

Title:	Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements for 2026-27 academic year
1	Statement
	<p>Northampton School for Girls (NSG) has Academy status and the Governing Body is the admissions authority for the school.</p> <p>At NSG it is our intention that all of our students should continue with their learning post-16, within a context that may be education or training. Using the guidance process at KS4, the choices should be appropriate to students' aspirations and skills and may lead to apprenticeships, college courses or a continuation of their study in the Sixth Form.</p> <p>All NSG students who wish to continue their education post-16 at the school will be able to do so, provided the right courses are available to meet their needs, and that they meet the entry requirements.</p> <p>In addition to NSG's Year 11 students (referred to as 'Internals'), the school admits students, including boys, who are studying for GCSEs elsewhere (referred to as 'Externals') to study level 3 qualifications (A levels and level 3 BTECs).</p>
2.	Aims and Legislation
	<p>These admission arrangements aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Explain how to apply for a place at NSG● Set out NSG's arrangements for allocating places to those who apply, including the school's oversubscription criteria <p>The arrangements have been formulated using the Department for Education's (DfE) legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● School Admissions Code (2021)● School Admission Appeals Code (2022) <p>As an academy, NSG is required by its funding agreement to comply with these codes, and with the law relating to admissions as set out in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.</p>
3.	Entry Requirements
3.1	<p><i>General academic entry requirements</i></p> <p>We provide pathways to Level 3 qualifications (see points 1.ii-1.iv below), to ensure students are able to access the curriculum and make good progress, leading to successful post-18 progression. There are general minimum entry requirements for all (See point 1.i). In addition, students' Best 8 GCSE grades will be used to denote which pathway is available to them (See Appendix 1).</p> <p>i. General entry requirements: students must achieve:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade 5 in GCSE English Language AND ● Grade 4 in GCSE Maths <p>In all cases, the requirements outlined below are a minimum for general entry/pathway entry and subject-specific criteria are required in addition</p> <p>ii. Pathway 1: open to students whose best 8 GCSE grades add up to 47+.</p> <p>Three A-Level programme of study (students who have achieved six or more subjects graded 8 or 9 may be eligible to study four A Levels).</p> <p>iii. Pathway 2: open to students whose best 8 GCSE grades add up to 37-46.</p> <p>Combination of A-levels and Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ – formerly Applied Generals), equivalent to three A Levels..</p> <p>iv. Pathway 3*: open to students whose best 8 GCSE grades add up to 34-36.</p> <p>Applied General / Alternative Academic Qualification only programme.</p> <p>v. Students may take additional qualifications (e.g. the Extended Project Qualification) but all students must follow a minimum number of three subjects</p> <p>vi. The school reserves the right to remove courses in the September if numbers are not viable; students who have been offered a place will be able to move to a different subject, but acceptance onto any course remains dependent on the student’s GCSE performance and subject-specific criteria.</p>
<p>3.2</p>	<p><i>Course entry requirements</i></p> <p>Please see Appendix 2 for the specific requirements for each available course.</p> <p>The school reserves the right to remove courses in the September if numbers are not viable; students who have been offered a place will be able to move to a different subject, but acceptance onto any course remains dependent on the student’s GCSE performance and subject-specific criteria.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>How to apply for a place in Year 12 for September 2026</p>
	<p>External applicants wishing to apply for a place in Year 12 at NSG for September 2026 should be made on line on NSG’s website: https://www.nsg.northants.sch.uk/6th-form.</p> <p>The deadline for on-time applications is 1st May 2026</p>

5	Allocation of Places
5.1	<p><i>Published Admissions Number (PAN)</i></p> <p>All current Year 11 students at NSG who wish to continue their education post-16 at the school will be able to do so, provided the right courses are available to meet their needs, and that they meet the general entry requirements.</p> <p>Applications are invited from External students wishing to study at NSG’s Sixth Form. The Published Admissions Number (PAN) for Year 12 External student is 50. If spaces remain on some courses, this number may be exceeded.</p> <p>Internal and External students must meet the same academic entry requirements in order to be admitted to the Sixth Form.</p>
5.2	<p><i>Oversubscription criteria</i></p> <p>Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school as appropriate provision post-16 will be offered a place. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, and after the admission of children with an EHCP naming the school, priority will be given in the following order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children2. Children with an older sibling on roll at NSG at the time of application and continuing at NSG at the time of admission of the child3. Children of staff4. Other children <p>If the number of places available within any band is reached within any criterion, random allocation using a computerised randomizer will be used to decide who gets the places.</p>
5.3	<p><i>Tie-breaker</i></p> <p>If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, a random allocation process (using a computerised randomiser) will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.</p>
5.4	<p><i>Course Oversubscription</i></p> <p>Every effort will be made to enable students to study their preferred combination of Level 3 courses, provided they meet the published entry requirements. However, where demand for a course exceeds capacity (defined as an average class size of more than 27 students with no option to form an additional teaching group), or where timetable constraints prevent two chosen subjects from being studied together, applicants will be asked to select from their reserve choices.</p>

When a Level 3 course is oversubscribed, places will be allocated in the following sequential order:

1. Reserve Subject

- All applicants must nominate one reserve course.

2. Immediate Allocation to Reserve

- Applicants who have not indicated a firm preference for their first-choice course will be placed on their reserve immediately.

3. Priority for Remaining Places

- a. Applicants who submitted their application by the published deadline
- b. Applicants who attended Sixth Form Offer Holder Day (unless absence was authorised)
- c. Applicants who completed online enrolment by the published deadline (unless alternative arrangements were agreed in advance)

4. Academic Ranking (if a course still remains oversubscribed)

- GCSE grade in the relevant subject (where applicable)
- Overall “Best 8” GCSE point score

5. Exceptional Circumstances

- Compelling personal or medical reasons may be considered at the school’s discretion.

6. Waiting List

- A waiting list for each oversubscribed course will be maintained until 1 October. Any subsequent vacancies will be offered according to the criteria above.

The School’s decision on course allocation is final and is designed to ensure fairness, maintain manageable class sizes, and preserve the integrity of the timetable.

6 Definitions

6.1 *Looked after children*

A “looked after child” is a child who, at the time of making an application to a school, is:

- a) In the care of a local authority, or
- b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in exercise of its social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989)

6.2 *Previously looked after children*

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they:

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	<p>a) were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders), or</p> <p>b) became subject to a child arrangements order (as defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 and as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014), or</p> <p>c) became subject to a special guardianship order (see Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).</p> <p>This includes children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.</p>
6.3	<p>Siblings</p> <p>A sibling is defined as a child's brother or sister. A sibling must be living at the same permanent address and as part of the same family unit (one or two parents plus children) to qualify under this criterion. For School Admissions purposes, the term sibling include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Half-brothers and half-sisters• Step-brothers and step-sisters• Adopted children• Children in foster care• Children living in the same family unit, even if they are not biological brothers and sisters – for example when the parents are not married/in a civil relationship. <p>Cousins are not regarded as siblings.</p>
6.4	<p>Children of Staff</p> <p>Priority will be given to children of staff (teaching and non-teaching, full and part-time, permanent members of staff) employed directly by the school in either or both of the following circumstances:</p> <p>a) Where the member of staff has been employed at the preferred school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or</p> <p>b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.</p> <p>The child must be living at the same address as the staff member and includes adopted, foster and step-children, living as part of the same family unit (including those where the parents are not married/in a civil relationship).</p>
7	<p>Multiple Birth Groups</p> <p>In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, the other children in the group will also be offered places, even if it means exceeding the Published Admission number.</p>

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	<p>In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining which is to be offered to one sibling, the other too will be offered a place.</p>
8	Late Applications
	<p>Late applications will be considered up to the end of September 2026.</p> <p>Following GCSE results day (August 2026), if there are places available on any courses, these will be allocated according to the oversubscription criteria outlined in Section 5 to students who have met the academic and specific course entry requirements.</p>
9	In-year Admissions
	<p>An in-year admission refers to an application for a Year 12 place made after 20 September 2026, or an application for admission to Year 13.</p> <p>These applications would be considered in accordance with the academic entry requirements and course requirements. NSG will also take into consideration whether the student has a reasonable chance of completing the course in the time left available.</p> <p>Applications should be made via email at the following email address: nsg6admissions@nsg.northants.sch.uk</p>
10	Waiting Lists
	<p>Following an unsuccessful application students can request that they be added to the waiting list.</p> <p>Waiting list for each course will be held until 1 October and will be ranked according to the over-subscription criteria.</p>
11	Appeals
	<p>Applicants who are refused a place in the Sixth Form have the right to an independent appeal.</p> <p>Applicants wishing to appeal against the decision not to offer them a place at the school should submit their appeal in writing, giving their reasons for appeal, directly to the school. More information will be included in the "No Offer" letter sent to the applicant.</p>

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12	Requests for admission outside the normal age group
	<p>Students wishing to seek a place for their child in the Sixth Form out of their normal age group at NSG, must put their request in writing to the school at the time of application, giving some information about themselves and explaining why they would like to apply for a place out of the normal age group. They should also indicate in their request whether they have been educated out of their normal age group at their current/previous school.</p> <p>The admission authority will consider the request and make a decision as to whether an application for Sixth Form will be accepted on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the student concerned.</p>
13	Children moving to the UK from overseas
	<p>Documentary evidence to verify an address may be required if an application is made following a move to the UK, or as a result of an impending move to the UK. A copy of the rental agreement or an exchange of contract letter is usually sufficient.</p> <p>The admission authority or the LA acting on their behalf, reserves the right to seek further documentary evidence as necessary.</p>
14	Children of UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces) and Crown Servants
	<p>Special conditions apply to applications from UK Armed Service Personnel and Crown Servants.</p> <p>For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting to their area, or crown servants returning from overseas to live in the area, the admission authority will endeavour to allocate a place in advance of the family arriving in the area, provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date. NSG will not refuse to process an application or refuse to offer a place solely because the family do not yet have an intended address, or do not yet live in the area.</p>
15	Policy Review
	<p>This policy will be monitored as part of the School's annual internal review and reviewed on an annual cycle or as required by legislative changes.</p>

Appendix 1

What is the Best 8 GCSE score?

The Best 8 score is the total of the best 8 grades the student achieved in their GCSEs. Please see the examples below to explain how this works.

Example A: Best 8 score = 70

This student would therefore be eligible for Pathway 1: A Levels (this student would also be eligible to be considered for four A Levels)

English Literature	9
English Language	9
Maths	9
History	9
Dance	9
Combined Science	8-8
French	9
Product Design	8

Example B: Best 8 score = 37

This student would therefore be eligible for Pathway 2: a combination of Applied and A Level courses

English Literature	5
English Language	5
Maths	4
Geography	4
Drama	5
Combined Science	5-5
Spanish	4
Textiles	3

Example C: Best 8 score = 34

This student would therefore be eligible for Pathway 3: Applied General / Alternative Academic Qualification only programme

<i>English Literature</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>English Language</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Maths</i>	<i>4</i>

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<i>Art</i>	5
<i>EP</i>	5
<i>Combined Science</i>	4-4
<i>French</i>	2
<i>Textiles</i>	2

Appendix 2 Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Subject	Entry requirements
Art	Grade 6 or above, GCSE Art
Biology	Grade 6 or above, GCSE Biology and grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics or Grades 6-6 or above, GCSE Double Science and grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics
Business	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics
BTEC Business (Applied level 3)	No additional requirements
Chemistry	Grade 6 or above, GCSE chemistry and grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics or Grades 6-6 or above, GCSE Double Science and grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics
Computer Science	Grade 6 or above, GCSE Computer Science (if taken) or Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics
WJEC Criminology (Applied Level 3)	No additional requirements
Dance	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Dance or Merit or above in Dance BTEC, level 2 or Grade 5 or above in external dance exams
Drama	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Drama or Merit or above in BTEC Performing Arts, level 2 or Grade 5 or above, English Literature/Language <i>only if Drama has not been studied at GCSE</i>
AAQ BTEC National Early Childhood Development (Applied Level 3)	Grade 4 or above, GCSE English Language and two other Grade 4's in any GCSE (or equivalent) subjects or Grade 4 or above, GCSE English Literature and two other Grade 4's in any GCSE (or equivalent) subjects
English Language	Grade 6 or above, GCSE English Language and in English Literature
English Literature	Grade 6 or above, GCSE English Literature and in English Language

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English Literature and Language	Grade 5 or above, GCSE English Literature or in English Language
Film Studies	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Film Studies (if taken) or Grade 5 or above, GCSE English Language or Grade 5 or above, GCSE English Literature
French	Grade 6 or above, GCSE French
Further Mathematics	Grade 8 or above, GCSE Mathematics <i>Students must also take Mathematics A level</i>
Geography	Grade 6 or above, GCSE Geography (if taken) or Grade 6 or above in any other Humanities subject (eg GCSE History, GCSE EP) <i>only if Geography has not been studied at GCSE</i>
History	Grade 6 or above, GCSE History (if taken) or Grade 6 or above, GCSE Geography or GCSE English Literature <i>only if History has not been studied at GCSE</i>
Mathematics	Grade 7 or above, GCSE Mathematics
Music	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Music and grade 5 or above in performing (ABRSM or Trinity examinations)
Photography	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Art or Film Studies or Grade 5 or above, GCSE DT (Graphics, Product, Textiles) <i>NOT Food</i>
Physics (<i>student must also select Maths A-level</i>)	Grade 6 or above, GCSE Physics and grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics or Grades 6-6 or above, GCSE Double Science and grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics
Politics	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Humanities subject (History, Geography, EP/RS) or Grade 5 or above in either GCSE English Language or Literature
Product Design	Grade 5 or above, DT subject (Paper and Board, Timbers or Textiles) or Grade 6 or above, creative subjects (Art, Creative I-media, Dance/Drama- must be the Design approach) and Grade 5 or above, GCSE Mathematics
Psychology	Grade 6 or above, GCSE English Language and grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics or Grade 6 or above, GCSE English Literature and grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics
BTEC Psychology (Applied Level 3)	No additional requirements

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Sociology	Grade 6 or above, in GCSE English Language/GCSE English Literature and a grade 6 or above in any humanities subject (e.g. GCSE History, GCSE Geography, GCSE EP)
Spanish	Grade 6 or above, GCSE Spanish
BTEC Sport (Applied level 3)	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Physical Education or Merit or above in Sport BTEC, level 2 or Grade 5-5 in double Science or Grade 5 in Biology <i>only if PE or Sport has not been studied at GCSE</i>
Textiles	Grade 5 or above, GCSE Textiles or Grade 5 or above, GCSE Art or Grade 5 or above, GCSE Design

Plans for Year 12 courses at NSG are provisional, dependent on group sizes and timetabling constraints. All rights to modify the provisional curriculum lie with the school.