
THE OAKES COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

YEAR 12 ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

THIS POLICY WAS ADOPTED:	AUTUMN 2020
THIS POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED:	AUTUMN 2021
MEMBER OF STAFF WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR REVIEW:	HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

The Oakes College Cambridge at Netherhall Admission to the Sixth Form for September 2021-2022

Applications for admission to the Sixth Form should be sent directly to The Oakes College Cambridge at Netherhall using the online platform, mychoice16, by the published deadline date. If students are unable to use mychoice16, then a paper application form can be requested from the Sixth Form Office.

Entry Requirements

The college offers two level three pathways:

- A-level
- Applied courses - BTEC or Cambridge Technical

The entry requirements are set out below:

A-Level

The minimum requirement is 7 GCSE or equivalent passes at grades 4-9 in an appropriate range of subjects including Maths and English at grade 4 or above. We may, however review the grades depending on the courses selected and the intended plan of the student. Individual subjects have specific entry requirements:

- English Language and Literature, English Literature– require GCSE grade 6 or above in English Language and Literature
- Maths/Further Maths – require a GCSE grade 7 or above in Mathematics
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics – require a GCSE Grade 6 or above in Science GCSE and Grade 6 or above in Mathematics
- Economics/Business – we would normally expect students to have achieved a GCSE grade 5 or above in Mathematics
- Geography – we would normally expect students to have achieved a GCSE grade 5 or above in Mathematics
- Psychology – a GCSE grade 5 or above is advised in Mathematics

Where a student continues on to an A-level from a GCSE subject, it is advisable for a student to have a minimum of a grade 5.

The college will accept one BTEC at Merit level as one GCSE equivalent

Applied courses

The minimum requirement is 5 GCSE or equivalent passes at grades 4 or above in an appropriate range of subjects including Maths and English at grade 4 or above. This is conditional on a student studying 3 Applied courses only. We may, however, review the grades depending on the courses selected and the intended plan of the student.

The college will accept one BTEC at Merit level as one GCSE

Admission Number

The Year 12 cohort is expected to be in the range 125 to 200 students. The college has admitted in excess of 100 external students.

Please note that admission to the college is not the same as admission onto individual courses, which may already be full. In such cases, applicants will be advised of alternative course options.

Entry to the college will not be determined by a formal interview but information and guidance are readily available that will focus on course selection and expectations. A written/oral

reference will be sought from applicants' current school concerning the suitability or otherwise of the course or levels being considered. Students from overseas who are eligible for study at the college will need to demonstrate that overseas qualifications meet the admissions criteria set out.

Oversubscription

The revised School Admissions Code allows the opportunity for over admission if the demand for available courses can be met (See Section 1.43). Following negotiations to determine the suitability of courses, students with statements of special educational needs that name Netherhall School and The Oakes College Cambridge for post-16 education will be admitted. Priority will be given in the following order:

1. Students who are looked after (LAC) and students who were looked after but ceased to be so by reason of adoption, a resident order or special guardianship order
2. Students with a sibling at the school at the time of admission
3. Students in a Cambridgeshire school without Year 12 and 13
4. Students in a Cambridgeshire school not offering the courses requested
5. Students in any school without a Year 12 and 13
6. Students in any school not offering the courses requested

Oversubscription in a Category

Priority will be given to students living nearest the school as measured by a straight line. The distance, for admissions purposes, is measured using the straight line distance from reference point of the home, as defined by the Ordnance Survey (OS) Address Base Premium to the main pupil entrance to the college. These distances can be produced by the LA Admissions team for the college. For families who live outside the area covered by the Cambridgeshire mapping system, distances are determined using a combination of local maps and on-line resources.

In-Year Transfers

The college will follow the guidance laid out in the School Admissions Code – DFE December 2014. Consideration will be given to the following before offering a place:

- does the student meet the college admissions criteria. If the grades are not met, can the college apply a special consideration for extenuating circumstances that will not disadvantage students' long term study/career goals
- are there available places on the courses
- does the college offer the same courses and Exam Boards that the student is currently studying and will the transfer allow the student satisfactory coverage of the course to prepare them for examinations.
- a reference from the previous school which details current progress on their courses.

Applicants from overseas

The college welcomes applications from overseas students who are eligible to study in the UK. Students will need to demonstrate that overseas qualifications meet the published admissions criteria. This can be achieved by using a recognised provider to assess qualifications. The applicant may incur a fee for this checking.

Appeals

Parents and students have a right to appeal against any decision refusing a Sixth Form place in a school with a Sixth Form. Appeals must be heard by an independent panel within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged. To make an appeal the appellant must submit a letter to the Principal with reasons why the appeal is being made. If an appeal is made in-year the appeal must be heard by an independent panel within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged.

Appendix: Comparison matrix comparing the new reformed GCSE grading structure (numbers) with current/ legacy grading criteria:

New GCSE Grading Structure

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above