bigger school was evident. Glenlola Collegiate may have been outgrowing its facilities but its original ethos, character and level of high academic achievement would always remain.

The present School Building was opened in 2003.

For the first time, the entire school population of 1200 girls and staff could be accommodated in one purpose-built building with modern classrooms, laboratories and resource bases as well as a Sports Hall, Drama Lecture Theatre, Fitness Suite, Wellness Suite, Assembly Hall, Library and a Design and Technology Suite.

Today Glenlola Collegiate School maintains the same ethos and strong academic tradition that has been at the heart of its approach to education throughout its long history.

Mr Eric Thompson was appointed Headmaster in March 2010.

Mr Ivan Thompson is Chair of the Board of Governors.

The location of the School in the centre of Bangor, with easy accessibility and proximity to home, enables pupils to participate in a wide variety of extracurricular activities while avoiding excessive journeys to and from School. The School is a Controlled Grammar School for girls and is responsible through the Board of Governors to the Education Authority – South East Region. The present membership of the Board of Governors is available on request.

The grammar school has seven year groups and is organised into three sections.

Years 8, 9 and 10 follow the Northern Ireland Curriculum; Years 11 and 12 follow the Key Stage 4 curriculum in preparation for GCSE modules and examinations at the end of Year 11 and 12; Years 13 and 14 undertake Post-16 studies for GCE AS and A-Level examinations taken in the summer term.

The integrated design of the building enables ease of movement between subject areas and it also caters fully for pupils with physical disabilities. For safety and security, the School operates a CCTV system and there are restricted access points to the building. All visitors must report to reception on arrival.

GLENLOLA125

In 2023, Glenlola Collegiate celebrated 125 years of educating girls in Bangor.

A Gala Dinner and exhibition in the North Down Museum celebrated the history, legacy and memories of our incredible School.





GLENLOLA COLLEGIATE SCHOOL BANGOR

2 Valentine Road
Bangor
BT20 4TH

028 9147 5340
glenlola.net

Educating girls in Bangor for over 125 years.