



An Active Learning Trust School

## Draft Sixth Form Admissions Policy 2021



## Sixth Form Admissions Policy

### General Principles

At Neale-Wade Academy we offer a range of high quality academic and vocational qualifications, which enable students to progress to university and the most competitive job and training opportunities. Our policy is to ensure that all students accepted into the Sixth Form are placed on appropriate courses where they are likely to succeed. For this reason, we have minimum expected entry requirements at GCSE and invite all students to attend a meeting with a member of the Sixth Form Team to discuss the most suitable courses of study based on their expected GCSE results. This takes place early in the spring term after all applications have been received after the 31<sup>st</sup> January.

Students in Year 11 will be encouraged to consider applying for the Sixth Form. We also welcome applications from students wishing to transfer to Neale-Wade Academy from another school. In all cases the same admissions criteria will apply. It should be noted that there is **no** Level 2 provision for students other than re-take classes for GCSE Mathematics or GCSE English; if taken, these must be alongside a programme of Level 3 courses.

### Academic Entry Requirements for Neale-Wade Academy Sixth Form

In order to be successful in Level 3 qualifications students require a very secure base at GCSE. Depending on GCSE prior attainment students can choose to follow the following Programmes of Study;

1. A-Level Programme of Study
2. Mixed A-Level and Vocational Pathway
3. Vocational Pathway comprised of Technical or Applied General qualifications

### Conditions of entry;

To be accepted to our Sixth Form, all students must hold a minimum of 5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 or equivalent, with a minimum of a Grade 4 in English and Maths (Language or Literature).

In addition, students must achieve at least a Grade 6 in subjects that they wish to study at A-Level and Grade 7 for Mathematics. Similar subjects will be taken into account as an alternative measure in the case of an A-Level course not part of the standard GCSE curriculum i.e. English for Sociology and Politics.

Any applicants failing to meet the entry requirements will be offered support in securing an alternative place through our careers adviser on results day.

### Year 12 Entry from another school

Pupils attending other schools in Year 11 are welcome to apply for places in Year 12 at Neale-Wade Academy and offers will be made subject to the same entry requirements as those set out for existing pupils. Our open evening event is held in early November and will be publicised in the local press. Application forms can be downloaded from the website or by request through [office@neale-wade.org](mailto:office@neale-wade.org).

### Continuation to Year 13

Progression onto A level courses in Year 13 is not automatic and students must evidence through Year 12 that they have the capacity to succeed on the second year of the course. Students will be expected to achieve a minimum of a pass grade in internal Year 12 examinations, exhibit levels of attendance above 95%, and through the development of strong independent study skills, demonstrate the ability to cope with the increased depth of study required to be successful on Level-3 courses. Failure to meet one or more of these expectations may result in the student not being permitted to progress to the Year 13 part of the course. This will be reviewed on an individual basis taking into account all relevant circumstances and communicated with both student and parents or carers.

## Course Load

Students will follow a programme of study equivalent to 3 A-Levels in Year 12 and the same in Year 13 although a minority of high achieving students may follow four courses in both years. In addition to their main programmes of study students will follow an enrichment pathway that may include Level 3 Core Maths, Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), both equivalent to an AS Level or re-sit GCSE Mathematics or GCSE English Language.

## Course Availability

The Academy retains the right to determine which courses are available for students to study as well as the right to make changes to the curriculum offering prior to student commencing their programme of study. The academy will determine the maximum number of places on a course and how those places are allocated. In most cases, where the academic entry requirements are met, priority will be given to those students who chose the course on their original application.

## GCSE Mathematics and English

Students who have not attained grade 4 or better in English **or** Mathematics at GCSE will be required to re-take the course in the Sixth Form up until the point at which a grade 4 or better is attained. These are the only Level 2 options available to Sixth Form students at Neale-Wade Academy. We are not able to offer places to students who have not attained a Grade 4 in **both** Maths and English.

## SEND

The governing body of the school will, under section 324 of the Education Act 1996, admit to the school a young person with an EHCP that names the school. This relates only to young people who have undergone statutory assessment and for whom a final EHCP has been issued and which has taken account of the Year 12 entry requirements.

## Probation

All students will have an agreed programme of study when they join the Sixth Form and any changes requested by students after courses have started must have the approval of the relevant Faculty Leaders, a Parent or Carer and the Sixth Form Leadership Team. The final date for any changes to course choices is 6 weeks after the student's start date.

This period of time will also be used by the school to assess each student's ability and commitment to their courses. attitude and approach to learning, behaviour – including adherence to the dress code, attendance and punctuality are all assessed during the probationary period. The aim of the probationary period will be to determine the students' suitability for Sixth Form study at Neale-Wade Academy as well as suitability for their courses and establish which students, if any, are unlikely to achieve a minimum of a pass grade. Only in the most exceptional of circumstances will any changes to a student's programme of study after the first 6 weeks be considered.

## Sixth Form Admissions Calendar

The deadline for applications is 31st January. Applications after this date will still be considered although some course combinations may not be possible. Students are required to make a formal application via Options Online. Students will be given details and support in the application process in the autumn term. All students will be invited to attend a meeting with a member of the Sixth Form Team to discuss their options after the application deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> of January.

The timetable below gives a general idea of the time-frame for events, specific dates will either be available on the school website or communicated directly in correspondence.

Early October	Assemblies to introduce application procedure
November	Sixth Form Open Evening
31st January	Deadline for applications
February	Course choice meetings held
March	Conditional letters of offer sent to students
June	Sixth Form transition session
August	After receipt of GCSE results successful candidates will receive confirmation of their offer.
Early September	Formal enrolment to Sixth Form