

St Thomas More R C Sixth Form College

Admission Policy September 2016



St Thomas More Roman Catholic Academy and Sixth Form College is a Catholic school within the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and as such we attempt to follow the example of Jesus Christ in our work, worship and relationships.

Our Aims Are:

- ◆ to be a prayerful community based on Christian values notably Love, Justice, Peace, Truth and Tolerance, and to encourage individuals in their commitment to these ideals.
- ◆ to provide a secure, welcoming and ordered environment in which individuals learn to value and respect both themselves and others.
- ◆ to give individuals the opportunities to develop their full potential as human beings, and to encourage and challenge them to do so.
- ◆ to encourage everyone to strive to do their best and to strive for the highest standards in all areas of activity.
- ◆ to help students grow into confident, open, resourceful young people with a sense of responsibility and of service.

The Governing Body of St. Thomas More is the Admission Authority for this Academy. Whilst giving priority to the admission of existing St. Thomas More Yr 11 students to Sixth Form, we warmly welcome applicants from other schools. When determining admissions to our Sixth Form, we seek to preserve the character and ethos of this Roman Catholic Academy and College

Admission Criteria

1. Year 11 students from St Thomas More Roman Catholic Academy have an entitlement to entry into the Sixth Form if they meet the entry requirements (see page 4 and Academy Prospectus).
2. Students from other Schools are invited to apply if they meet relevant entry requirements (see page 4 and Academy Prospectus). The Planned Admission Number (PAN) for admissions to Yr 12 in September 2016 from **external** applications is 50.
3. The anticipated capacity for Yr 12 is 220 (this takes into account both internal and external candidates).

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Any student who has a Statement of Special Educational Need, which names the Academy will be admitted to Yr 12 provided the student also meets the general and course specific entry requirements.

Oversubscription Criteria

Students from St. Thomas More who meet the general entry requirements and subject specific criteria will be offered a place in Sixth Form.

With regard to applications from students currently in schools other than St Thomas More, if the number of applications exceeds 50, priority will be given in accordance with the categories below. These are the Oversubscription Criteria.

1. Catholic students who are in the care, or who have been in care, of the Local Authority.
2. Catholic students who live within the parishes of the RC Deanery of St. Oswin.
3. Catholic students who attend other secondary schools and live outside the parishes of the RC Deanery of St. Oswin.
4. Other students who are in the care, or who have been in care, of the Local Authority.
5. Children of staff employed by the Governing Body for two or more years at the time at which application for admission to the Academy is made.
6. Students who are members of Christian and other faith traditions (see additional notes).
7. Other students who wish to attend the Sixth Form.

Within each category listed above priority will be given to those with siblings still in the Academy at the time of admission and then distance from the Academy (see additional notes).

Waiting List

If a student is refused admission, a waiting list is available where priority will be given according to the above criteria based on the information provided at the time of application. The waiting list will be open until the end of the second week of the Autumn term.

Additional notes:

1. Deanery of St. Oswin:

PARISH	LOCATION	CHURCH
Our Lady Star of the Sea	Backworth	Our Lady and St Edmund
	West Monkseaton	Immaculate Heart of Mary
	Whitley Bay	St Edward
St Cuthbert and St Joseph	North Shields	St Cuthbert
		St Joseph
Our Lady and St Oswin and St Mary	Tynemouth	Our Lady and St Oswin
	Cullercoats	St Mary
Our Lady and St Aidan	Wallsend	Our Lady and St Aidan
Our Lady and St Columba	Wallsend	Our Lady and St Columba
St Bernadette	Wallsend	St Bernadette



2. **Definition of Catholic** – students who have been baptised as Catholics or have been formally received into the Catholic Church. All applicants seeking admission under criteria 1,2, and 3 will be required to provide evidence of baptism or being received into the Catholic Church. A baptismal certificate or a letter from their priest confirming their baptism or reception into the Catholic Church will suffice. It is the parents' responsibility to provide this evidence.

3. **Definition of Students in the care of a Local Authority** - A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a Local Authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time the application for admission to school is made and whom the Local Authority has confirmed will still be looked after at the date of admission. An adoption order is an order made under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A child arrangements order is an order outlining the arrangements as to the person with whom the child will live under section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. A special guardianship order is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian or guardians (Section 14A Children Act 1989).

4. **Members of Christian and other faith traditions** – a letter from the relevant Minister/Faith Leader must be sent to the Clerk of Governors c/o the Academy.

5. **Definition of siblings** – sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted or foster brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the Academy place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

6. **Distance from the Academy** - Shortest distance measured as a straight line from a single fixed central point of the home address (including flats) to the central point of the Academy using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer and the Council's Geographical Information System (GIS). In the case of flats if there is more than one home address with the same measurement, the flat with the lowest number will be offered the place. In all other cases of the same measurement, random allocation will be used.



General Entry Requirements

A summary of the academic requirements for entry to Sixth Form is given below. Detailed information regarding course specific entry requirements can be found in the Sixth Form Prospectus which should be consulted before making a formal application.

- The majority of students in Year 12 study 4 AS optional subjects and must have achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade B or above.
- Some students study fewer than 4 AS subjects and/or choose vocational courses. These students must have achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade C or above.
- *For all courses students must meet subject specific entry requirements as outlined in our Prospectus.*

How and When to apply

Applications must be made on the Sixth Form Application Form which can be obtained from the Academy together with the Sixth Form Prospectus, which details the academic entry requirements for admission to individual courses.

Completed forms must be returned to the Academy by **Friday, 4 March 2016**.

A provisional offer of a place, subject to confirmation of meeting the required academic entry requirements, will be made by **Wednesday, 23 March 2016**.

Late Applications

Any applications received after the closing date will be accepted but considered only after those received by the closing date.

