

Application information for entry to Year 7 in September 2023
Mr M Edwards – Senior Deputy Headmaster

The information you will find in this presentation should be read in conjunction with the admissions powerpoint which can be found in the admissions section of the website.

SLIDE 2

To apply to NSB, there are two forms that you must fill in, the first is our on-line Supplementary Information Form which can be found on the admissions pages on our website. Forms must be submitted to the school by midnight on Monday 31 October 2022. Anything after the deadline will be treated as a late application.

The second form is the Local Authority one which can be found on their website. This must also be completed and submitted by the same deadline of 31st October.

You must apply to the Local Authority in which you reside, eg West Northants, North Northants, Bucks, MK, Oxon, Warwicks, Beds, Cambs, Leics etc

If you only complete our Supplementary information form and do not apply to the Local Authority, you cannot be offered a place at NSB.

SLIDE 3 - COMMON ABILITY TEST

All applicants who complete our Form will be invited to our compulsory Common Ability Test on Saturday 19th November. This is a non-verbal reasoning test of 75 multiple choice questions. Failure to attend will mean that we cannot place your son into an ability band, however, if there is a medical emergency which means you cannot attend then please contact the Admissions Officer for further guidance.

The purpose of this test is to rank applicants on their ability and to then place an equal number into each of 5 ability bands. It ensures that we admit students from across the full ability range with the same number being admitted from each band. It is not a pass or fail test i.e there is no pass mark to get into the school.

SLIDE 4 – OPTIONAL APTITUDE TESTS

We also run two completely separate optional Aptitude Tests for Music and Technology. There are 21 places of the available 215 places each year for boys who demonstrate the highest level of aptitude for either discipline through the optional tests.

Our Technology Tests are on Saturday 15th October with each test slot taking around 45 minutes. The Technology Test, tests for aptitude (in other words natural ability) in a range of Information Technology, Design Technology and spatial awareness scenarios.

Our Music Tests are on Monday 17th October across the whole day. The Music test lasts between 5 and 10 minutes and tests for aptitude/natural ability in Pitch, Melody, Improvisation and Rhythm.

If your son takes either Aptitude test, we will email you about the results of your son's performance before the application deadline of 31st October to help you make a better-informed decision about your application to the school.

Please do think very carefully about whether it is appropriate for your son to take an aptitude test. The aptitude tests are not suitable for many applicants and you can still apply to the school if your son does not take them. Siblings do not need to take an aptitude test as sibling link has a higher oversubscription priority. There are only 21 places available for boys through the aptitude tests and over the last 5 years a score of 85% has been needed to be successful.

The Aptitude tests test for potential only and **it is not possible for your son to revise for them** or indeed for the Common Ability test.

To book onto the Aptitude tests, you will need to access the Eventbrite website.

www.eventbrite.co.uk and type Northampton School for Boys.

SLIDE 5 – EVENTBRITE WEBSITE

You must book onto the test using your own parent/carer's email address, home address and home phone or mobile number but you will need to give your son's name, and date of birth.

You may only book one slot for each of the Music or Technology tests. If you are unable to book a place on one of the tests, it could be that there are no spaces left and so you will have to book an alternative time by clicking on the orange 'select a time' button. Booking for these tests closes two working days before the test takes place.

If you are unable to complete any of the forms, please contact the school and ask to speak to the Admissions Officer.

SLIDE 6 - ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

If the school has more than 215 applicants, we will apply our oversubscription criteria in the order specified in the NSB Admissions Policy.

Boys with an Education Health and Care Plan, where the school, following consultation with the Local Authority, is named on the EHCP.

- Looked After Children or previously Looked After Children.
- Children of staff directly employed by Northampton School for Boys
- Siblings – where an elder sibling is on roll at NSB at the closing point of application (ie 31 October) and where they live at the same address.
- Aptitude – 10% (21) places are awarded from the Aptitude tests
- The remaining places are allocated using a system of random allocation from each of the five equal bands derived from the Common Ability Test. This is done by a computer randomly ranking the list of students in each band. The process is overseen by an independent witness and ensures we take an equal number of boys from each band and across the ability range of boys who applied to the school.

No other criteria will be considered.

SLIDE 7 – Important Dates

Please read the information booklet or the Admissions policy for full details and key dates.

In the fortnight following the national offer day, we will contact unsuccessful applicants first, informing them of their right to appeal the decision and then we will contact successful applicants to inform them of the next steps they need to take.

SLIDES 8&9 – Equal Preferencing System used by the Local Authority

The Local Authority use an Equal Preferencing system to make it as fair as possible to parents/carers.

All schools send their own ranked lists of students that they can offer a place to, to the Local Authority.

The Local Authority are the only ones to know what your three preferences are. We do not know who else you have applied to or what preference number you put NSB at.

The Local Authority look to see which of your 3 preferences your child has got into.

SLIDE 9

The Local Authority will allocate you your highest preference school out of all the ones you have applied to. Please see example on the final slide of the presentation.