

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Determined Arrangements 2026/27

Equalities Statement

In our Trust we work to ensure that there is equality of opportunity for all members of our community who hold a range of protected characters as defined by the Equality Act 2010, as well as having regard to other factors which have the potential to cause inequality, such as socio-economic factors. For further information, please see our Equality Policy.

POLICY NUMBER	NS-064
Review Frequency	Annually
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Approved By:	Mr Fidge, Chair of Governors/LGB
Notes:	

THE NORTH SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

1. ADMISSION TO THE SEPTEMBER YEAR 7 ENTRY

i. Numbers Admitted

The Planned Admissions Number for the school is 215.

ii. Applications for Admission.

- a) Applications for admission to The North School should be made on the Local Education Authority's "Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF)."

The "Secondary Common Application Form" should be returned to the Local Authority by the agreed published date.

- b) The Governors will follow the Local Authority's timetable for applications.
- c) In the event of the school being over-subscribed, all applications for admission will be considered according to the criteria set out below.
- d) The Local Authority will contact parents on the agreed published date advising them whether or not they have been allocated a place for their child at The North School. Parents have to accept the offer of a place by the agreed published date.

iii. Late Applications

- a) The deadline for the return of the "Secondary Common Application Form" is the agreed published date.
- b) Late applications will be considered by KCC, with applications that have joined the school's waiting list, on the published reallocation date.
- c) KCC will not make any new offers after the reallocation date and later applications will be added to the school's waiting list to be dealt with.

iv. Applications Out-of-Chronological Age Group

In rare circumstances, parents/carers may choose to seek a place for their child outside of their chronological age group for a variety of reasons (e.g. the child is summer-born, is considered gifted and talented, has experienced problems such as ill health, or has had an interrupted education through residency abroad). The decision to admit a child out-of-year group is rare. It will always be made on the basis of the unique circumstances for each specific case and what is best for that individual child. The decision will be made by the Executive Headteacher of the school and will take into account the following:

- parents'/carers' views;
- expert advice from relevant social, educational and medical professionals;
- whether the child has previously been educated out of their normal age group;
- any evidence that the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely;
- the long-term impact of the decision on the child.

Applications for a child to be admitted to a year group outside of their chronological age group should be made through the same process set out in this policy for both 'normal round' and 'in-year' applications. However, in addition to the standard application form further documentation should be provided to support the request for a place out of chronological year group. This applies regardless of whether it is for a higher or lower year group.

The Executive Headteacher may request additional information after the submission of an application for an out-of-year group place, if necessary. Each application will be considered on the individual circumstances of each case. Applicants will be notified in writing of the decision, including the reasons for it. Unsuccessful applicants have the right to appeal if they are refused a place at the school. However, this right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school, but it is not in their preferred age group.

v. In Year Admissions

- a) Year 7 applications made after the start of term should be made to the school using KCC's In Year Admission Form (IYAF).
- b) Applications received by The North School after the agreed published date should also be made to the school on an IYAF, and will be processed in a similar way to an In Year entry.
- c) Details of any statutory right of appeal will be provided by The North School..

vi. Admission of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for ASC

The local authority has commissioned 25 places in the resourced provision for pupils with ASC. The local authority manages admissions to The Laurel Centre in close liaison with the school. The local authority will only consider pupils who already have an Education, Health and Care Plan.

vii. Oversubscription

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with an Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly. Where applications for admission exceed 215 the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit:

- a) A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.
- b) A brother or sister/'sibling' attending the school when the child starts. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, step brothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

- c) Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally, this priority will apply to children whose parents'/guardians', physical or mental health or social needs means that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school.
- d) Children who live nearer to The North School.

Nearness of children's homes to school - we use the distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school. Where applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant coordinates. In exceptional circumstances where alternative coordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by the Head of Service.

If you live separately from your partner but share responsibility for your child, and the child lives at two different addresses during the week, we will regard the home address as the one at which the child sleeps for the majority of weekdays.

A block of flats has a single address point reference, so applicants living in the same block will be regarded as living the same distance away from the school. In the unlikely event that two or more children live in the same block and in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

- e) Places will then be offered to any additional applications determined by distance.

viii. Waiting List

Parents may ask to be kept on a waiting list; this list will be re-ranked in accordance with the schools oversubscription criteria each time a child is added.

ix. Appeals Against the Decision not to Offer a Place at the School

On the agreed published date parents will be notified by the Local Education Authority that they are being offered a place at the allocated school. This letter will give information about their statutory right of appeal.

x. The School's Open Mornings

The Open Mornings for prospective Year 7 pupils will be held in Term 1 each year, on dates yet to be decided.

2. ADMISSION TO THE SIXTH FORM

Places will firstly be offered to children in Local Authority care. i.e. A child under the age of 18 years for whom the Local Authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 22 of the children Act 1989) or who is subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act.

Priority will be given to existing pupils transferring from Year 11. The PAN for external candidates will be 15 but this figure may be exceeded in the event that this and the number of internal pupils transferring into Year 12 is less than the overall total figure for the year group, which is 125.

Pupils are admitted to the Sixth Form subject to the following:

- a) A formal application by the pupil and a pupil interview to determine the suitability of courses to be studied;
- b) Availability of a specific course or combination of courses;
- c) Minimum entry requirements for specific courses, as published on the school's website.

Please note that the Governors reserve the right to withdraw courses if there is insufficient student demand. After a place has been offered, the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- a) When a parent or student has failed to respond to an offer of a place within a reasonable time; or
- b) When a parent or student has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- c) The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent; or
- d) When a student fails to attend interview &/or enrolment without a good reason; or
- e) When a student fails to attend lessons during the first 10 school days of the academic year without good reason.