



Northampton School
for Boys

Information for Applicants

For Admission to

Year 7

September 2024



FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Parent/Carer

This information booklet is for parents/carers of boys seeking admission to Northampton School *for Boys* in September 2024. Further information about the school and a series of videos showing life at the school, is available on the school website: www.nsb.northants.sch.uk.

This booklet contains all the essential detail needed to apply for admission in 2024. It also includes information about the outstanding quality of educational provision at the school and refers to NSB's local, national and international successes within recent academic years.

Northampton School *for Boys* is an 11 to 18 school which offers single sex education to boys from Years 7 to 11, with a large number of girls admitted into a Sixth Form of over 500 students. In 2010, we became one of the first schools to choose to take up the freedoms associated with academy status. We have in recent years, undertaken 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, dance, and fitness facility, a brand new 3G pitch as well as a completely refurbished music department and theatre.

Our aim is to ensure that educational provision at NSB allows all students to maximise levels of achievement/potential in both their academic studies and in their extracurricular activities such as sport, music, dance, art and drama. In doing so, we strive to ensure that all our students are given outstanding levels of care, support and guidance as they navigate their way through the key stages in their preparation for future Post 16/18 education/career pathways.

Our GCSE examination results are exceptional; in the past three public examination years we have been ranked as one of the highest schools in both Northamptonshire and England in all four key performance indicators for boys' attainment and progress. Provisional 2023 scores indicate that the grade achieved by each NSB boy in each of their GCSE exams, is on average, well over a whole grade higher than students across England and Wales (unvalidated). The 2023 GCSE exam results were particularly strong with highlights including:

- Average grade per NSB GCSE entry: 5.9 (National Average 4.7)
- Percentage of NSB Year 11 cohort with a strong pass (Grade 5+) in English & Maths: 77% (National Average 42%)
- Percentage of GCSE entries graded 7/8/9 (former A/A*) 36% (National Average Boys 19.7%)

These outstanding results consistently place NSB in the top five percentile of schools nationally for boys' academic attainment and progress from the end of Year 6 to the end of Year 11. The school has also held the highest Department for Education ranking of 'Well Above Average' for its GCSE performance in the last three Public Examination years from results published to date.

A Level results at the school are also outstanding. The average grade secured in over 700 A Level entries in 2023 was between an A and a B with over 40% of all entries graded at A* or A. Eight students across 2022-23 have secured offers of a place at Oxford or Cambridge University, 10 students secured places on Medicine/Dentistry or Veterinary Science courses

this year and over thirty students have gained places at leading Music Conservatoires/Drama Schools since 2020. The vast majority of leavers in 2023 gained a place at their first choice University or employment route. A significant majority of Year 11 boys every year achieve the grades required to attend the NSB Sixth Form.

Our extracurricular programme is renowned at a national level. We have been ranked as one of the top two highest performing state schools in England for competitive sport every year for the last seven years, winning national titles in rugby, basketball, football and rowing in the last four (non-covid disrupted) years. Last year alone the U12A and B football teams and the U15 rugby team won their respective National Cups at The Hawthorns and Twickenham respectively. Twenty different students have been selected for their country in sport in the last three academic years and numerous NSB musicians, actors and dancers have performed on respective national stages to great acclaim. This included an invite as one of only two schools in the country to perform Dance in front of HRH Prince Charles at the Royal Albert Hall in a National Schools' Arts event. Other awards have included the prestigious title of 'England's Educational Establishment of the Year' at the ERA National Education Awards Ceremony and the title of Northamptonshire Secondary School of the Year last summer.

Many of our students leave the school to go on to outstanding success in their chosen fields. This is as a direct result of excellent teaching and exemplary levels of student work ethic. We have extremely high expectations of all our boys, and we monitor progress rigorously to ensure that each student is securing their academic and extracurricular potential. In short, if your son chooses to come here, we will expect him to behave well and to work extremely hard. I hope your son is willing to embrace the rich depth of opportunities that NSB will give him.

The welfare of all of our students is our priority and we have extensive pastoral support and mentoring systems to help ensure that all of our students feel safe and happy at school, including wide ranging expertise and links to external agencies in all aspects of mental health and wellbeing as well as SEND.

I hope you enjoy the Presentation Evening, Tour and the virtual presentations, videos and admissions information which can be found on our website through the Year 7 Admissions link. If you are offered a place for your son, we will expect all parents/carers to support the school and our policies and practices. These have enabled the school to become the hugely popular and successful institution it is today.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Bernard". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

R Bernard
Headteacher

A BRIEF HISTORY OF NORTHAMPTON SCHOOL FOR BOYS - ‘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 NSB 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 1680 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 new classrooms. A rubber crumb all-weather pitch (AWP), 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 AWP was also resurfaced in 2021 and last year we created a new Sixth Form Block.

THE SCHOOL DAY

During a normal academic year, the school day begins at 8.40am and ends at 3.35pm with a lunch break of one hour from 1.05pm - 2.05pm. The school has a teaching week of 26.25 hours – longer than in many schools.

SETTLING IN

There will be an Induction Evening on Tuesday 18th June 2024 for you to meet with members of staff, including your son's Form Tutor, followed by an Induction Day for your son on Monday 8th July 2024. This initial contact will be the basis for many years of communication between home and school. It will be an opportunity to sort out individual queries.

We place your son in a Form of approximately 29 boys. New friendship groups are quickly established. All members of the tutor group are in the same House.

During the first term, you will be invited to the school with your son to meet his Form Tutor. Towards the end of the year, you will be invited to meet his subject teachers to discuss his report. Throughout the year you should follow his progress on-line. If at any time you wish to discuss your son's progress, you should not hesitate to contact his Form Tutor.

BEHAVIOUR

Students have the right to an education which offers them the best opportunity to attain their potential. It is the right of every individual to do these things without being hindered by others.

Respect must be shown to all by all.

The Behaviour Policy has been developed in partnership with students, parents and staff. It emphasises that students should act as members of a civilised community, showing high standards of behaviour. They have a responsibility to themselves and to other people. If accepted codes of behaviour are infringed, students will receive a sanction e.g. to stay for detention. We expect all parents to accept such detentions as an appropriate sanction for their son, but 24 hours notice will be given.

Teachers and parents work in partnership. We address problems early and, if necessary, you will be invited to meet with a teacher, Curriculum Team Leader, Form Tutor, Year Team Leader or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, depending on the nature and severity of the problem.

In extreme cases, the Headteacher has the power to exclude a student for a fixed term or, on very rare occasions, permanently. For details of the full Behaviour Policy, please see the school website.

Ofsted says...

"The behaviour of students is outstanding - they feel very safe and know how to keep themselves safe."

"Teachers have high expectations of students' behaviour, effort and standards and have excellent knowledge of their subjects."

Ethos and Values

We believe:

- that there is a distinct approach to learning that benefits boys in Years 7-11
- in a Sixth Form ethos that brings out the best from young women and men aged 16-19
- that competition is a valuable lever to raise standards
- that hard work is key to success; boys and girls need to be kept busy
- that leadership skills exist in everyone, but need nurturing
- that self-confidence is key to improving self-esteem
- that concern for self should be replaced with concern for others
- that everyone is deserving of respect, free from all forms of bullying
- that everyone is entitled to a safe and secure learning environment
- that every student is entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which makes them an independent learner and maximizes their opportunities beyond school
- that engaging young people in our exceptional extra-curriculum - a wide range of experiences beyond the classroom - develops 'the whole person', fosters good relations between staff and students, forges teamwork, and provides a sense of enjoyment and fulfilment.

Our values will promote:

- high expectations of all stakeholders in our school community
- the highest standards of behaviour
- smart appearance, believing it to be an important component of self-respect
- hard work and commitment in the classroom and beyond
- celebration of success at all levels
- high levels of engagement with the school community and with what we provide
- a spirit of adventure, but with respect for health, safety and well-being
- openness, transparency, honesty and integrity as well as trust in each other
- humility and dignity – in both victory and defeat
- perseverance in the face of adversity
- respect, tolerance, kindness and understanding towards all others
- celebration of the diversity of our community
- co-operation and a willingness to work with others for the common good
- celebration of our traditions – a respect for the past.

EXPECTATIONS AND STANDARDS

- Be polite and courteous at all times, hold the door for the next person
- Always wear your uniform correctly, keep your shirt tucked in, tie pulled fully up and top button fastened to look as presentable as possible
- Keep your hair within the school guidelines
- Keep jewellery within the school guidelines
- Attendance is key to results, always attend school
- Be punctual, to school and lessons
- Always walk when inside the school buildings, keeping to the left
- When speaking, be respectful, keep your exchanges conversational not confrontational
- When eating use the dining area, do not eat on carpeted areas anywhere around the school
- Only reusable water bottles are allowed in classrooms
- Keep the school environment litter free by placing your litter in the bins provided
- Be respectful of other people's property and do not touch it
- Home learning should always be completed on time and by the date set
- Mobile phones must not be used on the school site by students in Years 7-11 unless by direct instruction from a teacher. There are also guidelines on acceptable uses of mobile devices in the Behaviour Policy
- The carrying/use of headphones is prohibited except for Sixth Form study periods
- Treat all school property with care and respect, it is provided for the use of all within the school. This includes graffiti
- Bullying and child on child abuse in all its forms is unacceptable and will not be tolerated
- Using foul and aggressive language will not be tolerated
- Fighting/play fighting is banned and can result in exclusion
- Gambling is banned and can result in exclusion
- Discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated e.g. being racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic or SEN & Disablist
- Bringing banned items into school is prohibited and can result in exclusion (described in the Behaviour Policy).

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Aim: to develop responsible, respectful and active citizens who are able to play their part and become actively involved in public life as adults.

NSB offers opportunities, education, awareness and experiences outside of, and within, academic study for personal development. Following our ethos of respect for all, by all we focus on core values that promote kindness, consideration, courage, equality, diversity, fairness, democracy, tolerance, physical and mental health, safety and resilience, as well as hard work. We want students to think critically and use self-reflection and be able to work co-operatively with others, encouraging discussion and debate.

Personal Development covers a vast area of the work undertaken within school which contributes to the building of positive character traits and a sense of community; wellbeing, extra-curricular activities, trips and residentials, careers, PSHE/RSE (personal, social, health and economic education) RSE (relationships and sex education) and Citizenship, The House System, Student Voice, Charity Week, and a focus on equality.

WELLBEING

Our students' wellbeing is of utmost importance and as well as encouraging a culture of talking about how we feel and educating young people about how to improve and sustain wellbeing (exercise and being active, mindfulness, getting involved, connecting with others, sleep, hydration/diet, learning new things and kindness) there are lots of opportunities throughout the year to raise awareness about mental health. This includes highlighting what students can do if they are worried about their mental health and signposting help within school alongside external agencies. Students will be encouraged to speak to a member of staff, but they will also be made aware of the Report a Concern form on AIM which they can use to ask for support.

PSHE/RSE/CITIZENSHIP/CAREERS

Students in Y7-11 will have one lesson a week of PSHE which includes RSE and Careers Education and morning registration will also cover current affairs, citizenship, year group and House assemblies and awareness days linked to areas such as equalities or environmental issues, as well as the promotion of reading, discussion and debate.

Y12/13 have an additional lesson per week called enrichment which will cover next steps – giving them the skills for a smooth transition to Further or Higher Education, Apprenticeships or the world of work.

Students in KS4/5 will have several meetings with the careers advisor to supplement their Careers Education.

The whole school is off timetable in October for Personal Development week where each Year Group follows an individual programme of activities.

Information can be found on the school website, where there is a plan of what each Year Group study in the PSHE / Personal Development Curriculum, in addition to the Relationships and Education Policy.

HOUSE STRUCTURE

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



House	Forms	House Director	Colour
Brightwell	H & P	Miss A Bason	Yellow
Chipsey	I & Q	Mr J Bradbury	Light Blue
Manley	J & R	Mr C Reid	Green
Washington	K & S	Mr L Websdale	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 stripe on the school tie. A House t-shirt can also be purchased from Student Services to wear during all House competitions.

Each Form 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 and who ensures their Form participates fully in charity week.
- House Captain – someone who will motivate the Form, collect names and ensure that the Form is fully represented for all House competitions. There will be House competitions across subjects and extra-curricular activities alongside a detailed sporting programme.
- Green Leader – someone who will ensure that recycling is taking place within their Form, who promotes looking after the environment and is part of the Eco-committee.

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

STUDENT VOICE

There will be opportunities for students to voice their opinions on many aspects of the school, their experiences, improvements and changes they would like to see as well as being able to convey the positive aspects of their time here. We have termly House and School Council meetings (6 each of these) as well as annual whole school surveys and mini-surveys. Post-

pandemic, now students can integrate fully again we have created student focused groups such as The Female Lead, The Race Ambassadors, The Eco-Committee and The LGBTQ+ Society and we are looking to expand this further by talking to students who might have a special educational need or disability. It is important that every student has a voice, is heard and knows that they can make an impact in a constructive way to their school environment.

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 and celebrating diversity. We will take action to challenge prejudice and discrimination against groups and individuals, whether on the basis of race/culture, religion/belief, age, disability, gender, sex, appearance, socio-economic background, family types or sexual orientation.

We expect every student to demonstrate respect, tolerance, kindness and understanding towards all others and join together in celebration of the diversity of our community; appreciating and respecting difference in the world and its people whilst also celebrating the things we share in common.

There is a multi-faith Prayer Room and across the year there is a focus on many aspects of equality to raise awareness including our Culture Day.

CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT

Here are some of the extra-curricular activities that run on a regular basis in Year 7; a wider range is available in later years, with older students also having the opportunity to run clubs and activities.

Athletics	Cricket	Modern Languages
Badminton	Cross Country	Music Clubs
Basketball	Drama	Reading
Chess	Football	Rugby
Choirs	Gymnastics	Technology
Computer Clubs	Home Learning	Dance
Public Speaking	Art Club	Photography Club
History Club	Games Design	Philosophy Club
Film Club	Water Polo	Indoor Rowing

THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

We believe in setting. For teaching purposes, most lessons will be taught to groups of boys with broadly similar abilities. Setting arrangements are based on Key Stage 2 scaled SAT scores that we gain from the DfE/primary schools and our own Common Ability Test. We may also consider other information received from feeder schools. Student setting is constantly reviewed and as a result, set changes can and do take place during the year. We operate subject-specific setting from Year 7 to Year 11.



We believe that all boys should follow a balanced curriculum. In Year 7 your son will study English, Maths, Science, PSHE, Design Technology, Computer Science, History, Geography, RE, PE, Music, Visual Art and a Modern Foreign Language of either Spanish, French or German. Dance and Drama will be studied for 3 terms each swapping halfway through the year. In Year 8 students will choose to take two Arts subjects into Year 9 from a choice of Art, Dance, Drama, Music and Photography.

All Year 7 and 8 students are enrolled in the Accelerated Reading programme. They will have a timetabled lesson each week in our library, where they will be able to select from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts, which are colour-coded to match their reading abilities. Students are encouraged to read widely, increasing their independent comprehension and vocabulary skills. They 'quiz' on each book they read, improving their memory and resilience through retention and recollection of information. Boys make exceptional progress through the programme, which also measures their reading ages through Star Reading tests. We reward students with their own Literacy Star lapel pin when they have read one million words.

Towards the end of Year 9, students will choose which subjects are to be studied through to external examination. They will study a core entitlement – including (for the vast majority of boys) a foreign language as well as English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science (separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics for many), a Humanities subject, core PE (non-examined) and PHSE (non-examined). There are further GCSE choices that can be made, currently these are Design Technology, Food Technology, Statistics, Citizenship, PE, Computer Science, Drama, Dance, Art, Photography, RE and Music.

THE MOST ABLE

Gifted & Talented Programme

All students have a right to a challenging and appropriate education. If students have ability or abilities beyond the large majority of their peer group, they need a specialised curriculum and provision that goes beyond the normal lesson environment and allows them to stretch and be challenged.

At Northampton School *for Boys* our aim is to consider the following three key components when looking at our most able, gifted and talented students:

Discover - Discover the potential by recognising and identifying able, gifted and talented students.

Nurture - Nurture the ability, gift and/or talent by providing them with work that is matched to their needs and challenging opportunities to inspire learning and higher order thinking.

Succeed - Help students to succeed by motivating them to take opportunities to further develop their skills and talents in an environment that monitors progress and supports their everyday intellectual, social and emotional needs.

NSB Honours Programme

The Honours Programme is a tailored academic programme of curriculum, enrichment and guidance, designed to equip high-achieving students with the knowledge and support needed to progress to a leading UK university.

We have been recognised nationally for the excellence of our provision and were designated an Ambassador School by the National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth.

This programme is open to the top 30 able, academically gifted and talented students in each year group. This is the pinnacle of academic achievement for the students. Whilst being a member of the Honours programme each student will have access to a programme of inspirational and motivating talks, seminars and lectures along with cultural trips aimed at providing opportunity for our most able students to extend their learning in exciting and innovative ways. Each Key Stage Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator will have responsibility to devise and oversee this programme.

AWARDS

We currently have four awards ceremonies each year:

- Academic Awards including House Awards
- Sports Awards
- Arts Awards
- Personal Development Awards

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND ADDITIONAL INTERVENTION TEAM

We recognise that every student has individual needs and has every right to the best possible educational opportunity. Our SENDCo, Mrs E Spencer alongside our Additional Intervention Team Leader, Mrs M Inwood, organise targeted interventions for boys with additional needs. Targeted interventions are mostly delivered outside of lessons to ensure rapid progression. It is important to note that at NSB we do not have Teaching Assistants who provide in class support for students. At NSB we have the Additional Intervention Team who provide targeted interventions in a number of specialist areas of SEND.

ASSESSMENT

Boys are continuously assessed in all subjects using a variety of techniques, often involving learning for tests and examinations. Your son's levels of attainment will be reported to you regularly during the year and at an annual Parents' Evening. Each year group has a comprehensive end of year examination programme. Parents are encouraged to monitor progress throughout the year using our confidential on-line parent portal.

HOME LEARNING POLICY

We believe that Home Learning is essential for academic success:

- It can improve students' thinking and memory
- It can help students develop positive attitudes, study skills and habits that will serve them well throughout their lives
- It can encourage students to use their time well, to learn independently and to take responsibility for their own learning
- It can help students improve self-discipline, time management and organisation and creates responsibility.

Home Learning will address key subject knowledge, subject specific skills and will contribute to literacy, numeracy and communication skills and to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and examination specific skills.

Home Learning may take a variety of forms including:

- written assignments as part of coursework, project or topic work
- reading tasks for a specific purpose
- learning tasks, e.g. spellings, vocabulary, and preparing for termly assessments and examinations
- rehearsing, practising, creating, making
- group, pair or individual work
- collecting materials and information as research.

Students will make use of a variety of sources of information to complete tasks including:

- subject textbooks and exercise books
- the school library
- the internet
- the VLE (virtual learning environment).

To assist all pupils to organise completion of Home Learning the school will:

- post all Home Learning set on the school website and send daily emails to parents/carers updating them on Home Learning set
- publish information for parents about expectations in a letter to parents during the first term
- publish subject specific Home Learning policies on the website which will give guidance on the amount of time to be spent on Home Learning and the types of tasks for each year group.

Home Learning is an important aspect of learning that will aid progress. Teachers will award a grade for Home Learning on the Data Report: outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate (descriptors will be published on the Data Report). Parents will be contacted if a student falls below a 2 and interventions and strategies will be put in place.

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 having to isolate due to COVID.

All teachers will enable isolating students to join lessons through a live link via Microsoft Teams or they 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 receive support on how to use Teams when they arrive at NSB.

THE SIXTH FORM

The school has a thriving Sixth Form of circa 540 students. Around 70% of our Year 11 pupils stay on to study academic courses. Some 700 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.



DESTINATIONS 2022

Y11	NSB Sixth Form	63%	Y13	Higher Education	83%
	Northampton or Moulton College	22%		Gap year	10%
	Another Sixth Form or College	12%		Apprenticeship/Working	7%
	Apprenticeship	3%		Unknown	0%
	Unknown	0%			

Destination data for 2023 is still being collected.

ATTENDANCE

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

- illness – notify our school absence line - 01604 230240 (Option 1) - on the first morning of absence, leaving your son's name, Form, the reason for his 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 where unavoidably in school time);
- school-organised activity (e.g. a visit, sports fixture).

FAMILY HOLIDAYS

In line with government regulations **the Headteacher 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 Headteacher'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.

UNIFORM

We are proud of our students, who are fine ambassadors for the school, and we hope they will grow to be proud of their association with Northampton School *for Boys*.

We believe that wearing correct school uniform, correctly, is an essential part of developing a sense of pride in self and school. We expect parents to give their full support to the school in implementing our uniform policy.

Parents who for financial reasons feel they may have difficulty in meeting uniform requirements should approach the school and will be invited to talk to the Senior Leader with responsibility for support. Any such approach will be treated in confidence.

- Black School Blazer with Badge**
- Blazer Badge and Year Stripe*
- Black Trousers
- Plain White Shirt
- School Tie with House colour stripe*
- Black Shoes
- School V-necked Pullover (optional)**
- School Rugby Shirt (reversible)**
- School Rugby and/or Football Shorts**
- School PE T-shirt (Red or Blue)**
- School Rugby Socks**
- Rugby/Football Boots
- Training Shoes (for PE and Drama only)

Items marked * are available from the school shop in Student Services.

Items marked ** can be ordered online from our supplier, Sportswear International (SWI). Their website can be found at www.swidtp.co.uk.

NEARLY NEW SHOP

We are aware that the cost of buying a new school uniform can be expensive. We have a stock of nearly new items that are available for parents to purchase. These items will be available for purchase by credit/debit card on the Year 6 Intake Evening and can also be viewed in school during the year by making an appointment with Mrs Sharp who has oversight of this. Please contact Main Reception on 01604 230240 to make an appointment with her.

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 are 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's account via the school website or, in emergencies, boys can put cash into a machine in the concourse. Carrying large amounts of cash is discouraged.

Boys may bring packed lunches, but these must be consumed in designated areas.

STUDENTS' PERSONAL PROPERTY

Do not send your son 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.

Mobile Phones

- The use of a mobile phone is generally prohibited for use on the school site (It may be brought to school but must remain out of sight)
- During lessons a teacher may allow the use of a mobile device to support learning but only at the discretion of the teacher
- The use of headphones/earbuds are prohibited on the school site (They may be brought to school but must remain out of sight).

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, headphones/earbuds 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.

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 ACHIEVEMENTS – Last 3 Academic Years (Non–Covid disrupted)

Education Establishment of the Year at the Northamptonshire Education Awards.

Secondary School of the Year at the Northamptonshire Education Awards.

Ranked in the top two State Schools for Competitive Sport in England by School Sport Magazine every year for the past (non-Covid disrupted) seven years.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Our GCSE results for 2023 are outstanding, with attainment and progress once more being far in excess of figures for all students nationally and especially in comparison to all boys nationally. The school's indicative/provisional Progress score from the National Body - Fischer Family Trust - for 2023 is +0.60 (unvalidated), which the Department for Education benchmark as well above average (comparatively the national average is zero and for boys nationally it is consistently around -0.25 (minus)). The score reflects the progress of a student from the end of Year 6 to the end of Year 11. This provisional score indicates that boys at Northampton School *for Boys* are achieving well over three quarters of a grade above that achieved by boys of similar ability across England. Results were outstanding across the curriculum and across all ability groups of students - low, middle and high prior attainment.

GCSE 2023 Attainment highlights include:

- Average grade per NSB GCSE entry: 5.9 (National Average 4.7)
- Percent of NSB Year 11 cohort with a strong pass (Grade 5+) in English & Maths: 77% (National Average 43%)
- Percent of NSB GCSE entries achieving a top grade of 7 or 8 or 9 (former A/A*): 36% (National Average Boys - 19% - National Average All Students - 23%)

A Level results at the school are also outstanding. The average grade secured in over 700 A Level entries in 2023 was between an A and a B with over 40% of all entries graded at A* or A. Post 18, all of our students go on to employment, education or training with the majority attending prestigious Russell Group Universities, including eight students in 2022/23 who have gone to Oxbridge and 10 students who have attained a place on a Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry course in 2023.

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS 2022 - 2023

The following information seeks to outline some of the highlights of the sporting year 2022-23. This list is not exhaustive.

4 students from the school achieved International honours over the past 12 months. This included one boy for England U16 Basketball who is also in the latter stages of an U16 GB trial. Three Sixth Form girls - one ran for England in Cross Country, one is competing at this Summer's Commonwealth Youth Games for England in Trinidad on the track over 800m and the final one is competing for GB at the World Para Swimming Championships in Manchester. In addition to this, we had students in national training squads at England U16 Football, England U18 Water Polo and Welsh U18 Water Polo.

Football:

National Champions – U12 ESFA PlayStation Elite Cup

National Champions – U12 ESFA Cup for B Teams

National Semi Finalists - U12 ESFA Schools Cup

National Quarter Finalists – U14 Elite Cup, U18B Cup

National Last 16 – U13 Schools Cup, U13 Elite Cup, U13 B Team Cup, U15 B Team Cup

County Cup Champions at U12, U13, U14, U15 and U17

20 players from the school were signed at professional football club academies.

U13 Easter Tour - Real Madrid training camp

U12 A Team – National Elite Champions



U12B Team – National Champions



Rugby:

U15 National Champions

Senior Rugby Tour South Africa, Summer '23

1st XV only state school invited to join next season's prestigious Schools Championship

U12 A Team undefeated season and ranked 3rd in UK in National Performance League

U13 Saints 7's County Champions and Regional runners up.

A high quality fixture list exists with over 150 fixtures played annually

9 students playing in the Northampton Saints U18 Academy

Four former NSB students in the current Northampton Saints first team squad.

School currently ranked 31st in England by NextGenXV.

U15 – National Champions



Cross Country:

Intermediate Boys place 3rd in National Final of ESAA Cross Country Cup

Junior Boys County Champions - ESAA Cross Country Cup

Minor Boys, Junior Boys and Inter Boys won the Northampton Town Championships

19 NSB athletes represented Northampton at the County Championships

7 NSB athletes represented Northamptonshire at the English Schools Championships

Basketball:

U16 National Finalists in Premier Cup

U18 promoted in first season in the National Colleges League

U12 Town, County & Junior NBA Champions – undefeated season

U13 Town & Junior NBA Champions

National Semi-Finalists – U14, U17

6 players on the Basketball England Aspire Programme

Ethan Round Y11 - England & GB U16

U13 Easter Tour to Madrid

U16 National Finalists



Water Polo:

Training for all confident swimmers, multiple times per week, regardless of experience

U18 – National ESAA Finalists – Runners Up

U15 – National ESAA Finalists – 6th Place

U16 – London League Champions

U13 - won the Midlands Cadet Championships



Athletics:

Junior Boys – Town, County & Midlands Team Champions and placed 10th Nationally

Inter Boys – Town, County & Midlands Team Champions and placed 10th Nationally

NSB produced 5 Individual County Champions

3 students represented Northamptonshire at the ESAA Track & Field Championships

Junior & Inter Boys Place 10th Nationally



Cricket:

County Champions at U12, U13 and U15.

U13 Fred Truman/R66T Academy Midlands Winners

13 students play cricket for age group Northamptonshire County teams

Senior XI host the MCC in an annual fixture at the school

Development cricket at U12/13 vibrant weekly club for player's new to the game

NSB listed as one of the UK's top 100 cricket schools by *The Cricketer Magazine*

Indoor Rowing:

British Festival of Indoor Rowing – 12 National Gold Medals, 6 Silver, 3 Bronze

National Junior Indoor Rowing Championships – 5 Gold, 1 Silver

Michael Graham Y8 – British Record in the 9 minute row = 939 m's

Michael Graham Y8 – World Record in the 500m sprint = 1:29.5 min's

Hockey:

A well-supported club with weekly training sessions throughout the Winter terms

U14 - County Finalist Runners Up

Netball:

U18 Girls County Plate Champions

Numerous fixtures against other schools from across the County

A well-supported club with a vibrant series of inter-school games throughout the winter period.

DRAMA PRODUCTIONS 2022 – 23

Sept. 2022 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr' Sixth Form Production

Nov 2022 'Shakespeare in Love' Senior Drama production

Feb 2023 Comedy Night – Y7-13 comedy sketches

March 2023 'My Fair Lady' Y9-13 Musical

June 2023 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' KS3 Drama Production

July 2023 Arts Awards and Celebration Evening – Visual Arts Exhibition and Dance, Drama and Musical entertainment.



"I'm Still Me", the nationally acclaimed LGBTQ awareness performance, created by Mrs Greenaway and Sixth Form Students, performed at the Northants LGBTQ Education Conference.

"Walk a Mile in My Shoes", a Theatre-in-Education piece looking at issues surrounding bullying and strategies to combat it, written by Mrs Greenaway and performed by NSB students to Y7 pupils.

There is a KS3 Drama Club every week and older students are involved in script writing and Ms Hasan works with students on the National Theatre Connections project biannually.

MUSIC ACHIEVEMENTS 2022 – 2023

National Concert Band Festival:

NSB Big Band continued to secure top awards at the National Concert Band Festival gaining a Platinum award in the regional event held here at NSB in The Cripps Hall Theatre. We were invited to the Finals again which were held at the Royal Northern College of Music in April. We gained a Gold Award and picked up two soloists awards.

National Festival of Music for Youth:

Nearly all the big ensembles from NSB participated in this Festival this year where the Regional event is held at The Cripps Hall Theatre. Our Symphony Orchestra was selected to perform at Symphony Hall Birmingham in the Finals event this July.

In the last three years, our Big Bands have worked with the BBC Big Band and performed at our annual Jazz@The Cripps New Year Spectacular. In 2020 we were very fortunate to welcome Alex Horne and his wonderful Horne Section to the Cripps. Alex and his band worked with music and drama students throughout the day and performed alongside our musicians in the evening. This year we welcomed The Glenn Miller Orchestra. **Next year we have the amazing BBC Big Band back with us featuring the wonderful Claire Martin OBE. Claire will be singing with both our bands.**

GCSE and A Level Students have had conducting workshops with RWCMD Conducting professor, Brian Weir (a former student) who also discussed the audition process for Music College. We have had online workshops with Stuart Morley (Musical Director for Wicked, We Will Rock You and Only Fools and Horses) and Head of Brass at RWCMD, Roger Argente. We have taken KS3 pupils to a performance of the musical Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and our older pupils to see the West End production of Wicked.

Big Band have been on tour to Los Angeles in February 2020 – visiting several High Schools and the Jazz Department at the world-famous Bob Cole Conservatoire. Performing a jazz set at The Hard Rock Café on Hollywood Boulevard was a wonderful moment for all involved. **We are back out in Los Angeles next February (2024) where will be touring with our Big Band and Folk Ensemble.**

Many students are part of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain, the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain and the English School's Symphony Orchestra. Several students also attend the Junior Department at the Royal Academy of Music, Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Over the past five years, we have had over 60 pupils gain places at prestigious conservatoires and universities as undergraduates.

Over the past few years we have had international groups come and lead workshops and concerts here at NSB, these include The Real Group, The Swingle Singers, Gordon Goodwin, Alex Ridout as well as the Big Bands and comedy groups mentioned above.

Regular Music Activities in School

Concerts are given each term in The Cripps Hall Theatre together with performances by individual groups in the local community.

Over 18 groups rehearse weekly with access for all Year 7. Singing is such an important factor of musical development - so much so that selected pupils sing in one of our two Christmas Concerts. Instrumentalists will be involved in Wind Band, Big Band 2, Folk Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Metalworks and Percussion Ensemble.



DANCE ACHIEVEMENTS 2022 – 2023

Current NSB student achievements:

Year 11

One student has continued with their training on the CAT programme (Centre for Advanced Training) at The Place in London. He has also performed with MKDT (Milton Keynes Dance Theatre) in their production of Romeo and Juliet.

NSB Perception, NSB Girls and NSB Boys groups

All groups got invited to perform at NDance and the NSB Boys group were put forward to the National panel for selection to represent the East Midlands at UDance (The National Youth Dance Festival).

NSB Boys

The group were very successful. They were selected by the National panel to represent the East Midlands at U.Dance and performed their piece 'Self-Depreciation' on the Northern Stage in Newcastle.

NSB Girls, NSB Boys and NSB Prodigy

All 3 groups competed in the Great Big Dance Off regionals in Nottingham. NSB Prodigy placed 3rd in the KS3 category. NSB Boys placed 3rd in the KS4/5 category and NSB Girls placed 1st in the KS4/5 category, scoring 300/300. This was the first time the top score had ever been secured in the 10-year history of the competition.

NSB Girls

On winning their regional heat the group performed their piece 'Girls like Us' at the National Final in Cheltenham. The piece was choreographed by Elise Clinton, a past NSB student. The girls placed 5th in the final.

NSB Dance

We hosted Junction 23 at The Cripps Theatre in February. It was a wonderful celebration of dance bringing schools together from across Northamptonshire to share their work.

Year 9 students took part in a weeklong dance project as part of the NSB Enterprise week, culminating in live performances in The Cripps Theatre.

Former NSB students currently training in dance:

Wilkes Academy – Five former students are attending this academy; one has just graduated and one Year 13 student will be joining them in September.

Bird College – Two former students currently attending.

Trinity Laban - One former student currently attending.

Italia Conti – One former student currently attending.

Addict Academy – One former student currently attending, and one has just graduated.

Performers College – Three Year 13 students will start their training in September.

Creative Academy- One Year 13 student will start their training in September.

Former Students working in the industry:

Charlie Goddard

Charlie has continued to dance for Mabel, he has danced for Kylie Minogue and the UK entry to the Eurovision Song contest. He appeared in two of Mimi Webb's music videos this year. He has been working as skeleton crew for the forthcoming movie 'Wicked' and will embark on a lead role in a new drama series this year. Charlie can be seen in the new Barbie movie, playing one of the Core Ken dolls. He has continued to dance for television on series such as The Masked Singer and Britain's Got Talent.

Posi Morakinyo

Posi finished his run in the West End production of 'Tina the Musical', playing Raymond and understudying as Ike Turner. He has been performing in the musical 'The Temptations' and is working on 'Mandela the Musical'.

Steven Thompson

Steven performed in Kate Prince's production 'Message in a Bottle' in London's West End, will appear in the filming of the production and is currently on a World Tour. He has performed with and choreographed for HRVY. He performed as a dancer for a Netflix production called 'Dance 100'. He recently appeared in the television advert for Ceroc Vodka.

Angus Simpson

On graduating from Wilkes Academy, Angus got his first job dancing in the Jonas Brothers music video 'Waffle House'. He also performed with a variety of acts at the Eurovision Song Contest.

Lewis Simpson

Lewis went on to study film directing and his grad film was screened at UCL entitled 'He's The One'. He was supported by Peter Hoare (CH 4 It's a Sin director) and the main role was played by Charlie Goddard and the choreography was by Angus Simpson.

Elise Clinton

Elise has appeared in 'You' on Netflix, Phoenix Rise for CBBC and recently in the new BBC drama 'Champion' through 'Extra work'. She has danced for Jax Jones and Nina Nesbitt and will be in BRUCE-C's new music video. She has choreographed for 'The Windmill' in Soho, London and has worked as skeleton crew for a new film 'The Descendants'. She will appear as a dancer in the new Robbie Williams film 'He's the One'.

Jacob Reid

Jacob is training at Wilkes Academy but landed his first role as an extra in the new Robbie Williams film 'He's the One'.

Gio Bordone

Gio has just graduated from Addict Academy and recently danced on stage with Samantha Mumba. Gio is enjoying a very fruitful career as a choreographer and teacher of dance.

Anthony Hewitt

Anthony continues to perform in the West End musical 'Pretty Woman'.



EXAM RESULTS 2023

NUMERICALLY GRADED GCSE RESULTS 2023											
	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	Total
Maths	27	35	29	53	31	21	8	7	2	0	213
English Language	16	20	32	44	53	25	20	3	0	0	213
English Literature	23	17	33	47	41	22	14	13	2	1	213
Biology	23	14	17	11	14	3	0	0	0	0	82
Chemistry	15	16	15	13	13	9	0	0	0	0	81
Physics	20	15	17	12	9	5	3	0	0	0	81
Computing	3	9	7	5	3	6	6	0	0	0	39
French	2	3	8	3	13	9	11	0	0	1	50
Spanish	2	6	12	10	14	12	9	1	0	0	66
German	2	1	5	3	7	4	1	0	0	0	23
Geography	7	12	15	17	15	13	14	8	3	0	104
History	16	10	15	11	22	6	14	5	8	1	108
Art	0	2	0	4	6	2	1	0	0	0	15
Citizenship	0	2	4	4	5	11	8	5	2	1	42
Dance	3	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
Drama	0	1	3	2	8	5	0	0	0	0	19
Design Technology	2	10	6	23	15	16	12	6	3	2	95
Food	0	2	1	2	5	4	2	2	0	0	18
Music	3	0	1	6	2	0	2	0	0	0	14
PE GCSE	9	6	6	13	12	7	2	1	0	0	56
Photography	0	2	1	1	5	8	5	0	0	0	22
RE	6	8	14	11	7	6	3	4	2	0	61
Statistics	9	12	15	8	9	2	3	0	0	0	58
Polish	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Russian	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Turkish	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gujarati	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Japanese	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
DOUBLE AWARD NUMBER GRADE GCSE RESULTS 2023											
	9-9 or 9-8	8-8 or 8-7	7-7 or 7-6	6-6 or 6-5	5-5 or 5-4	4-4 or 4-3	3-3 or 3-2	2-2 or 2-1	1-1 or 1-0	0-0	Total
Science	4	9	20	18	29	22	16	4	0	9	131

A LEVEL RESULTS 2023								
	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Total
Art	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	4
Biology	8	17	14	13	8	4	1	65
Chemistry	7	19	12	9	9	5	0	61
Computing	2	3	4	3	3	1	0	16
Dance	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	9
Drama	0	1	6	6	0	0	0	13
DT	5	2	7	3	3	0	0	20
English Literature	2	9	9	3	2	0	0	25
English Language	0	1	11	7	6	0	0	25
Further Maths	7	12	4	0	3	0	0	26
French	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Geography	1	10	18	7	1	0	0	37
History	3	12	19	5	3	0	0	42
Maths	25	36	14	11	12	4	1	103
Music	0	1	4	1	2	0	0	8
PE	2	6	14	1	5	0	0	28
Physics	13	9	13	5	3	2	1	46
Politics	4	4	6	5	1	1	0	21
RE	1	3	2	3	1	0	0	10
Psychology	2	14	26	14	3	0	0	59
Sociology	6	10	14	9	1	0	0	40
Spanish	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	6
German	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
EPQ*	13	5	0	0	0	0	0	18

***Extended Project Qualification** – Sixth Form qualification that involves students choosing a topic, carrying out research, writing an essay and delivering a presentation. EPQs are worth up to half an A Level.

TERM DATES 2023 – 2024

Please note that these term dates may differ slightly from those published by Northamptonshire County Council and other schools in the county.

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2023-2024	Open to pupils on:	Closing on:
Term 1	Tuesday 5th September 2023 (Y7/12 only) Wednesday 6th September 2023 (all pupils)	Friday 20th October 2023
Term 2	Monday 30th October 2023	Wednesday 20th December 2023
Term 3	Thursday 4th January 2024	Friday 16th February 2024
Term 4	Monday 26th February 2024	Thursday 28th March 2024
Term 5	Tuesday 16th April 2024	Friday 24th May 2024
Term 6	Monday 3rd June 2024	Friday 19th July 2024

Bank Holidays

Monday 25th December 2023
Tuesday 26th December 2023
Monday 1st January 2024
Friday 29th March 2024
Monday 1st April 2024
Monday 6th May 2024
Monday 27th May 2024
Monday 26th August 2024

Training Days

Friday 1st September 2023
Monday 4th September 2023
Monday 16th October 2023
Monday 15th April 2024
Friday 28th June 2024

GOVERNORS

MAT Trustees

Peter Bason (Chair of the MAT Trust)
Veena Dhir
Jon Drown
Oliver Harris
Mary Kay
Deirdre Kennedy
Prof. Bill Ribbans
Vicki Rockall
Peter Webb

Local Academy Board members – NSB

Alan Hakes (Chair)
Claire Alderson – Teaching Staff Governor
Rachel Helmn – Parent Governor
Simon Hepher
Angela Shaw – Support Staff Governor
Alastair Thomson
Morcea Walker
Clare Young
Vacancy for Parent Governor to be elected in Term 1 2023

Governance Professional (Trust Clerk)

Leah Howard

Your application must be completed online and received by the school by midnight on Tuesday 31st October 2023

Please remember that you must also submit the Local Authority Application Form to your Local Authority by the same deadline, midnight on Tuesday 31st October 2023

Additional information about the school and videos showing more about the school, its ethos and students are available on our website: <http://www.nsb.northants.sch.uk>

