

Opportunity classes entry in Year 5 2020 – minimum scores

Opportunity classes in primary schools provide an educationally enriched environment for high achieving, academically gifted students.

General information

Entry into opportunity classes in Year 5 is determined by the students' results in the Opportunity Class Placement Test¹ in English, mathematics and general ability, together with their primary school's assessment of their performance in English and mathematics. Other evidence of academic merit may also be considered.

There are 75 opportunity classes offering placement in Year 5 for entry in 2019.

The Department of Education publishes the minimum entry scores² for opportunity class placement annually at the end of Term 1. This information has been updated for 2020 entry, as at the end of Term 1 2020.

Opportunity class vacancies for 2020

- Number of vacancies: 1,740
- Number of applicants: 12,344

¹ Examples of the opportunity class placement test can be found on the department's website.

² These scores are expressed as whole numbers. The exact entry score of the last person placed at each school is normally calculated to a number of decimal places. If the minimum entry score is 224.39 there will be students below that score (for example 224.19) who will be unsuccessful.

Minimum entry scores for opportunity classes

The minimum entry score for an opportunity class is the score of the lowest scoring student to accept a place there. Minimum entry scores vary from school to school and from year to year.

The reserve lists for all opportunity classes remain active for the whole of Year 5 and at least the end of Term 1 in Year 6. Should vacancies arise after all vacancies have been filled offers continue to be made in the strict order of the reserve list.

The minimum entry score is determined by the geographical location of the schools and the academic merit of the students applying for entry. Where parents decline offers after the school term begins, it may become necessary to go much further down a reserve list than may have happened in previous years.

The minimum entry score is not an indicator of the relative performance of the primary schools with opportunity classes.

Parents should not use minimum entry scores as the only criterion on which to base their choice of opportunity classes. They should also consider factors such as the curriculum offered at each school and travelling times and transport.