



Sixth Form Admissions Policy

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*Note: This policy is valid for the year of admissions for September 2021. We are looking into some new additions to the curriculum for September 2022. This policy will therefore require a review in October 2021.

Learning | Effort | Aspiration | Respect | Nurture | Wellbeing

Wood Green School Sixth Form Admissions Policy

Introduction

Wood Green is a high-performing, happy and popular Sixth Form community, where all students are able to move onto the next phase of their life with the qualifications, skills and experiences which will ensure success. Whatever your interests, career ambitions or subject choices, we are sure that you will find it a challenging and enjoyable place to complete this journey. We offer an extensive choice of A Levels and are delighted to be able to extend the curriculum to offer vocational qualifications jointly with Abingdon and Witney College.

This policy has been approved by the Wood Green School Governing Body, the body responsible for admission arrangements and decisions. These arrangements cover admissions for September 2021.

This policy is for entry to Years 12 and 13 where applications are made directly to the school.

Further details on how to make an application for entry to the Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13) can be found at: [Join our Sixth Form - Wood Green School \(wgswitney.org.uk\)](http://www.wgswitney.org.uk)

Admissions Numbers

- I. All students in Year 11 at Wood Green School who meet the academic entry criteria are entitled to a place in the Sixth Form.
- II. There is no maximum number of external applicants. All applicants from any other school who meet the academic entry criteria are welcome.
- III. The upper limit of applicants will be based, not on total Year 12 numbers projected for the following academic year, but on the projected number and size of the teaching groups. Taking into account choices for A Level study, applications may be refused where the school considers the size of teaching sets to be detrimental to the education of the group and where it is not financially or educationally desirable for the Governors to alter the balance of the school's staffing or to appoint additional staff.
- IV. Students who have been permanently excluded from Wood Green School, The Henry Box School or any other 11-18 educational establishment must provide strong evidence of mitigating circumstances and evidence of exemplary behaviour in order to be considered for a place in Sixth Form. The School would review each application on a case by case basis and reserves the right to refuse an application from a student in these circumstances.

Admissions Arrangements

- i. Wood Green Sixth Form encourages applications from students currently at Wood Green as well as students from other institutions.
- ii. The academic entry criteria are the same for both internal and external applicants. There are separate entry criteria for the A level Pathway and the Combined Pathway (please see Appendix A)
- iii. All applicants must complete the online application form and send this to the Sixth Form Administrator by the designated date (usually the start of February).
- iv. All information relating to applications is contained within the Sixth Form prospectus, a copy of which can be found on the school website [Join our Sixth Form - Wood Green School \(wgswitney.org.uk\)](http://www.wgswitney.org.uk).
- v. A Sixth Form Open Evening is held annually (in November) and all potential applicants are encouraged to attend.

- vi. Internal applicants will receive guidance prior to completing their application. Tutors will complete a reference describing students' suitability for A level study.
- vii. Students will be invited to an interview with the Head of Sixth Form or Assistant Head of Sixth Form as soon as possible. The school aims to inform applicants whether or not they have been successful in their application at the end of the interview. Students should bring along a copy of their latest progress report, and evidence of anything that will enhance their application.
- viii. Students who need to study a subject at either the Henry Box School or Abingdon and Witney College do not need to make arrangements with those institutions.
- ix. For successful applicants, formal acceptance of the offer and relevant information forms will be required by the date indicated in the offer letter.
- x. All applicants who have been offered a place must attend the Sixth Form induction programme (in late June / early July) and confirm subject choices once students have received their GCSE results in August. Should a student fail to do so the school reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place in the Sixth Form.
- xi. Students intending to join the Sixth Form must be role models for the rest of the school, and are expected to uphold our values and work to the best of their ability. Where there have been significant behavioural concerns in KS4, students will be placed on a contract from the beginning of Year 12. Failure to adhere to the terms of the contract may result in a student's place in Sixth Form being withdrawn.

Admission Requirements: Academic Entry Criteria

- i. Admission to particular courses will depend upon availability of places and a student's prior attainment at GCSE.
- ii. Our policy is to ensure that students accepted into the sixth form can be placed in appropriate courses where they are likely to succeed. For this reason, the following entry criteria apply to the courses offered. If an applicant does not meet the criteria the school reserves the right to use its discretion, based on the school's knowledge of that applicant, to offer a place to that applicant.
 - **A Level Pathway:** All students will require at least 5 grade 5s at GCSE level. Students must also pass GCSE Mathematics and English Language/or Literature at a minimum of grade 4.
 - **Combined Pathway:** All students will require at least 5 grade 4s at GCSE level. These must include a pass in both GCSE Mathematics and English Language/or Literature at a minimum of grade 4.
 - All courses have subject specific criteria which must be met.
 - For admission into Year 13, external students must meet our GCSE entry requirements. An application form should be completed and following the receipt of the completed application form, eligibility of transfer of subjects between exam boards will be checked, references will be sent for and an interview held.

A Level Curriculum Offer

- i. The subjects which are provisionally offered upon application to Sixth Form may only run if the school deems that it is not financially or educationally desirable to run a group with uncharacteristically small numbers. Students and parents who may be affected by this decision will be informed of this decision and offered an alternative course.
- ii. Courses which are run by Abingdon and Witney College require a minimum of students to run this course. As such, the course may be withdrawn from offer should the minimum number of

students not be met. Students and parents who may be affected by this decision will be informed of this decision and offered an alternative course.

Specific Course requirements

Subject	Subject grade/entrance criteria
Art	Students are expected to have achieved a grade 5 or above at GCSE in art or graphics.
Biology	Students are expected to attain grade 6 in Biology and grade 6 in another science subject if studying triple science. If the student is studying combined science they are expected to have achieved 6-6 grades or above.
Business Studies	Students are expected to attain grade 4 in Mathematics and English Language or Literature. No prior knowledge of Business is required. If they have studied GCSE in Business, they must attain at least grade 4.
Chemistry	Students are expected to attain grade 6 in Chemistry and grade 6 in another science subject if studying triple science. If the student is studying combined science they are expected to have achieved 6-6 grades or above. Due to the high mathematical content, students must attain a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics
Design Technology	Students are expected to have achieved a grade 5 or above in resistant materials, graphic products or textiles.
Drama and Theatre Studies	Students are expected to have achieved grade 5 or above in GCSE Drama, and grade 5 or above in either English Language or Literature.
Economics	Students are expected to attain grade 5 in Mathematics and grade 4 English Language or Literature. No prior knowledge of Economics is required. If they have studied GCSE in Economics, they must attain at least grade 4.
English Literature	Students are expected to have achieved grade 6 or above in English Literature and grade 5 or above in English Language.
French	Students are expected to have achieved grade 6 or above in French.
Further Mathematics	Students are expected to have achieved grade 7 or above in mathematics; 8 is desirable for this challenging course.
Geography	Students are expected to have achieved grade 5 or above in Geography.
German	Students are expected to have achieved grade 6 or above in German.
History	Students are expected to have achieved grade 5 or above in History.
Mathematics	Students are expected to have achieved grade 6 or above in Mathematics.
Music	Students are expected to have achieved grade 5 or above in GCSE Music, or grade 6 in ABRSM theory and instrumental exams.
Physical Education	Students are expected to attain grade 5 in Physical Education at GCSE. Due to the high biological content of Physical Education at A Level, a grade 5 in Biology is desirable, although not essential.
Physics	Students are expected to attain grade 6 in Physics and grade 6 in another science subject if studying triple science. If the student is studying combined science they are expected to have achieved 6-6 grades or above. Due to the high mathematical content, students must attain a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
Psychology	Students are expected to have achieved grade 5 or above in either English Language or Literature, and grade 4 in Mathematics and a Science subject.
Religious Studies	Students are expected to have achieved Grade 5 or above in GCSE Religious Education (Full Course) and Grade 5 or above in either GCSE English Language or English Literature preferred.
Sociology	Students are expected to have achieved grade 5 or above in either English Language or Literature. No prior knowledge of Sociology is required.

Students seeking to study a course as part of the Blended Offer must meet the overall entry requirements to progress onto this course.

Allocation of Places and Oversubscription Criteria

Where students meet the admissions requirements and where there are spaces in courses that the applicant wishes to take, places will be offered in the following order of priority:

- 1) Looked After Children
- 2) Internal applicants
- 3) External applicants

For each category, priority will be given to students living nearest to the school as measured by straight line distancing. In addition, taking into account choices for A Level study, applications will be refused where the school considers the size of teaching sets to be detrimental to the education of the group and where it is not financially or educationally desirable for the Governors to alter the balance of the school's staffing or to appoint additional staff (Paragraph II above).

Closing Dates and Late Applications

Late applications will only be considered if places become available in all subjects requested at the time of receiving the application; if a place in all subjects is not available the application is held on the waiting list.

Waiting Lists

If we are unable to offer applicants a place based on the details described in this policy, the school will hold a waiting list until 30th September in the year of school admission. Each application is ranked on the waiting list as determined by the oversubscription criteria (see above) and should circumstances change in relation to the projected number and size of teaching groups which may allow the application to proceed, applicants may be contacted.

Appeals Process

If an applicant is refused a place and wishes to make an appeal, they may do so by writing to the Headteacher and Head of 6th form, stating why they feel that there are mitigating circumstances which should be taken into account. The school does reserve the right to use its discretion based on the school's knowledge of that applicant to offer a place to that applicant. This mitigation may involve one or more of the following:

- Special Educational Needs
- Significant underperformance against predicted outcomes
- Significant medical issues which impacted on a student's performance
- Other factors which may have led to a student not performing in line with expectations.

It is important that the mitigation is enough to explain why a student has not secured the entry requirements. Should an appeal be turned down applicants have a right of appeal to an independent appeals panel administered by the Local Authority.