



Northampton School *for Boys*

Information for Applicants for Admission to Year 12 September 2021

**Northampton School *for Boys*
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Introduction from the Headmaster Mr Richard Bernard

Welcome to this information booklet for those seeking admission to Northampton School *for Boys*' Sixth Form in September 2021. Further information and videos in relation to the Sixth Form can be found on the school website: www.nsb.northants.sch.uk. I am delighted that you are interested in joining us and I am confident that we, in return, can maximise your academic potential and personal development.



This booklet contains all the essential information needed to apply for Sixth Form admission in 2021. It also includes information about the outstanding quality of educational provision at the school. I hope you will read the booklet carefully, together with the aims, values and ethos as outlined on the school website, in order to decide whether you feel NSB's Sixth Form is for you.

Northampton School *for Boys* is an 11 to 18 school which offers single sex education to boys from Years 7 to 11 with girls admitted into the Sixth Form. In the summer of 2010 we became one of the first schools to choose to take up the freedoms associated with academy status. We have in recent years made huge investment in the buildings and facilities at the school, providing a fantastic learning environment which includes a recently opened multi-million pound swimming pool and dance facility as well as a completely refurbished music department and Theatre. The facilities spectacularly combine the best in terms of tradition, allied to innovation and advanced technology.

Over the last three years alone we were ranked as the highest performing state school in the country for competitive sport, winning national titles in rugby, basketball, football and rowing, and various NSB musicians, actors and dancers performed on respective national stages to great acclaim. In 2017 we were also awarded the prestigious title of 'Educational Establishment of the Year' at the ERA national education awards ceremony held at the National Conference Centre, Birmingham. Our 2019 A Level results were well above the national average for attainment with 30 students alone averaging three straight A grades at A Level or better. 8 students in 2020 were successful in gaining a place at Oxbridge.

We were delighted when Ofsted recognised our outstanding provision in our most recent inspection when the inspectors graded the school as outstanding in all categories:

- Achievement
- Teaching
- Behaviour and safety
- Leadership and management
- Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at Northampton School *for Boys* has been moving from strength to strength and this was highlighted in our last Ofsted inspection where every aspect of the Sixth Form provision was graded as outstanding. In the words of the inspectors, 'Teaching in the Sixth Form is outstanding. Extra-curricular provision and leadership opportunities for Sixth Form students are exceptional. Students speak very highly of teachers' commitment, their passion for their subjects and the extra help they provide when students need it. As a result achievement and behaviour is outstanding'.

For me, as Headmaster, the proof of the success of our Sixth Form provision lies in our outcomes; academically our results are consistently strong. The 2019 A Level results (last public exam set of results) were well above the national average for attainment with 30 students achieving a minimum of a Grade A average across three subjects and well over half of all A Level entries being graded A*/A or B. The 2020 A Level Centre Assessed Grades were exceptional, as befitting an outstanding year group.

Extra-curricular involvement over the last few years for our Post 16 students has been extraordinary, lead roles in the musical 'Chicago', representation in national music and dance finals and lifting the Nat West Vase at Twickenham being just three examples of the type of success enjoyed! Our Sixth Form students are without doubt outstanding role models for the younger students in the school and one hundred per cent of students last year went on to education, employment or training Post 18, with the large majority moving on to Russell Group Universities. We have 15 students on interview at Oxbridge this year. We also have phenomenal success rates for students from the Expressive Arts gaining places at the most prestigious National Music and Arts based colleges with 10 students gaining a place at various leading Music Conservatoires across the country in 2020.

When you set these outcomes against the state of the art facilities that the school enjoys then I hope that you will feel fully confident that NSB has a Sixth Form that will allow you to peak in preparation for life beyond school.

All of the A Levels we offer have now returned to a linear format which are more rigorous than the previous modular courses and will mean that you will only sit Public Examinations at the end of Year 13, although you will be rigorously assessed internally throughout the course. The majority of students will opt for three subjects at the beginning of Year 12 which they will see through to the end of Year 13 and a minority of students will be allowed to take four A Levels through Year 12 and 13. To study four A Levels through two years students will need to demonstrate the highest level of academic excellence in their GCSE results. We also offer the BTEC Extended Diploma in Sport (Rugby focus) as an extension to our curricular provision, which is the equivalent of three A Levels.

Although our Post 16 students in recent years have been rewarded with the highest level of success in many academic and extra-curricular fields, there is no "magic formula"! Quite simply we have the highest expectations of every one of our students and we give each individual every opportunity to succeed. If you choose to come here we will expect you to contribute to our community and achieve your best. I hope you are willing to accept the challenges that NSB will give you.

A Brief History Of 'A Tradition Of Excellence'

Northampton School *for Boys* is the only state funded boys' school in the County and occupies an extensive and attractive site within a mile of the town centre.

The school was founded in 1541 as a Grammar School when Thomas Chipsey, three times Mayor of Northampton, established a foundation for the endowment of a free school in Northampton. He was supported by a number of Trustees.

The original school premises were in Bridge Street, but in 1557 the church of St Gregory was adapted for use as a school. Northampton School *for Boys* remained here for over three hundred years until 1864, when it moved to the Corn Exchange.

In 1870, new premises were opened in Abington Square to provide education for 200 pupils. The school proved so popular that in 1911 new buildings opened on the present site with places for 350 boys. Growth continued and the school became a comprehensive school in the 1970s. Northampton was re-organised on a 3-tier model, with Northampton School *for Boys* being a 13-18 boys' Upper School. In 1992, the school became Grant Maintained – a status which was state-funded but free from LA control – but changes in legislation saw the school designated a Foundation School in 1999. During this period, the school became heavily over-subscribed.

The school was designated a High Performing Specialist School and has been judged 'outstanding' by Ofsted on four consecutive occasions. In June 2010, the Secretary of State invited schools to adopt the freedoms of academy status. The Governors unanimously approved the application and from 1st September 2010 the school became one of the first 25 secondary schools in the country to be granted Converter Academy status. In April 2012, the school was selected to become a Teaching School.

During the 1990s, collaboration amongst schools Post-16 led to a small number of girls being admitted to the roll of the school which proved popular. The roll of the school is now over 1640 with around 530 in the Sixth Form. A very different school from the one Thomas Chipsey envisaged!

The buildings are a unique blend of Edwardian and modern architectures. The original buildings have been extensively remodelled to provide a high standard of accommodation. Original features have been restored in the recent building works, including a much improved reception area, re-modelled 1911 Hall and a student information desk in the Concourse.

Modern buildings house specialist areas for Science, Design Technology and ICT. There is a fantastic Sports Hall, Health & Fitness suite, and the superb Cripps Hall, housing a magnificent Theatre and music facilities.

The most recent buildings include an award-winning Concourse which includes a restaurant and bistro and opens out into many classrooms. A rubber crumb all-weather pitch, multi-use games area, jump pits and sprint area became available from September 2008. A teaching room for Food and an additional science laboratory – the Wolfson Laboratory - were completed in 2010. A new swimming pool, fitness laboratory and dance studio complex was completed in December 2014, the music department was completely refreshed and updated in the summer of 2017 and the Theatre was given a facelift in the summer of 2018.

The School Day

During a normal academic year, the school day begins at 8.45 am and ends at 3.35 pm with a lunch break of one hour from 1.00-2.00 pm. The school has a teaching week of 26.25 hours – longer than in many schools.

Due to the implications of Covid-19, this academic year, the school is operating a slightly different school day with staggered breaks, lunchtimes and exits. This will be reviewed at the end of this year in line with the most up-to-date government guidance.

School Population

The school has 1,113 boys in Years 7 to 11.

The school has a thriving Sixth Form currently numbering 521 students. Between 60% and 70% of our Year 11 pupils stay on to study academic courses. Some 500 students from other schools – state and independent – attempt to secure places available to external students annually. Sixth Form students have a major role in the school, and the House system provides a focus for links with the younger boys. Sixth Form students help with counselling and advising boys, coaching and organising teams, and supporting the learning of our younger boys.



A Levels/Level 3 BTEC at Northampton School for Boys

The school expects that the majority of students will follow a course which consists of three full A Levels or the Level 3 BTEC course for two years. There is the opportunity for exceptional applicants to study a fourth subject and if you would like to be considered for this offer you can indicate this on the application form. Please note that Further Mathematics counts as one subject and therefore you will need to pick two other subjects to complete your application. To study four subjects you will need to achieve minimum 7 or A grades in the relevant subject entry requirements for your A Level choices.

In Year 12 we offer the opportunity for students to obtain additional qualifications such as the Extended Project Qualification or Core Mathematics for those who achieve a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics. These courses qualify for UCAS points or discounted entry for University.

It is vital that you choose your subjects with care. Our Application and Induction processes have therefore been designed to ensure that every student who joins us in Year 12 is studying the most suitable course possible.

The following guidance in association with the rest of the admissions information should be of general interest. **In particular, I would draw your attention to both the basic entry requirements and the subject specific entry requirements. A summary of these requirements can be found at the end of this booklet.**



Subject Choices

Some combinations of subjects are acknowledged as being the route to a particular career or university goal. If you have a firm idea of where you wish to progress, please make sure that you are aware of any subjects that are required at Advanced Level.

If you are uncertain about your future plans, it is important that you choose subjects where you know you will be successful. Certain subjects appear to “make sense” together. Some subjects complement others and even enhance a student’s all round learning. Other combinations may place too great a demand on a student in terms of time spent on coursework or practical work.

Certain subjects such as English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, and Psychology will complement many others. Similarly, many careers look for a level of intellectual achievement rather than expertise in any particular area. The Russell Group of Universities have produced a guide to making decisions about A Level choices and you can find this at: <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

Some subjects are so closely linked that many Universities do not regard them as distinct courses. Some subjects overlap so much that the examination boards do not permit you to claim them as separate A Levels.

In order to make a sensible decision it is important to understand where your individual strengths and interests lie. Making the correct subject choice is vital. At your Course Guidance Meeting before entering the Sixth Form you will discuss your choices, but even in the first few weeks of being a Sixth Former if you are really not happy with any of your subjects you may be able to change course. **Your success** is what matters.

NSB Sixth Form Co-Curriculum

Joining the Sixth Form is not an end in itself. The two years that you spend studying your A Levels/Level 3 BTEC is just the start. We have developed a co-curriculum that complements your studies and challenges you to develop skills and talents beyond the classroom. The school has always been proud of the vast number of extra-curricular opportunities available to its students and the Sixth Form is no different.

The skills that you will develop will enable you to work with others, take on board your social responsibility towards the school and wider community and work out for yourself how to find out the things that you need to know in order to be able to thrive in the future.

There are a wide range of opportunities, some compulsory and some optional, all of which will be focused on developing different skills. The most urgent skill that will need to be developed is working independently. Our structured study programme enables you to become more independent whilst at the same time working with others. Other compulsory elements of the co-curriculum include Sport & Fitness every week, MOOC's, Work Experience, mentoring from your Form Tutor and preparation for life after A Levels. You will be required to undertake two extra-curricular activities for both Year 12 and Year 13. Work experience is important so that you can build your employability skills as well as gain vital experience that could help you in your progression to competitive University courses or employment.

The extra-curricular opportunities offer something for everyone. Our "elite" programmes in sports, music, dance and drama enable top performers to develop under the guidance of expert tutors and coaches as well as to perform in the highest level of national competitions or regularly on the local/national stage. For example, in the last few years NSB Sixth Formers have played in a national final at Twickenham and performed at the Royal Albert Hall.

You don't have to be a top performer to join any of our sports or performing arts groups though. Whether it's recreational activity or support for younger boys, there are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved.

We run the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme throughout the school. This is extremely popular and if you wish to take the award you will need to sign up quickly at the start of the year!

We run a highly successful Peer Mentoring programme where you will be trained to mentor students in the lower school, who may be finding it difficult to settle, to help them make the most of their time at the school. This is a very popular scheme with our Sixth Form and it is also very rewarding. You will see yourself grow as a person as well as knowing how much you have helped someone else. The younger boys look up to the Sixth Form and really value the time that they spend with you.



Curriculum Teams also offer opportunities for Sixth Formers to help younger students. You can work with individual students or small groups to support them in their studies. It is not unusual to see Sixth Form students sitting with boys from the lower school in the library, listening to them read, helping them with their homework and also working in classrooms to support boys during lessons.

Sixth Form students are role models for the rest of the school.

HOUSE STRUCTURE

The House System (Student Voice, House competitions and community cohesion)



House
Brightwell
Chipsey
Manley
Washington

Forms
H & P
I & Q
J & R
K & S

House Director
Mr J Rolleston
Mr J Bradbury
Mr C Reid
Mr T Winfield

Colour
Yellow
Light Blue
Green
White

Northampton School *for Boys* operates a dynamic and interactive House system. Some of its main purposes are to promote interaction between year groups, encourage healthy competition, develop a sense of community and provide a vehicle for the student voice. The House system also gives students an opportunity for addressing core values and spiritual, moral, personal and social development as well as improving skills in Sport, Expressive Arts, Music, Chess, English, General Knowledge and Cooking to name but a few of the activities on offer.

There are four Houses – Brightwell, Chipsey, Manley and Washington – which are named after four of the original founders of the school. Students will be allocated to Houses according to their Form. Each House has a House Director (staff) and an elected House Leader and two Assistants (students). There are also House Seniors selected from the older years who will be attached to Forms and who will help in the running of the House activities. Houses have an associated colour, as shown by the NSB logo on the school tie. A House t-shirt can also be purchased from Student Services to wear during all House competitions.

Each Form Group will elect a:

- House Rep – someone to represent their Form within the House and sit on House/School Councils throughout the year to ensure that the Student Voice is heard.
- House Captain – someone who will motivate the Form, collect names and ensure that the Form is fully represented for all House competitions.
- Community Rep – someone who will ensure that recycling is taking place within their Form, who promotes looking after the environment and ensures their Form participates fully in charity week.

There will be House competitions across subjects and extra-curricular activities alongside a detailed sporting programme.

House points will also be awarded electronically to individuals for a variety of things across the year including attendance, punctuality, helpfulness, being an exemplary role model, giving back to the school community, Behaviour for Learning, Home Learning attainment and progress.

The House system gives students a chance to have their say and to be part of something – it is about participation, whether competing or making positive changes to the school environment through the House/School Council meetings. Students are given the opportunity to put themselves forward, give suggestions, discuss, vote, engage, play, perform, lead, liaise, compete, achieve..... and make a difference!

Within the House System there are positions of responsibility where you can make a real difference to the life of the school. This will develop essential skills that are useful both for Higher Education and Employment such as organisation, communication, leadership and working with others.

A full list of all the activities on offer can be found in the Co-Curriculum Information Sheet online.

University or Employment?

“An excellent programme of information, advice and guidance, and a pre-university course for all students prepares them very well for the next stage of their lives, whether in education or in work.” NSB Ofsted report. In 2020, 84% of students who left Year 13 gained a place at university, half of these at the most prestigious UK universities.



Whichever path you want to take we can support you. We offer a unique Employment Opportunities Evening where companies from Northampton and beyond come to talk to our Sixth Form about jobs that are available after A Levels. Professional apprenticeships are an increasingly popular way of gaining qualifications while earning a living.

This event takes place in March of each year and is so successful that in the seven years that it has been running the number of companies who want to be involved has grown from an initial 20 to well over 45. The links that we have with these firms persist throughout the year and our Careers Advisor is always on hand to put you in touch with a company to discuss your future. In the weeks running up to the Employment evening, we run employability seminars where Sixth Formers are made aware of what it takes to be successful in the world of work.

If you have set your sights on University the support programme will start in the spring of Year 12. You will receive a handbook to guide you through the process and your enrichment lessons will be used to deliver advice and guidance as you research courses and prepare your personal statement. We have a Post 18 Choices Coordinator who has extensive knowledge of different universities and what they want to see in an applicant. You will have the benefit of the insights that the Coordinator has and this can often give you the “inside track” in your application. This is particularly useful for those applying for Medicine/Dentistry/Veterinary Science.

We will also involve your parents by inviting them to their own UCAS Evening where the process is explained, and they are given information about all of the different aspects of the application process.

We also offer a highly successful Oxbridge application scheme. If you wish to apply to either Oxford or Cambridge, you will be asked to put your name forward in Year 12. You will be interviewed by our Post 18 Coordinator and will follow a “fast track” programme because Oxbridge applications are required to be with UCAS by early October. You will attend meetings throughout Year 12 and after the summer examinations to make sure that your application is progressing well. There will be an Oxbridge Evening where you and your parents can meet admissions tutors from each university and attend seminars about life at Oxbridge, including the interview process. At the start of Year 13 we also run a separate interview programme where, in addition to an Oxbridge admissions tutor session, each applicant will get interview practice on a one to one basis. 8 NSB students started at Oxford or Cambridge University in October 2020.

Studying in the Sixth Form

The demands of Sixth Form study are great. You should see the Sixth Form at NSB as an opportunity to succeed, not as a guarantee that you *will* succeed. If you found GCSE courses relatively straightforward, please do not assume that you will automatically achieve at A Level merely because Northampton School *for Boys* has a reputation for examination success. You will have to adapt to a different level of working and you will only get out what you put in.

This means that you have to be on top of your work all the time as you cannot afford to leave everything until the final few months - there is just too much to learn.

Frequently asked questions about studying A Levels:

Q. What are the differences between GCSEs and A Levels?

The differences are two-fold. Firstly, the actual QUANTITY of knowledge which you will be expected to acquire is vast in comparison with GCSEs. This is true right from Day 1 in Year 12. Secondly, you are expected to be able to demonstrate higher order intellectual skills with the knowledge you have acquired. So A Levels differ from GCSEs in QUALITY as well.

Q. How much homework will I be expected to do?

We expect you to do as much self-study for each subject as the time you spend in classes for each subject. This, of course, does not include extra time spent on revision.

Q. Will we be taught in the same way as we were at GCSE?

No. There is much more emphasis on the student working on their own, in their own time. You are much more responsible for your own progress. We know that this is difficult for many students to come to terms with and so we have provided special sessions where you will be taught the skills you will need for successful study at A Level. These are delivered through our Pre-University course which runs from September to Christmas in Year 12.



Q. How much free time will I have?

None – except of course, lunchtime and break-time! If you are not in a class, you are on non-contact time. You may well choose to take your non-contact time at home (subject to pandemic restrictions), however this privilege will be rescinded should you need additional support to ensure expected progress. You are expected to study during your non-contact time.

Q. Do we still get reports and have Parents' Evenings in the Sixth Form?

Yes – In Year 12 students get a report at the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6. In Year 13 reports are produced every term. There is also a Parents' Evening where your progress can be discussed. There are two additional Parents' Evenings, the first of which explains to your parents what to expect in the Sixth Form and what the arrangements are for the Year 12 Residential Education Trips. The second evening will introduce your parents to the University Application procedure.

A different role for the Form Tutor

A Sixth Form Tutor acts in the same way as a Form Tutor would do for any year group, delivering the Citizenship & Guidance element of the curriculum and taking an interest in the progress of the students. However, there is an additional period on Sixth Form students' timetables when Form Tutors will have time to discuss, on a one to one basis, individual progress. This is the cornerstone of our mentoring programme and makes the difference in providing students with the guidance and assistance that they may need in adapting to Sixth Form life.

Targeting

Each student will receive two achievement targets for their subjects when they begin their Sixth Form courses. Our Minimum Achievement Grade (MAG) is the national standard at which we expect students to work and is based upon the mean of all of the GCSE grades. The Target Achievement Grade (TAG) is the aspirational standard that we expect our students to work towards. Feedback and teaching are designed to encourage the maintenance of the MAG and the achievement of the TAG. Parents can follow their son's or daughter's progress against these targets via the Learning Gateway. In Year 12 information is provided at the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6 for each subject together with a Behaviour for Learning and Home Learning score.

General Advice

When choosing your subjects make sure you investigate them fully. Do they complement each other and lead towards a particular career/degree course? Remember to look at your choices to see if they make sense as a course of study.

How much coursework/project work is involved?

Choosing 3 subjects all with coursework/project work may not be advisable, check the requirements.

What skills are required?

e.g. Verbal reasoning skills, practical skills, scientific skills, numerical skills or any combination of these.



Do not choose your subjects just because your friends are doing the same ones. Think of your own interests and skills.

Find out if a subject is going to be substantially different in the Sixth Form. Subjects are not always the same at A Level as they were at GCSE.

If you are considering a fourth A Level, be aware that this will be extremely demanding academically, and you must be sure you have the capacity to cope with this.

Do not assume that you will automatically enjoy a subject at Advanced Level.

You should have a genuine interest in the subject, especially if you are choosing new ones not offered at GCSE.

Some subjects do not require prior knowledge, even those previously offered at GCSE.

Take **advice** from family, friends, teachers and students studying the course but **REMEMBER** it will be **YOU** in the classroom and completing the homework. You must feel comfortable with your choice of subjects.

“Teaching in the sixth form is outstanding. Students speak very highly of teachers’ commitment, their passion for their subjects and the extra help they provide when students need it.” – NSB latest Ofsted Report

Year 13 Destinations 2019

Higher Education	84%
Gap year	12%
Apprenticeship	3.5%
Further Education	0.5%
Unknown	0%

Year 13 Destinations 2020

Higher Education	71%
Gap year	19%
Apprenticeship/Working	9.5%
Further Education	0.5%
Unknown	0%

Attendance

All students are expected to attend every school session unless the absence is due to:

- illness – notify our school absence line - 01604 258691 - on the first morning of absence, leaving your son/daughter's name, Form Group, the reason for their absence and finally your name and contact number
- permission having been granted following a written request at least 5 days in advance, (e.g. a dental/hospital appointment or open day/interview for Post 18, where unavoidably in school time)
- school-organised activity (e.g. a visit, sports fixture).

Family Holidays

In line with government regulations **the Headmaster will NOT sanction holidays taken during term time.** This means that any requests from parents for holidays will be rejected and if any parents do take holidays during term time, the register will be marked as an unauthorised absence (code G).

The Headmaster's decision is in line with the Education (Student Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2006. In addition, Education (Penalty Notice) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 set out the procedures for Local Authorities to issue fixed penalty notices (fines) to each parent who fails to ensure their child's regular attendance at school. Parents must pay £60 within 21 days or £120 within 28 days. Please be aware of this when making holiday bookings.

The provisional term time dates for the forthcoming year can be found on the website.

Charging Policy

Exam Entry

No charge will be levied for examinations which a pupil sits for the first time and has been prepared by the school.

Students who are not, or no longer on, the school roll will be charged at the rate charged by the exam board plus £5 per subject in order to be entered for a public examination. This charge will cover the examination entry fee and administration and costs.

Fees must be received by a pre-determined deadline date otherwise a student will not be entered for the re-sit. If this deadline is missed, the student may still be entered for the examination but any late entry fee charged by the board will be passed on in full.

The school reserves the right to increase the examination re-sit fee for certain examinations should there be additional invigilation costs. This is dependent on the number of students re-sitting the exam.

Music Tuition

A nominal charge will be made for vocal lessons and instrumental lessons on band/orchestral instruments. The full costs of the lessons are considerably subsidised by the school. The use of a school instrument will incur a nominal hire charge. Lessons on drum kit, piano and guitar will be charged at full cost. In special circumstances, for example for those pupils whose parents are in receipt of benefits, it may be possible that a lower charge can be agreed with the permission of the Headmaster or the Finance Director. Details of the charges for Music lessons will be published annually.

Consumables

From time to time, voluntary contributions may be sought to meet the cost of materials used in various subject areas, at the discretion of the Headmaster or the Finance Director. If the school is asking for contributions or payments of any form from parents, then this will always be requested formally by letter.

Breakages

Occasionally students cause damage to school property. Where students have caused damage to school property deliberately or through their thoughtless actions, the school will pass the cost of repairing the damage on to the pupils and/or their parents.

Sixth Form Dress Code

There is no set uniform, as such, for students in the Sixth Form at Northampton School *for Boys*. Traditionally, the term office dress has been used as a guideline for students, but in the modern office climate this term has become somewhat ambiguous. We therefore propose to clarify what is meant by office dress.



1. Clothing (Mens)

Blazer & Trousers	Tailored blazer and full length trousers
Suit	Tailored 2 or 3 piece suit, full length trousers. <i>Trousers that have pronounced external stitching and/or rivets are considered to be jeans and are not allowed</i>
Shirt	A collared shirt
Shoes	Tan, Brown or black heeled shoe worn with a sock
Tie	A tie or bow tie must be worn with the collared shirt
Pullover	V neck pullovers <u>only</u> that allow the tie to be seen are acceptable. <i>Round neck and roll neck are therefore unacceptable</i>

2. Clothing (Ladies)

Blazer & Trousers	Tailored blazer and tailored trousers
Suit	Tailored 2 or 3 piece suit, and tailored trousers or skirt. <i>Trousers that have pronounced external stitching and/or rivets are considered to be jeans and are not allowed</i>
Skirts and Dresses	Tailored Skirts and dresses must be of reasonable length i.e. no longer than mid-calf and not short enough to be judged inappropriate. Just above the knee should be set as a minimum length guide
Shirt/Top	A Shirt, Blouse, or top appropriate for office dress which must not be excessively tight or revealing
Shoes	Shoes with heels no higher than 4cm, and must be closed toe.
Tie	A tie or bow tie can be worn with a collared shirt

All students are required to remove coats when inside the school buildings

3. Hair

- No shorter than No 2. A fade is acceptable if the hair remains to office standard and remains no shorter than a 2 on top. No shapes or lines cut in eg. zig zags, mohican.
- Long hair should be tied back if likely to cause a safety issue in certain lessons.
- The style of the hair should be in keeping with that acceptable in an office environment.
- Hair should be kept clean and tidy.
- Hair should not be dyed using unnatural colours or be styled with extensive flashes of colour.

4. Jewellery

- Jewellery associated with piercings are only permitted in the ear with one stud in each ear and if they could cause a safety issue e.g. in P.E. they should not be worn
- All other facial piercing related jewellery e.g. nose rings, studs or tongue piercings are not permitted
- Wrist bands and similar attire should not be worn without permission from the School e.g. in the case of a School fund raising event.
- Excessive jewellery should not be worn

5. Headwear

- In cold weather a plain scarf, bobble hat or similar in a tasteful design may be worn to and from school but not around the school.
- Plain caps may be worn in hot weather but removed when on the school site. The Headmaster may give permission for them to be worn outside
- Sunglasses may be worn in certain circumstances determined by the Headmaster.
- Headphones/earpieces are permitted during private study when sat working silently

6. Miscellaneous

- School trips that take place during normal school hours require office dress unless there are exceptional circumstances determined by the School.
- For trips out of school hours, uniform may not be required but students will be directed by the school staff.
- In after-school clubs uniform is required, unless directed by the school staff.

The following items are prohibited and not allowed within school

- Denim is not to be worn in any form of clothing
- Trainers, fabric walking boots, open-toed shoes, sandals and flip flops are not to be worn (trainers for appropriate PE lesson as the exception to this rule)
- Fleeces are outdoor wear and as such should not be worn inside the school buildings
- Hooded tops (hoodies) and baggy causal sweatshirts are not office dress and should not be worn on the way to school or at school. Jumpers that prevent wearing a tailored jacket are not permitted.
- Headphones, earpieces and earbuds should not be worn around school.
- Baseball caps or other headwear should not be worn around school.
- Tops with slogans or conspicuous logos are not permitted
- Tailored trousers must not be super skinny or skin tight fit
- Midriffs should not be exposed
- Bodycon dresses and skirts and not permitted

Students who do not meet the office dress requirements, at the discretion of Senior Leadership Team, or the Sixth Form Management Team, may be asked to go home to change and then return to school. Persistent non-compliance will be subject to sanctions as per the Behaviour Policy.

Students' Personal Property

Students should not come to school with large sums of money or valuable items. The school cannot and will not take responsibility for items lost, damaged or stolen. **Parents are strongly advised to include such items on their own insurance policy.**

If mobile phones are brought to school, they must be turned off during and between lessons and only used in designated Sixth Form areas.

Phones must not be used to record or send images of students or staff. Any instances will be dealt with severely. The school does not accept liability for the loss of any mobile phones, and their presence in school is entirely at the student's own risk.

Students' Accident Insurance

There is no universal personal accident cover, but arrangements are made for children involved in 'work experience' activities. Insurance is arranged by the school for visits abroad and for any visits involving an overnight stay. Parents can check with the Finance Office for detailed information. Parents can arrange insurance on an individual basis, if they want additional cover for their children.

Equal Opportunities

Northampton School *for Boys* believes that equality of opportunity should be promoted for all.

We believe that the school is a powerful vehicle for promoting positive values. We will take action to challenge prejudice and discrimination against groups and individuals, whether on the basis of race, age, gender, or sexual orientation.

Our aim is to develop a school which acknowledges and respects the diversity of society.

Open Access to Records

All records maintained on students are open to the student concerned and their parents and guardians. Notice must be given in order that reference to other individuals can be removed, as under the Data Protection Act.

Occasionally we record information offered by parents and others which will not be accessible to students. In the case of students over the age of sixteen, information given by them may not, at their request, be made available to parents.

School Meals Provision

The school has an excellent Restaurant and Bistro offering a range of healthy options. A superb variety of hot and cold meals is available. Breakfast, cooked or cold, is available from 8.00a.m. and various hot and cold refreshments are available at break and lunchtime.

The school operates a cashless catering system. Parents can use a credit card to put money onto their son/daughter's account via the school website or, in emergencies, students can put cash into a machine in the Concourse. Carrying large amounts of cash is discouraged.

Students may bring packed lunches, but these must be consumed in designated Sixth Form areas.

Student Learning Agreement (1)

The student agreement is intended to give students a clear understanding of what they can expect from Northampton School *for Boys* Sixth Form and what will be expected of them in return.

Under this agreement NSB will endeavour to provide:

- A programme of courses that is delivered by suitably qualified and effective members of staff using appropriate facilities and resources.
- A friendly, caring and supportive environment.
- A programme of Citizenship & Guidance and Enrichment lessons that will include extensive support for the university application process through UCAS and mentoring.
- Support in encouraging you to become a more independent learner, capable of organising your time and utilising study skills effectively.
- A commitment towards the use of effective assessment, recording and reporting processes to support your progress. This will include a formal report at the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6 for Year 12 and every term for Year 13 to inform yourself and your parents of your progress within school.
- A diverse programme of extra-curricular activities, that provides support for learning and opportunities to develop other skills that are important for University and Employment.
- Support for any special needs that you may have.

In return you will be expected to:

- **Be committed in your approach to school.** Be self-critical in your work, ambitious in your aims, seek support where necessary and act upon the advice of staff as you strive to reach your academic potential.
- **Adhere to your timetable at all times.** You attend, and are punctual to, all lessons on your timetable. Your timetable can only be altered by the Director of Sixth Form and then only after consultation with your subject staff and Form Tutor. Absence notes will be expected to cover days off school.
- **Take responsibility for your own learning.** Utilise study time effectively, be conscientious in your approach to homework and coursework ensuring all deadlines are met, and do not take holidays during term time.

- **Adhere to the Sixth Form dress code.** You will take pride in your appearance and adhere to the Sixth Form dress code at all times. Including the wider guidelines pertaining to jewellery and hairstyles.
- **Contribute to the community ethos of the Sixth Form and the school as a whole.** You will demonstrate a commitment towards helping the school achieve a sense of community, by supporting the community placement scheme and by being a member of the Sixth Form Prefect Team for a term in Year 12. You will also be expected to play a part in supporting whole school events such as Charity Week and Sports Day.
- **Act as a positive role model for the younger students in the school.** You will be helpful, respectful and courteous to all members of the school community, and you will adhere to the whole school 'Code of Behaviour'. You will also adhere to the School's Use of ICT Policy. It is your responsibility to report any form of bullying including that which takes place outside of school, including homophobic, racist and cyber bullying.
- **Accept responsibility for your actions and progress within school.** You may be asked to leave the Sixth Form if you fail to meet the expectations outlined above. Where you fail to make satisfactory progress in any subject, the school reserves the right to withdraw you from the examination in that subject, the school will give you support and advice in this matter before such action is taken.

Student Learning Agreement: Lessons (2)

Expectations of Students

- Students will bring the current unit's work with them to each lesson. This will include (as a minimum): Notes from lessons, private study work, notes on feedback from teachers.
- Outside of lesson time during the school day students will use their private study time effectively in pursuing their studies and developing their broader skills through opportunities to volunteer in helping with the lower school and outside agencies.
- Notes taken in lessons will be written up according to the guidance given by each subject and kept in the topic file.
- Deadlines will be met.



Expectations of Lessons

- Teaching will make use of the skills developed through the Pre University Skills course.
- Private study activities will be planned to meet the needs of individual students.

- There will be three formal scheduled 1:1 individual discussions with students regarding their progress and how they can improve each year. The first at the beginning of November, then following trial examinations and the final meeting will be in March in preparation for revision.
- Feedback on private study work will clearly indicate the student's current level of progress and how he / she can improve.

Remote Learning

At NSB, we are clear about what makes effective teaching and learning in the classroom and our curriculum is shaped by 6 core principles: challenge for all; clear explanations; consistent modelling; deep questioning; deliberate practice and retrieval and effective feedback. These principles are also at the heart of our online curriculum too and students will continue to experience the same aspirational expectations and routines that they have in the classroom in the event of a partial closure or lockdown.

In the event of a closure, all students will receive the equivalent of their normal timetable. Students will not be expected to complete additional Home Learning tasks but will have further optional tasks set for those students who wish to complete more. Parents can also monitor the work set for students via the 'Parent Portal' and teachers will be in touch to inform you if your son/daughter begins to fall behind with their studies.

All teachers will set work through our AIM platform and students will be taught how to use this when they arrive. Students can access AIM throughout the day and use the platform to return work to teachers to check and provide feedback where necessary. From AIM, students may be directed to use other subject-specific resources and online content to support them with their studies.

All students will also be enrolled with their classes and teachers on Microsoft Teams. This is to allow teachers to deliver live lessons and for students to ask questions via the Teams chat function during the timetabled lesson. Students will also receive support on how to use Teams when they arrive at NSB.

Perhaps most importantly, students will still have access to the same broad and rich curriculum we offer at NSB; they will be given the opportunity to engage with all of their chosen subjects and be taught across their normal timetabled lessons, including their weekly RSE lesson with form tutors.

A LEVEL RESULTS 2020

Subject	Total	A+	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art	12	4	5	2	1	0	0	0
Biology	68	11	21	19	11	5	1	0
Chemistry	57	14	18	9	15	1	0	0
Computing	11	3	1	4	3	0	0	0
Dance	6	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Drama	13	2	3	8	0	0	0	0
DT	17	3	5	5	4	0	0	0
Economics	39	3	7	14	15	0	0	0
English Language	37	4	11	11	10	1	0	0
English Literature	30	5	10	11	4	0	0	0
French	5	0	3	1	1	0	0	0
Further Maths	19	14	5	0	0	0	0	0
Geography	32	5	8	12	6	1	0	0
Gov and Politics	22	4	6	8	1	2	1	0
History	56	7	12	24	12	1	0	0
Maths	109	33	20	28	16	10	2	0
Music	11	4	3	4	0	0	0	0
Music Tech	5	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
PE	31	5	8	6	10	2	0	0
Photography	6	1	2	3	0	0	0	0
Physics	51	16	10	16	5	4	0	0
Psychology	57	13	22	14	7	1	0	0
RE	18	7	5	6	0	0	0	0
Sociology	20	6	9	5	0	0	0	0
Spanish	8	3	2	3	0	0	0	0

TERM DATES 2021-22 (provisional)

	Open to pupils on:	Closing on:
Term 1	Friday 3 rd September 2021 (Y7/12 only) Monday 6 th September 2021 (All pupils)	Friday 22 nd October 2021
Term 2	Monday 1 st November 2021	Friday 17 th December 2021
Term 3	Tuesday 4 th January 2022	Friday 11 th February 2022
Term 4	Monday 21 st February 2022	Friday 1 st April 2022
Term 5	Wednesday 20 th April 2022	Friday 27 th May 2022
Term 6	Monday 6 th June 2022	Friday 22 nd July 2022

Training Days:

Wednesday 1st September 2021
Thursday 2nd September 2021
Monday 18th October 2021
Tuesday 19th April 2022
Friday 8th July 2022

Bank Holidays:

Monday 2nd May 2022

GOVERNORS

Appointed:	Mr Peter Bason (Chair) Mr John Beswick Mrs Veena Dhir Mr Matthew Ebsworth Mr Oliver Harris Mr Alan Hakes (Vice Chair) Mrs Mary Kay Mr Neil Martin Prof. William Ribbans Mr Alastair Thomson Mrs Morcea Walker Mr Peter Webb
Co-opted:	Mr Jon Drown
Parent:	Mrs Isla Whitcoft Mrs Clare Young
Staff:	Mr R Bernard (Headmaster) Mrs Angela Shaw Mr Graham Smith
Honorary:	Mrs Yvonne Edwards
Clerk to the Governors:	Mrs Leah Howard



Sixth Form

OPTION BLOCKS FOR YEAR 12 - SEPTEMBER 2021

You should choose **THREE** subjects; each subject needs to be taken from a different Option Block (1, 2, 3, 4 or 5)

Option Block 1	Option Block 2	Option Block 3	Option Block 4	Option Block 5
Chemistry	Biology	Biology	Art	Biology
Design Technology	Chemistry	Chemistry	Biology	Computer Science
Further Maths	Drama	Dance	Chemistry	English Literature
Geography	French	English Language	English Language	Geography
History	History	Maths	English Literature	History
Maths	Maths	Photography	Further Maths	Maths
Physical Education	Physics	Physics	Maths	Music
Politics	Psychology	Religious Education	Psychology	Physical Education
Psychology	Sociology	Spanish		Physics
				Sociology
BTEC	BTEC	BTEC	BTEC	BTEC

Further Maths:

- Please note that Further Maths takes up Option Blocks 1 and 4.
- If you wish to study Further Maths you must still choose two other subjects from the remaining Option Blocks (i.e. Blocks 2, 3 or 5).
- If you wish to study Further Maths you do not need to select Mathematics as a separate subject too.

BTEC (Rugby)

- Please note that this course is the equivalent of **THREE** full A Level subjects and goes over all 5 option blocks.

Core Maths:

- Please note that this subject is **NOT** a full A Level and does not appear on the option block information above. It is studied on top of your three A Level choices. If you are interested in studying Core Maths, you will have the opportunity to indicate this on your application form. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee this will run as it is dependent on uptake and availability of students.

The school expects that students will follow a course which consists of three full A Levels for two years. There is the opportunity for exceptional applicants to study a fourth subject and if you would like to be considered for this offer this can be discussed during the Course Guidance process after conditional offers have been made.

To study four subjects, you will need to achieve minimum 7 grades in the relevant subject entry requirements for your A Level.



Sixth Form

Sixth Form Minimum Entry Requirements for 2021 Entry – A Levels:

For A Levels there is a minimum general entry requirement of 3 GCSE subjects at Grade 6 and 2 subjects at Grade 5. For each subject offered, a minimum of a Grade 5 in Maths AND English Language or English Literature is required unless the subject specific requirements state otherwise. Please note, if you wish to study 4 A Level courses, Grade 7 is required in all of the relevant GCSEs listed in the entry criteria for each of the courses chosen (Further Maths requires a Grade 8).

Subject Specific Requirements below:

'A' Level Subject to Study (**not essential to have studied at GCSE)	Minimum Subject Grade at GCSE where studied	Additional minimum requirements and information (all require a minimum of a Grade 5 in Maths AND English Language or English Literature unless otherwise stated)
Fine Art	7	Grade 7 in GCSE Art only (not an Art related subject). Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Biology	7	For Double Science students minimum Grades 77 are required. A minimum of Grade 6 is required in Maths.
Chemistry	7	For Double Science students minimum Grades 77 are required. A minimum of Grade 6 is required in Maths.
Computer Science **	7	Mathematics Grade 7 required. Unless there are exceptional circumstances you need to have studied GCSE Computer Science. GCSE ICT is not accepted in place of Computer Science. If you did not study Computer Science and feel that you have outstanding coding skills then please have a discussion with the Computer Science Curriculum Team Leader, Mr Berkin, before submitting your application.
Dance **	6	Evidence of strong Dance related skills maybe accepted if GCSE Dance is not studied. Please contact the Dance Team Leader, Mrs Clinton. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Drama **	6	Minimum Grade 6 is required in either English Language or Literature. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable. If you did not study Drama and feel that you have evidence of outstanding Drama related skills then please have a discussion with the Expressive Arts Curriculum Team Leader, Ms Hasan, before submitting your application.
English Language	6	English Literature Grade 6 is also required.
English Literature	6	English Language Grade 6 is also required. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
French	7	Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Further Maths	8 (Maths)	English Language or Literature minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Geography	6	Minimum Grade 6 in either English Language or Literature is required.
History	6	Minimum Grade 6 is required in English Language or Literature. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Maths	7	English Language or Literature minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Music **	6	A Grade 6 on main instrument is required if GCSE Music has been studied. If GCSE Music has not been studied a minimum Grade 7 on a main instrument is required. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Photography **	7	Grade 7 in another Art related subject will be considered. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Physical Education **	6	GCSE Biology Grade 6 or GCSE Double Science minimum Grades 66 required. If GCSE PE studied, and a Grade 7 or better is achieved, the requirement in Biology/Double Science is not required.
Physics	7	For Double Science students minimum Grades 77 are required. A minimum Grade 7 is required in Maths.

Politics		One GCSE Humanities (Citizenship / RE / History / Geography) at Grade 6.
Product Design	6	
Psychology **	6	GCSE Biology Grade 6 or GCSE Double Science minimum Grades 66 are required regardless of whether Psychology has been studied at GCSE.
Religious Studies **	6	Minimum Grade 6 is required in either English Language or English Literature. If RE is not studied at GCSE a Grade 6 will be required in GCSE History or Geography. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Spanish	7	Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.
Sociology **	6	One GCSE Humanities (Citizenship / RE / History / Geography) subject or English Language or English Literature at Grade 6 if Sociology not studied at GCSE. Maths minimum Grade 4 acceptable.

PLEASE NOTE: External students without the necessary GCSE background should contact Mrs Bradley-Brophy, Director of Sixth Form at the school to discuss their choices before proceeding with their application.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport

This course is the equivalent to studying three A Levels.

A minimum of four GCSE subjects at Grade 4 or better are needed in order to study this course. One of these four subjects must be Mathematics at a minimum Grade 4 and another one must be either English Language or English Literature at a minimum Grade 4.

This course will be tailored for delivery through rugby, so it is expected that an individual will have a significant interest in this sport including playing at a strong level.

PLEASE NOTE:

External and internal students should speak with Mr Beaumont (PE Department) at the school prior to submitting an application for this course.

External students without the necessary GCSE background should contact Mrs Bradley-Brophy, Director of Sixth Form, at the school to discuss their choices before proceeding with their application.

Your application must be completed online, via our website, and submitted by 5.00pm on Friday 29th January 2021

Our Sixth Form Admissions Policy and full details of the Sixth Form admissions process can be found on our website under Sixth Form Admissions for September 2021 Entry.

www.nsb.northants.sch.uk

