

Sixth Form Prospectus 2022/23

A Sixth Form of Character and Excellence





Welcome to Northampton Academy Sixth Form





Mr Chris Clyne Principal



Mrs Amy Patterson Assistant Principal -Sixth Form

Thank you for considering Northampton Academy Sixth Form. This prospectus will give you a flavour of what makes this Sixth Form a thriving, vibrant, welcoming and inclusive place of learning.

The motto of the Academy is 'The Best in Everyone', and we work hard with all of our students to enable them to achieve their full potential. In return, we expect hard work and commitment throughout their time in Sixth Form.

With a wide range of subjects, you can follow courses that interest you and suit your abilities, including A Level and BTEC courses. In addition, we offer a strong provision for STEM subjects with our Nucleus VI Programme for Aspirational Medical Students and our new Nucleus VI Engineering Programme.

As a Sixth Form student you will have exclusive access to a range of facilities in our dedicated state-of-the-art Sixth Form Centre.

By the end of your studies at Northampton Academy, you will be ready for progression to university, employment or training. You will have access to specialist support with Oxbridge and subject-specific entrance examinations for Russell Group universities. We have a strong tradition of students gaining places at some of the UK's leading establishments, including Oxford and Cambridge.

We are committed to the safeguarding and welfare of our young people, providing a safe and caring environment to achieve the very best academic qualifications.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Academic Sixth Form of Character and Excellence.

Meet The Sixth Form Team



Mrs Jane Rigby - Vice Principal, Sixth Form

I graduated from the University of Northumbria in Geography and Environmental Management before studying a subsequent PGCE at Liverpool Hope University. I began my teaching career in the North East of England, where I became Head of Geography in my second year.

I spent nine years as Head of Geography before becoming Head of Humanities and taking up several school responsibilities.

I joined Northampton Academy in 2013 as Assistant Principal and am now Vice Principal - Sixth Form and Teaching and Learning. My focus is on ensuring all post-16 students attain the grades and experience needed to go on to the country's best universities. My absolute pleasure to work in an environment that has experienced rapid and positive change and be part of a team that promotes 'The Best In Everyone'.



Mrs Amy Patterson - Assistant Principal - Sixth Form

I graduated from Birmingham University with a Master's degree in Tourism. I have taught at Northampton Academy for nearly twelve years, during which time I have taken on numerous roles.

As Assistant Principal of Sixth Form I am passionate about ensuring students in Sixth Form have the character and ambition to go to the best universities.



Mr Jason Rush Assistant Head of Year

As Assistant Head of Year, I am responsible for attendance, punctuality and standards across the

Sixth Form and can be found at the main entrance daily. I am also a teacher of History.



Mrs Emma Tustin-Reeves - Head of Sixth Form

After graduating in Music at Durham University, I completed my Master's in Education at the University of Cambridge. I have previously worked at various summer schools, where I was responsible for UCAS. This role included assisting students with personal statements, practising interviews, and organising trips to various top universities. I then came to Northampton Academy as a Music teacher before taking on the role of Head of Music and then Head of Sixth Form. I also oversee the Oxbridge and EPQ Programme for the Sixth Form and I am responsible for HAPS.



Mr Kyle Dunkley Key Stage 5 Data

I am responsible for setting target grades, monitoring progress made throughout the year and many other

data-related jobs. This data is then used for various reasons, including identifying students who require intervention and support. I also lead KS5 Maths.



Miss Sofie Osmani - Assistant Head of Sixth Form

I am the Assistant Head of Sixth Form here at Northampton Academy. I studied Modern History at Worcester College Oxford and graduated in 2019. I started my teaching career at Northampton Academy in 2019; I am an English teacher, but I also teach Politics at A Level. I support Mrs Tustin-Reeves in running the Sixth Form, including managing our Sixth Form Leadership Team and developing more robust processes for preparing Oxbridge applicants.



Mrs Legrys-Collins

Sixth Form Administrator
My role primarily is to
support our students;
I am often the first port
of call as I work within

the Sixth Form common area.

I take great pride in getting to know all our students, following their post-16 journeys onto their next steps, whatever they may be. I thoroughly enjoy working within the Sixth Form environment and the challenges and opportunities it brings. However, no two days are ever the same.

Northampton Academy Values

We believe that of the United Learning values, the five that best define Northampton Academy are Respect, Determination, Ambition, Tolerance and Integrity. Our vision, mission, and values have been decided upon after consultation with Northampton Academy staff and students. We use these values as part of our daily language and encourage their use in classrooms using our rewards points system.

Respect

- Respect for others
- Respect for ourselves
- · Respect for our environment

Determination

- Not giving up, especially during adversity
- Embracing the challenges of learning at a high level
- Supporting each other to achieve

Ambition

- Aiming to achieve the highest outcomes possible
- Aspiring to achieve the best jobs, college and university places
- Offering leadership opportunities for all

Tolerance

- Ability and willingness to accept the existence of opinions or beliefs that are different from our own
- Understanding that not all situations and issues are binary
- Willingness to embrace diversity of religion, race and culture

Integrity

- Doing the right thing, even when nobody is watching
- Being honest with yourself and others, even when in the wrong
- Having strong moral principles

These character values underpin everything we do at the school and are seen across all areas of the Academy. Every decision we take, from appointing staff to creating policies and deciding student pathways, is made using these values. We expect all staff to exhibit and use them in their decision-making, and we encourage all young people and their families to work within these values.



The Best in Everyone



Part of United Learning

Northampton Academy is a proud member of United Learning, a unique group of independent and state schools committed to providing excellent education through which all students can progress, achieve, and succeed in life. We work collaboratively to achieve their ethos of 'The Best in Everyone'.

This ethos supports our 'Pillars of Virtue'; Respect, Determination, Ambition, Tolerance and Integrity. Northampton Academy is fully inclusive and welcomes and respects students and staff of all faiths and backgrounds.

Further details about United Learning can be found on our website.

Our Vision

To be a Sixth Form of character and excellence. To provide a unique and extraordinary experience that sets us apart: locally, nationally and internationally.

Our Mission:

Providing a safe, caring and exciting environment for young people. Putting young people at the centre of every decision. Developing ambition, confidence and resilience through a relentless focus on opportunities and standards.

Education with Character

At Northampton Academy we firmly believe in developing the character of our students through our Character Development Programme. As a result, we have been awarded the Character Kitemark Plus in recognition of our work in this area.

We are proud of the strong focus we place on academic excellence. However, we believe that students need a breadth of opportunities and experiences to become confident, well-rounded and ambitious young adults. In addition, we expect students to contribute to our school community and society in general throughout their time with us.

We want students to step outside their comfort zone and try things they would not normally do. We encourage them to persist in the face of difficulty and to become resilient in overcoming obstacles.

Our curriculum and enrichment programmes are systematically planned with opportunities to develop character values. In addition to our extensive range of extra-curricular clubs, our students enjoy workshops, university visits, talks from inspirational speakers, and opportunities to collaborate with their peers at United Learning schools across the country. We also encourage our students to continually reflect on what good character is and develop themselves further.

We use our core values of Respect, Determination, Ambition, Tolerance and Integrity as part of our daily language. Furthermore, our character values underpin everything we do at the school and are visible across all areas of the Academy. We are proud to deliver education with character, that challenges, inspires and excites our students and prepares them for the ups and downs of life.



Our Sixth Form Centre



You will exclusively use our £1million state-of-the-art Sixth Form Centre at Northampton Academy Sixth Form. The centre has a large Lecture Theatre and several dedicated classrooms with interactive screens and wi-fi connectivity. There are two dedicated Sixth Form IT suites, plus an interactive workroom where you can access external courses or participate in remote lectures. In addition, there is a dedicated and spacious workroom where you can work independently and take breaks between classes. New this year, we have expanded our provision with three more classrooms and a café area dedicated to the Sixth Form.



Sixth Form Expectations

As a student in the Sixth Form, you will have personal responsibility for:

Hard work and commitment

We want you to succeed; we will set individual learning targets, and subject and tutorial staff will regularly monitor your progress. You must attend all your lessons, complete all home learning, and actively engage in independent study. This is, of course, the basis for success, achievement and enjoyment.

Contributing to the life of the Academy

Part of the role of a Sixth Form is to help you become fulfilled, mature and well-rounded young adults. We expect you to play a full part in the life of the Academy through engaging in extra-curricular activities and programmes or taking on positions of responsibility for the whole student body within the Student Leadership Team.

Acting as role models for the younger pupils within the Academy

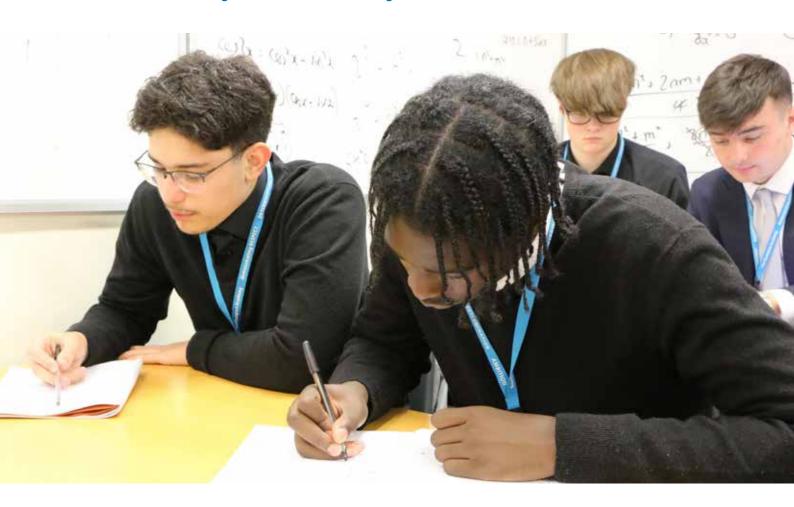
As the senior students within the Academy, we will expect you to show leadership, maturity and responsibility. In addition, you will play your part in promoting the ethos and values of the Academy, particularly in terms of attendance, dress, tolerance, hard work, and excellent behaviour.

Leaders want pupils to develop strong personal values of determination, respect and ambition. They have planned a curriculum to develop pupils' character. Pupils demonstrate the school's values through their excellent and thoughtful behaviours.

Ofsted November 2019



Your Pathway to University



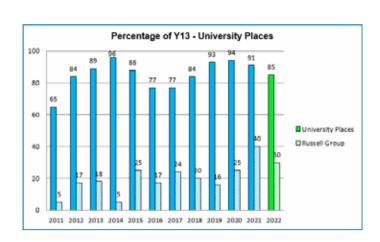
We are very proud of our flourishing Sixth Form, which has seen improving results year on year, with students progressing to top universities or highly skilled apprenticeships.

As a Sixth Form student, you will have support from personal tutors, UCAS guidance, and mentoring from businesses such as Barclaycard. In addition, there is access to our first-class enrichment and careers programme, detailed later in this prospectus, and the opportunity to work with employers and mentor younger learners.

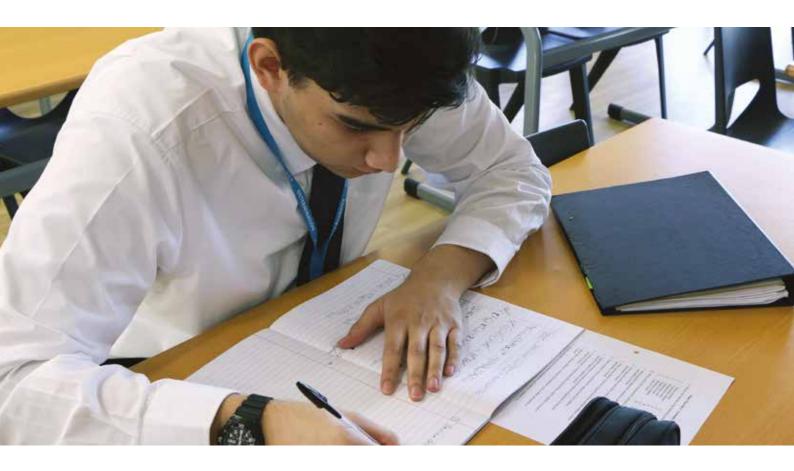
We expect Year 12 students to complete work experience, further enhancing their skills for higher education or the workplace. The full range of options is explored to focus on your interests, including apprenticeships, vocational courses, employment with training or A Levels.

Sixth Form Outcomes

- 85% went to university
- 15% went on to do apprenticeships or employment
- 30% Russell Group universities
- 61% went to top 3rd universities
- Six students gained places on medicine courses at university
- One student went to the University of Cambridge



Caring, Welfare and Support for Students: A Learning Partnership



Support for Students

As a full-time student, you will be a member of a tutor group and meet with your tutor daily. The Academy's tutorial system is designed to help you achieve your full potential. For example, supporting your attendance and punctuality, assisting with applications for higher education and encouraging your personal and social development. Your tutor will be important during your time in the Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form staff, including heads of year, tutors, administrative and other support staff, are all here to support you through your time with us. In addition, you will succeed through a robust, three-way partnership between yourself, the Academy staff and your parents or carers. They, too, have a significant role to play in supporting your progress and full attendance.

Your day will be from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm. Some personal time is given as a privilege in Year 12 and 13, including afternoons where you do not have lessons and can work independently off-site.

Sixth Form students are well supported. They say that teachers are always available to help them. This includes during time outside lessons. II Ofsted November 2019

Subject Choices

Your subject choices should reflect your study interests, academic strengths, and long-term higher education and career intentions. Remember that employers and university admissions tutors expect you to have developed a specialism in particular subjects. However, they also want you to demonstrate a breadth of knowledge and skills drawn from several subjects.

We offer a wide variety of courses, some of which you will have studied up to Year 11 and others which are brand new and only available in the Sixth Form.

Some subjects have a traditional exam focus. There are others where the assessment is project-based and continuous throughout the course. It is vital to make the choices that are right for you.

The number of subjects studied will be dependent on individual aptitude. Each student will have personal guidance on subject choices. However, selecting the most appropriate courses is essential to achieve success at Northampton Academy Sixth Form. Advice and expert guidance is always available from your subject tutors, the Sixth Form Team, and our dedicated, expert Careers and Enterprise department, located within the Sixth Form area.

All students select three courses at Level 3. In some exceptional circumstances, you may study four. Please review our subject-specific course booklet, which will be available at our Sixth Form Open Evening, on January 5th, from 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm.

The booklet will also be available to download at: https://www.northampton-academy.org/sixthform. Here you can review our Year 11-12 transition work for a flavour of the subjects we offer and other pertinent information.



Careers, Enterprise and Enrichment



At Northampton Academy, we offer a wealth of opportunities for enrichment in Year 12 and 13 to support the academic subjects and provide valuable skills and experience post-18.

Mentoring/Support and University Guidance

- Coaching for University Aptitude Tests ENAT, BMAT, UCAT and more
- Bespoke Oxbridge Programme
- Pre U Skills Programme delivered by qualified and experienced tutors
- UCAS Support support and coaching for UCAS delivered by Russell Group Universities; University talks and attendance at Higher Education Conferences
- Extended Project Qualification
- Realising Opportunities a mentoring programme to help students raise their expectations for university places
- Higher Education Conference
- University Summer Schools support
- Interview practice

Careers and Enterprise

- Work Experience (Year 12)
- Enterprise Ambassadors (Year 12)
- Employer workshops; Travis Perkins, Briggs & Forrester, Barclaycard
- PSHE Employability Programme developing skills for Higher Education & Employment
- National Citizen Programme (NCS) A social action programme for Year 11 and 12 students, focusing on the development of personal and social skills
- Volunteering and fundraising opportunities
- Alumni events supporting students transition into Higher Education and employment

Careers, Enterprise and Enrichment

Sport

- HSL-The Sports Leaders UK Level 3 award in Higher Sports Leadership is designed to develop students' leadership skills. As a practical course, students will build on their experiences from their Community Sports Leadership Award and use skills within the wider/local community. This qualification also carries UCAS points
- Football Team and Basketball Team

Student Leadership Opportunities

- Student Leadership Team
- Student-led Subject Specialists
- Student Debate Club
- Games Club
- Charity Fundraising

Other/Subject Related

- Nucleus VI STEM Medical Programme
- Nucleus VI STEM Engineering Programme
- Prayer/Contemplation the Faith Room is available for the worship of all faiths. We have a student-run Christian worship group that engages in discussion, has guest speakers and discusses issues relevant to themselves
- Reader Leaders and Peer Mentoring programme
- Music Club open access to our Mac suite, use of technology both in the Mac suite and in the studio to work on composition. Various other musical opportunities including rock and pop bands, drumming and vocal groups
- Team building
- Sixth Form prom
- Sixth Form socials such as bowling, Christmas shopping trip, Ninja Warrior



Our Students



Jasumin – Year 12
What do you like about
Northampton Academy?

Everyone in Sixth Form has been supportive, not just with my academics but providing opportunities to meet and speak to other

students. I have met many of my friends through tutor time, my subjects and just by being in the Sixth Form areas. In addition, I have had a lot of support from staff with my academic studies, explaining challenging concepts and providing me with resources to look at things myself.

I love Northampton Academy Sixth Form and have been so impressed by the academic opportunities available. For instance, many summer school and enrichment programmes are advertised on the Sixth Form Teams page, which is very useful. I also can study in a productive environment, free of distraction and have found having textbooks provided is a great help.

Why did you choose Northampton Academy Sixth Form?

I chose to stay at Northampton Academy because I could see the amount of support from Taster Days and Open Evenings from staff, the Careers Department, and other students. In addition, I have really enjoyed having some Year 13 students help me with my studies and advising me on the best ways to study.

The teaching is also strong, as I am tested frequently, which gives me many opportunities to track my progress and reflect on where I need to improve.

Why would you recommend Northampton Academy to future Sixth Formers?

I found the jump from GCSE to A Level stressful and quite intimidating. However, the enthusiastic staff and my peers, who are just as ambitious as me, relieved the pressure. There is support for all who ask; the school strives to ensure that you are prepared for all aspects of life, helping to shape you into ambitious, successful adults.

What are your career plans?

After Sixth Form, I plan to go to a top university. I'm still deciding what I want to study, but having chosen to study English, Maths, and Spanish at A Level, I know many courses will be available.



Arif – Year 12
What do you like about
Northampton Academy?

I was initially quite sceptical with how I would transition from my previous school, but there has been so much support offered that I have

eased and settled really well. There has been a welcome brunch for students new to the schools and a one-on-on meeting with the leaders of Sixth Form to check that I am comfortable and happy here — which I really am.

I like how well the Sixth Form is structured here. It is a highly academically challenging environment, and much support has been offered, ranging from subject interventions to peer support and having my textbooks provided for me. In addition, the diversity of the student body and opportunities to meet new people has made me feel very welcome and are some of the reasons I like this Sixth Form.

Why did you choose Northampton Academy Sixth Form?

I chose Northampton Academy Sixth Form because when I looked elsewhere, there did not seem to be the same high level of structure and support that is offered here. The Sixth Form is well-organised, ensuring study periods and independent time are utilised, and provide lots of opportunities to ensure I succeed after my A Levels. For instance, staff knowledge of summer school, universities, and career prospects. It made me feel that this was where I could thrive and excel.

Why would you recommend Northampton Academy to future Sixth Formers?

I would highly recommend Northampton Academy Sixth Form to other students. There is a balance that will help you realise your ambitions, challenge you academically, and provide support along the way. It is also a welcoming environment and a great place to get peer support, make new friends and feel part of a community, whether new to the school or not.

What are your career plans?

I am applying to Russell Group universities to pursue a course in accounting and finance, then a masters degree, as I want to achieve a future career in accounting and business.

Student Leadership Opportunities

Leadership skills at every level are vitally important for young people. These qualities will help you develop a persuasive ability to influence others in a positive fashion. Improving your confidence and ability to promote yourself during interview is crucial in your preparation for the journey beyond Sixth Form to university, employment or training.

Northampton Academy Charter - We Promise

- Leadership opportunities for every student, every year
- A safe, caring and exciting environment
- To uphold the core values of Respect, Determination, Ambition, Tolerance and Integrity in everything we do



Kaycee - Head Girl

Having attended Northampton Academy from Year 7, I have witnessed this school's tremendous improvement. Year on year, the school implements new initiatives to improve the education and lifestyle of our students. Whether developing character programmes or creating ample leadership opportunities, there will be something for every student. This is due to a supportive Sixth Form Leadership Team and the dedication of teachers and leaders in the school.

Here at Northampton Academy our performance rates are impressive. However, the dedication to building well-rounded students who will achieve incredible things makes us even more exceptional. This is due to our character programme and the excellent careers programme.

As Head Girl, my priority is to make the school's students see their opinions are valued and to quickly put the initiatives into action to support the school student body.

Many Northampton Academy students go on to attend Russell Group universities. This has helped create an inspiring Sixth Form environment; we all have high ambitions that drive us. I believe that as we blossom into young adults, extra-curricular activities are essential to help us develop crucial transferable skills. As a result, through student-led initiatives, we have created many clubs and charity fundraising events to allow the students to have a positive impact on the community. As the year goes on, we will build upon this and implement bigger plans to make our school even more inclusive. Northampton Academy is the perfect place to excel academically, socially and personally.

Max - Head Boy

My job as Head Boy is to work tirelessly to open new avenues and opportunities for the Sixth Form. Also, exploring and working with the lower year groups gives them role models to look up to and a goal to strive towards. As Head Boy, I am proud to be a focal point to witness the bright future ahead for this school and encourage all the hidden talents of the students. I enjoy working alongside the inspirational Sixth Form Leadership Team, who help this vision come to life.

I want to ensure that the Sixth Form is a community where everyone feels welcome, and most importantly, our voices are heard; additionally, that all cultures and practices are respected and acknowledged. Working alongside the Sixth Form Leadership Team and staff allows me to embrace everyone's true potential, with enrichment clubs such as sports, debate clubs or arts.



So, although you take a piece of paper with your qualifications at the end of Sixth Form, you also take life experiences and your character with you. Northampton Academy endlessly produces individuals who succeed in whatever they do.



"Providing a unique learning opportunity to aid students with natural aptitude and desire to attend medical school and excel in the field of medicine; underpinned by Northampton Academy's core values of Respect, Determination, Ambition, Tolerance and Integrity."

Nucleus VI is the Sixth Form equivalent of the Nucleus STEM Stream. It is designed to aid students with a natural aptitude for science and a desire to attend medical school.

The process of applying for medical school is very rigorous and requires a serious commitment of time and effort over an extended period. Our Nucleus VI team will be available to help you every step of the way with your application to give you the best possible chance of gaining a place at a top university to study medicine.

With just over 10% of applicants gaining a place at medical school, expert guidance and opportunities are vital.

At Nucleus VI, we have worked very hard to secure advice and guidance from the best people around, to provide our applicants with the best opportunities and give them the highest chance possible of gaining a place on very competitive courses.

Nucleus VI could be the extra push you need to realise your ambitions. Places in the Nucleus VI cohort are very limited to allow the extra attention that is required to meet the demands of applying to medical school.







Entry Requirements

To gain entry onto Nucleus VI, you will need to achieve:

- Grade 8 8 in Double Award Science or Grade 8 in both Biology and Chemistry
- Grade 7 in Mathematics
- Grade 6 in English Language
- An average GCSE grade of higher than 6

If eligible, you will be interviewed by the Lead Practitioner Nucleus STEM, Head of Sixth Form and a Doctor to assess your suitability for a place in the Nucleus VI programme.

Subject Choices

On entering Nucleus VI, you must study both Biology and Chemistry at A Level, as well as one other A Level subject, (BTEC qualifications are not included). We advise against studying more than three A Levels to allow you to improve your portfolio of experience for applying to medical school.

What Nucleus VI Offers

- Support obtaining work experience
- Guidance on application to the NGH/KGH work experience programme (must be over 17 years of age)
- Assistance in organisation of volunteering and extracurricular activities to improve the application
- Regular contact with medical professionals to discuss the application process and careers in medicine
- Tuition for the UKCAT/BMAT
- Personal statements reviewed by Nucleus STEM tutors, doctors, and university admissions tutors
- Assistance with finding and applying to appropriate summer schools
- Individual mentoring throughout the application process
- Small cohort of other medical applicants to support throughout the application process
- Dedicated Nucleus VI tutor Group and tutor programme

If you would like to know more about the Nucleus VI programme, please get in touch via email: nucleus@northampton-academy.org, or visit our website at www.nucleus-stem.org.



Nucleus VI Engineering Programme

We recognise the international need for engineers and this programme will inspire, engage and inform the next generation of engineers.

The course supports the main types of engineering available to study at university. These include general, chemical, civil, electrical, mechanical, aeronautical, biomechanical and materials engineering. Even if you are not sure which type of engineering to go for, you can still apply; we will assist, support and guide you to the correct path.



What Nucleus VI Engineering Offers

On the programme, you will meet people already working in the industry as engineers in a variety of disciplines, allowing you to gain an insight into the profession. You will take part in different trips, workshops, and talks from various experts throughout your time on the programme, including designing, building and racing an electric car with help from engineering academics at the University of Northampton. We will take trips to Silverstone, careers fairs, and more, all of which will enhance your knowledge of engineering in the wider world.

In addition to all of this, we will also help support you with gaining work experience placements, help with UCAS applications and support with any university interviews or admissions tests.

If you would like to know more about the Nucleus VI programme, please get in touch through our email address nucleus@northampton-academy.org.

Subject Choices

Students entering Nucleus VI Engineering must study Maths and a relevant science at A Level and one other A Level subject (BTEC qualifications are not permitted).

We advise against studying more than three A Levels to allow students to improve their portfolio of experience for applying to engineering.

Entry Requirements

There are different engineering types, but typically courses require Maths and a related science to a high grade (usually an A).

Five GCSEs and grades 9-5

Grade 7 in double award or triple Science

Grade 7 in Mathematics

Grade 5 in English Language

Newly Refurbished Dedicated STEM Area



Northampton Academy has a highly modern, redeveloped space entirely dedicated to STEM learning. This includes new science labs, an open plan learning area, an updated Design and Technology space, as well as an IT Suite and several dedicated classrooms.





If you would like to know more about the Nucleus VI programme, please get in touch via email: nucleus@northampton-academy.org, or visit our website at www.nucleus-stem.org.

How to Apply for a Sixth Form Place



We use an online application service for our Sixth Form, which will be available via our website during the application window www.northampton-academy.org/sixth-form-admissions.

Applicants will be invited for an advice and guidance interview with a member of the Sixth Form team as part of the application process. If you are successful, you will receive a conditional offer of a place, subject to achieving the necessary grades and entry requirements.

Before making any final decisions, you will also have the opportunity to experience taster sessions from your chosen subjects, which will help you select appropriate courses.

It is a good idea for you to read through this prospectus, the course booklet, and our admissions policy thoroughly to check which courses are available and the criteria required for your chosen subjects.

Bursaries are available to support eligible students. Further information is available at the Sixth Form office and on our website.

Please ensure your application reaches us by Thursday 9th February at the latest. We will hold advice and guidance meetings with students during March 2023, after which we will make conditional offers.

We welcome applications from both internal and external students.

Please visit www.northampton-academy.org/sixthform for all the latest information.

Respect ■ Determination ■ Ambition ■ Tolerance ■ Integrity

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