



THE NORTON KNATCHBULL SCHOOL
ACADEMY TRUST

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023/24

Reviewed by:	Head Teacher
Approved by FGB	7th December 2021

The Norton Knatchbull School is an 11-18 selective boys' grammar school and admits girls into the sixth form. The main principle of admission to The Norton Knatchbull School is to maintain the character of a selective school. We promote excellence and expect our students to exhibit a strong work ethic and commitment to academic study.

Policy for Admission of Students to Year 7

Only students who have taken the Kent Test and are assessed as suitable for grammar school can be considered for admission to the school at the start of year 7. The procedures for entry to secondary schools (PESE) are published annually by the Local Authority and the Kent Test forms part of these procedures. These can be found on the KCC website.

Late Entrants

Subject to the availability of places, boys may be admitted to the school between the ages of 11 and 15 if they achieve a satisfactory standard in the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT) administered by the school. Testing usually takes place once a month throughout the academic year. Testing can be arranged by contacting the School's Examinations/Admissions Officer. Boys can only be tested for admission to the school once per academic year.

Out of Year

Application for entry should be in line with the child's normal age group. No provision will be made for any student to repeat an academic year, except in exceptional circumstances and with the permission of the Headteacher.

Numbers

The School's published admission number (PAN) is 210. The school will inform KCC if it intends to offer over the PAN.

Appeals

Students who have applied to the school and have not been offered a place have the right to appeal to an independent panel. For places in Year 7, details of the appeals process will normally be sent out by the LA with the offer letters. All appeals must be headed with the school name and address and returned to the Clerk to the Independent Appeals Panel, c/o The Norton Knatchbull School. The closing date on the appeal application form must be adhered to.

Oversubscription Criteria

Before applying the oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of special educational need or an education health care plan (EHCP), who name the school and meet the entry requirements, will be admitted. As a result of this the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly. If the number of preferences for the school is more than the number of places available, places will be allocated to eligible boys in the following priority order:

1) Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children:

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.

2) Current Family Association

A brother or sister is 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 or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters. If siblings, from multiple births (twins, triplets etc.) apply for a school and the school were to reach its Published Admission Number (PAN) after admitting one or more, but before admitting all of those siblings, the LA will offer a place to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the school above its PAN.

3) Health and Special Access Reasons

Medical/Health 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/carers'/guardians', physical or mental health or social need means there is a demonstrable and significant need for their child 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.

4) Nearness of children's homes to school

The distance between the child's permanent home address and the school is measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). The same address point on the school site is used for everybody.

Tie-breaker

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.

Waiting Lists

In line with the re-allocation process as determined by the coordinated Admissions Scheme, eligible students who have requested a place in year 7 will be assigned to a waiting list.

Admissions to the Sixth Form

Only students who are eligible for EFA funding can be offered a place on roll at the school. The school participates in the Kent Online Application Scheme and external applicants are required to submit an online application which can be accessed from UCAS Progress. We also use our own paper application form for internal applicants. Details of application deadlines can be found in the sixth form prospectus on our website and the online area prospectus.

Admission Number

Our PAN in the Sixth Form is 165 in each of Year 12 and 13. All boys in the current Year 11 at The Norton Knatchbull School who meet the admissions criteria will be offered a place in the Sixth Form. We will then offer places to external applicants, irrespective of gender, who meet the entrance criteria, until our PAN of 165 is reached.

Academic Requirements

For entry onto our Sixth Form courses we require:

- a minimum of six separately identifiable GCSE subjects at grade 6 or above OR an average of grade 6 in the best six GCSE subjects achieved
- at least a grade 5 in English
- at least a grade 5 in Mathematics

The specific entry requirements for each of the subjects are listed within the course guide which can be found on our website

Prospective Sixth Form students may choose three or four subjects to study at A Level. We also offer the Extended Project Qualification and this will be considered as an additional course choice. Your study programme will also include timetabled supervised study sessions and you will be expected to be involved in extra-curricular activities such as carrying out prefect duties, undertaking substantial work experience, participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (which we offer to Gold level), taking music lessons or undertaking a regular sporting commitment.

All A-Level courses are linear with examinations at the end of the two-year course.

Over-subscription

Following the admission of internal students transferring from Year 11, all remaining places will be allocated to students who have met the entry requirements for the particular course of study. Where there are more students seeking places than the number of places available, the following over subscription criteria will be applied in the order set out below to rank students until the overall figure for the year group is reached:

- 1) Rank order of merit in GCSE qualifications
- 2) 'Disadvantaged' children
- 3) Current Family Association (as defined in the whole-school admission policy)
- 4) Health and Special Access Reasons
- 5) Nearness of children's homes to school

Appeals

Any applicant refused a place in the Sixth Form is entitled to make an appeal to an independent appeal panel, whether the student is already attending the school or is an external candidate. Appeals may be lodged by the parent, by the student, or both and should be addressed to the Clerk of the Independent Appeals Panel c/o The Norton Knatchbull School.

Applicants from Overseas

Any student who applies for entry to the sixth form with qualifications other than those recognised in the UK will be required to demonstrate that he/she has achieved the required standard for entry and may need to be tested by the school. The school may recommend that students contact NARIC (the national agency responsible for providing information and expert opinion on academic qualifications from overseas) to verify overseas qualifications.

General

After a place has been offered the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- a parent has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time;
- a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information;
- the admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent.