

NETHERTHORPE SCHOOL

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2025/2026

As an Academy, Netherthorpe School is its own Admissions Authority. However, for entry to Year 7 and for In-Year admissions to Year 7-11 Netherthorpe School participates in the Derbyshire County Council system and initially the scheme is administered by the County Council on behalf of the school.

Entry at Year 7

The Published Admissions Number for admissions is 170 at age 11. The Published Admission Number is the minimum number the school must admit if there are sufficient applications received.

Students will be admitted at age 11 without reference to ability, aptitude or religious faith according to the criteria for admissions in order of priority which is detailed below:

1. Children whose statement of Special Educational Needs or Education and Health Care Plan names Netherthorpe School.
2. Looked After Children and children who were Looked After but ceased to be because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.
3. Children whose home address is within the normal area served by the school at the time of admission. For a definition of living in the normal area, see Note (i) below. Proof of residency will be required by the coordinated scheme. Where a child lives with one parent and partly with another member of the family, the home address will be considered to be the residence where the child spends at least three nights each week, not including weekends.
4. Children not living in the normal area served by the school but who have a sibling who is attending the school at the time of application and admission, see note (ii) below for definition of sibling.
5. Children who attend another school within the Cavendish Learning Trust at the time of application.
6. Children of a member of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school or within the Cavendish Learning Trust for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.
7. All other children not eligible under the above criteria.

Notes:

- (i) The school considers the 'normal' catchment area to be the traditional catchment area of; Mastin Moor, Woodthorpe, Hartington, Staveley north of Lime Avenue, Lowgates and Poolsbrook.
- (ii) Siblings are considered to be a brother or sister; a half-brother or half-sister; a legally adopted child regarded as a brother or sister; a stepbrother or stepsister residing in the same family unit.

In the event of oversubscription falling within any one of the criteria, those children living nearest the school (as described in the County Council Guidelines) will be given preference.

The Children's Services Department has a Geographic Information System (GIS) to measure the straight line distance. It is measured by a standard straight line distance calculated to within two metres. This measurement is taken from the postal address file, normally the house front door. For schools the grid reference is taken from the postal address file and will normally be the centre of the school for primary phase schools, or the nearest gate or entrance for secondary schools.

Application Forms are available from Derbyshire County Council and are available to complete on line at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions early in September in the year preceding entry.

All applications must be made directly to the Derbyshire LA who will coordinate admission arrangements.

Completed application forms must be returned to Derbyshire County Council by their published deadline which is usually 31st October.

The Governors will not consider more than one application on behalf of the same child in a single academic year unless the Governors' Admissions Committee considers there is a significant change in the particular circumstances of that child. The Governors reserve the right to verify information and, if misrepresentation is confirmed, refuse or cancel the place.

Appeals

Parents of children not offered places will have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. Information on the appeal process will be provided with the decision notification. Appeal Forms are available from the Admissions and Appeals Team at Derbyshire County Council, or via their website (detailed above), or in the case of the Sixth form on the school website at www.netherthorpe.derbyshire.sch.uk/admissions. Appeals are heard by an Independent Appeals Panel, but arranged by the school. Appeals are heard as soon as possible after refusal of a place and, for in-year appeals, in line with the DfE's code of practice within 30 school days of being logged.

Year 6 to Year 7 appeals which are lodged before the deadline for on-time appeals, will be heard within forty school days of the last date for on-time appeals, as detailed on our schedule which can be found on the school's website. Appeals for Year 6 to Year 7 which are lodged after the deadline will be heard within 30 school days of the date they were lodged. The Independent Clerk to the Appeal Panel will give ten school days notice of the date of the appeal, in writing, unless parents/students agree to waive this notice to have the appeal heard sooner.

In the case of Sixth Form appeals these will be heard after results have been confirmed in August. Where an offer of a place would have been conditional upon exam results, appeals will be heard within thirty school days of confirmation of those results; where the offer of a place was not conditional upon exam results, appeals will be heard within forty school days of the deadline for lodging appeals.

For applications for in-year admissions, appeals will be heard within thirty school days of the appeal being lodged. The Independent Clerk to the Appeal Panel will give ten school days notice of the date of the appeal, in writing, unless parents/students agree to waive this notice to have the appeal heard sooner.

Waiting List

Under the coordinated scheme the Local Authority will maintain a waiting list for Year 7 intake until the end of the Autumn term.

In Year Admissions

Admissions mid-year for any year group and for Year 7 after the end of the Autumn term will be dealt with in accordance with this policy and will be administered by the Local Authority. Applications should be made direct to Derbyshire Local Authority as detailed above.

Entry at 16

We anticipate all Year 11 students who wish to enter the Sixth Form and have met the entry requirements detailed below will be offered a place.

Conditional offers will be made for places based on students' current and predicted attainment grades (as detailed in writing from their current school for external candidates). On the basis of the entry requirements being met in achieved GCSE results, places will be confirmed.

The number of intended admissions from outside the school at age 16 will be 80. This number may be exceeded in the event that this, and the number of internal students transferring in to Year 12, is less than the total overall figure of 180 students for the year group.

For admission at age 16 students are required to meet minimum entry qualifications which are detailed below, published on the website, and in the Sixth Form prospectus.

A student entering the Sixth Form must have a minimum of 5 qualifications at Grade 4 to 9 at GCSE including English Language or Mathematics (preferably both). If a student does not achieve a Grade 4 in English Language or Mathematics they must continue to study this during the Sixth Form. It is required that students achieve at least a Grade 5 in any A Level they wish to study and the following recommendations are in place:

1. To study A level Mathematics it is advantageous to have at least a Grade 6 at GCSE in Mathematics.
2. To study a separate Science (Physics, Chemistry or Biology) it is advantageous to have at least two Grade 5's in Science as part of the five GCSE 4-9 Grades.
3. To study Further Mathematics it is necessary to have a Grade 6 in Mathematics at GCSE and the student must be studying A Level Mathematics.
4. We only count one BTEC or OCR National Qualifications at merit or distinction level in the five 4 to 9 minimum entry requirements.
5. To study History, it is not compulsory to have studied GCSE History but, it is advantageous to have at least a Grade 5 at GCSE in English.
6. To study PE, it is advantageous to have at least a Grade 5 in the examination part at GCSE in PE.

All students must apply for the Sixth Form by completing an application form available from the school or on the school website. The application form should be returned to school by the published deadline. Any application received after the deadline may be considered after all on-time applicants at the Headteachers discretion. All criteria will be displayed in the School Prospectus each year taking into account the curriculum of changes. The final decision rests with the Head Teacher.

If there are no places available they will be placed on a waiting list in line with the oversubscription criteria detailed below.

All applicants will be invited to visit the school and discuss the suitability of their choice of course with a senior member of staff.

Sixth Form Oversubscription Criteria

In the event of more than 80 external students applying for admission to Year 12 (and the total overall figure of 180 has been exceeded) the following oversubscription criteria will be applied:

1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children who meet the academic criteria detailed above.
2. Children whose statement of Special Educational Needs or Education and Health Care Plan names Netherthorpe School and who meet the academic criteria detailed above.
3. Children who meet the academic criteria detailed above and are not living in the normal area served by the school but who have a sibling who is attending the school at the time of application and admission, see note (ii) above for definition of sibling.
4. External applicants from Springwell Community College, Heritage High School, The Bolsover School and Hasland Hall Community School. Where there still remains too many applicants for the number of places priority will be given to those with the strongest predicted (and achieved) grades from the above schools.
5. All other children not eligible under the above criteria.

Tiebreaker: Students whose homes are nearest the school measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from a defined point within the student's home to a defined point within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey.

Appeals at 16

Parents of students and students themselves not offered a place in the Sixth Form have a right of appeal either together or separately. Please see details above re Appeals.