



Admissions Criteria and Procedures for Entry in August 2019

Introduction

St Dominic's is a Catholic Sixth Form College committed to the personal and spiritual growth of all its members based on Christian values, academic excellence and high quality pastoral care.

The College specialises in post-16 education in a Catholic setting and has a close relationship with its partner schools, the Sacred Heart Language College and the Salvatorian College, which contributed the majority of students when the College was established in 1979.

Academic requirements

A Level Programme

The College would expect any student wishing to study for an A level programme to achieve at least grade 4 in GCSE English Language.

The College assigns a point score based on the GCSE grades of 1-9*¹. Grades in qualifications other than GCSE are not taken into account for the purposes of deciding application and admission.

To qualify for an A level programme consisting of a 3 or 4 A levels in the first year students from the partner schools would be expected to achieve 7 GCSEs at grades 4-9 including English Language.

Applied Learning Programme

St Dominic's also offers BTEC programmes at level 3. The minimum entry requirement will be 5 GCSE grades at grades 4-9 including English Language.

Applications

The deadline for completed applications for the academic year of 2019-20 is published in the Prospectus.

The College welcomes applications from students with specific learning difficulties or disabilities who will be offered advice and guidance about courses and the support available.

The College welcomes students of all religious backgrounds who wish to pursue their studies in a Catholic context. All students will be asked to write a personal statement to make clear their reasons for wanting to study at a Catholic College. This statement will not be used to determine the offer of places, but represents an opportunity for applicants to acknowledge the religious nature of the College and how they could be supportive of it.

*1

For GCSE awards before 2018 where grades of A-G were awarded, the following point scores will apply – in line with Department for Education proposals for performance table measures. (https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/561021/Progress_8_and_Attainment_8_how_measures_are_calculated.pdf)*

A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
8.5	7	5.5	4	3	2	1.5	1

Admissions

The College will consider each application on its merits, but the main criteria will be aptitude for the intended programme as indicated by the predicted grades from their current school. A supportive reference will also be required from the student's school, with positive comments on attitude, attendance, punctuality, application to work and suitability for the programme applied for.

The College welcomes applications from students of any or no faith who wish to pursue their sixth form education in a Catholic context and who support the Catholic ethos of the College.

Within that scope, the following priorities will apply in making offers to applicants:

- 1. 'Looked After' (and previously 'Looked After') Catholic students.**
- 2. Students from the partner schools, the Sacred Heart Language College and the Salvatorian College.**
- 3. Catholic students who provide a CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE or a Baptismal Certificate.**
- 4. Other 'Looked After' (and previously 'Looked After') students.**
- 5. Other Christians with a Baptismal Certificate or signed declaration of membership.**
- 6. Students of other faiths or no faith.**

The College will give preference to students aged 16 on 31st August of the year of entry.

The College will make offer decisions in line with constraints such as facilities, resources and funding and notify applicants accordingly. Offers made to students will be conditional on the actual GCSE results in terms of an overall average points score and particular grades required by the subjects for which the student has applied. Those not offered a place will be invited to join a continuing interest list and may be contacted should any appropriate vacancies occur at the beginning of the academic year.

Any student failing to attend daily, beginning on the advertised first day of enrolment, may forfeit their place at the College.

Appeals against any alleged failure to comply with the admissions criteria will be determined by a committee of governors provided that the appeal is received within 10 working days of the date of notification of the College's decision.

The admissions criteria of the College are reviewed annually by the governing body.

Admissions Criteria updated May 2018