

Sixth Form Minimum Entry Requirements 2026 Entry – A Levels

For A Level's there is a **minimum entry requirement of 3 GCSE subjects at Grade 6 and 2 subjects at Grade 5 AND subject specific requirements as below**. Please note, if you wish to study 4 different A Level courses, Grade 7 is required in all GCSEs studied. This does NOT include Further Mathematics.

Subject Specific Requirements below. * indicates that it is not essential to have studied this subject at GCSE. All subjects without this MUST have been studied at GCSE***

A Level Subject	Minimum Subject Grade at GCSE	Minimum English GCSE Grade	Minimum Maths GCSE Grade	Additional minimum requirements and information
Fine Art	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	4	Grade 7 in GCSE Art (inc. Fine Art, Art Craft and Design, Textiles).
Biology	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	6	For Double Science minimum Grade 7 is required.
Chemistry	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	6	For Double Science minimum Grade 7 is required.
Computer Science **	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	7/8	GCSE ICT or IT based BTEC's are NOT accepted in place of Computer Science. Unless there are exceptional circumstances you need to have studied GCSE Computer Science. If you did not study Computer Science and feel that you have outstanding coding skills then please contact the Curriculum Team Leader, Mr Lehman, jlehman@nsbtrust.school before submitting your application. If GCSE Computer Science is NOT studied, then minimum Grade 8 is required in GCSE Maths. If a Grade 7 is achieved in GCSE Computer Science then minimum Grade 7 is required in GCSE Maths.
Dance **	6	5 in English Language OR English Literature	4	Evidence of strong Dance related skills maybe accepted if GCSE Dance is not studied. Please contact the Curriculum Team Leader, Miss Clinton, aclinton@nsbtrust.school before submitting your application.

Drama **	6	6 in English Language OR English Literature.	4	If you did not study Drama and feel that you have evidence of outstanding Drama related skills then please contact the Curriculum Team Leader, Ms Hasan, hhasan@nsbtrust.school before submitting your application.
Economics **		6 in English Language OR English Literature.	7	
English Language	6	6 in English Language AND English Literature	5	
English Literature	6	6 in English Language AND English Literature	4	
French	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	4	
Further Mathematics	8 in GCSE Maths	4 in English Language OR English Literature	8	
Geography	6	6 in English Language OR English Literature	5	
History	6	6 in English Language OR English Literature	4	
Mathematics	7	4 in English Language OR English Literature	7	
Media Studies**	6	If GCSE Media Studies is not studied, then minimum Grade 6 in English Literature AND English Language is required. If a Grade 6 or higher is achieved in GCSE Media Studies, then minimum Grade 6 in English Literature OR English Language is accepted.	4	.
Music **	6	5 in English Language OR English Literature	4	If GCSE Music has been studied a minimum Grade 6 on a main instrument is required. If GCSE Music has not been studied a minimum Grade 7 on a main instrument is required.

				If GCSE Music <u>has been studied</u> but an instrument has not been studied to the required Grading Level by the applicant, the student must, at the point of application and entry, play within a County Level ensemble⁺. The Director of Music will have the final determination as to whether this county ensemble standard has been met in discussion with NMPAT Chief Executive. Please note that the County ensemble level is only an alternative to the musical instrument grading for those students <u>who have studied</u> GCSE Music. ⁺ <i>Examples of County Ensembles could be any County Youth ensemble (Orchestra, Concert Band, Brass Band, Big Band and Choir) or a Training Group (Orchestra, Wind Orchestra, Brass Band, Jazz 2 or Training Choir)</i>
Photography**	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	4	If GCSE Photography is not studied, a Grade 7 in a GCSE Art related subject is required.
Physical Education **	6	5 in English Language OR English Literature	5	GCSE Biology Grade 6 OR GCSE Double Science minimum Grade 66 is required. If a Grade 7 or better is achieved in GCSE PE, then Biology/Double Science Grade 66 is not required. Please be aware that you must have a practical sport (see link on website for a full list) to undertake this course.
Physics	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	7	For Double Science students minimum Grade 77 is required.
Politics**		6 in English Language OR English Literature	4	One GCSE Humanities (Citizenship / RE / History / Geography) at minimum Grade 6 is required.
Product Design	6	5 in English Language OR English Literature	5	
Psychology **	6	6 in English Language OR English Literature	5	GCSE Biology Grade 6 OR GCSE Double Science minimum Grade 66 is required regardless of whether Psychology has been studied at GCSE.
Religious Studies **	6	6 in English Language OR English Literature	4	If RE is not studied at GCSE a Grade 6 will be required in GCSE History OR GCSE Geography.
Spanish	7	5 in English Language OR English Literature	4	

Sociology **	6	6 in English Language OR English Literature	4	If Sociology is not studied, one GCSE Humanities subject (Citizenship / RE / History / Geography) at Grade 6 is required.
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