



# THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1929

## **SIXTH FORM (YEAR 12)**

### **ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2027**

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#### **AIMS OF THE SCHOOL**

The John Fisher School is a Catholic boys' secondary school with a Sixth Form, founded to serve the Catholic community and conducted in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The School seeks to work in close partnership with parents in fulfilling their primary responsibility for the education of their sons.

The School's mission is to foster excellence in all areas of school life; to uphold the dignity of every person; and to provide an education inspired by the example of Jesus Christ. Within the Sixth Form in particular, the School aims to provide a rigorous academic education alongside strong pastoral support, enabling students to grow intellectually, spiritually, morally and socially, and to prepare them for higher education, employment and service to others.

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#### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL ADMISSIONS**

In these arrangements, "parent" means the parent of, or adult with legal responsibility for, the student (candidate) for whom a place in the Sixth Form at The John Fisher School is being sought.

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#### **OPEN EVENING FOR PARENTS AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS**

Parents are encouraged, accompanied if possible by their son, to attend an Open Evening for parents of prospective Sixth Form students. Open Evening usually takes place during November and the date will be published on the school website from September of the same year. At this meeting, the Headteacher and Director of Sixth Form will explain the nature of the Sixth Form, the academic demands of advanced study, and the commitments expected of students and their families.

Attendance at Open Evening does not form part of the admissions decision-making process and is not a condition of admission.

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## **CLOSING AND NOTIFICATION DATES FOR APPLICATIONS**

The deadline for submission of applications for entry to the Sixth Form in September 2027 will be published on the school website before 1 September 2026. The deadline is usually in early December.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application in February 2027.

Applications received after the published closing date will only be considered in exceptional circumstances, for example where a family has recently moved into the area or returned from abroad.

Separate provision is made for students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names The John Fisher School.

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## **ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE SIXTH FORM**

The School offers a range of Level 3 courses, including A Levels and other advanced qualifications, as published annually in the Sixth Form prospectus.

Admission to the Sixth Form is conditional upon:

- The availability of places on the relevant courses
- The student meeting the School's published entry requirements for Sixth Form study, including minimum GCSE grade thresholds as set out in the Sixth Form Entry Requirements document
- The student being judged suitable for advanced academic study

All offers of places are conditional upon the achievement of the required GCSE grades.

An assessment of suitability will be made using information provided by the student's current school, including predicted GCSE outcomes and references. Where appropriate, applicants may be invited to attend a guidance meeting to discuss subject choices and the suitability of proposed courses.

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## **OVERSUBSCRIPTION**

After the admission of students with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the School, where the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of available places, priority will be given in accordance with the pathways set out below. These pathways apply equally to Catholic and non-Catholic applicants and operate alongside the School's published admissions policy.

### **Pathways for Admission to the Sixth Form**

#### **Pathway A**

Internal students at The John Fisher School who are completing Year 11 at the time of

application and who submit a formal application by the advertised deadline. Internal students who meet the published Sixth Form entry requirements are normally expected to progress into the Sixth Form.

### **Pathway B**

External students who are completing Year 11 at another school at the time of application and who submit a formal application by the advertised deadline. Applicants in this pathway will be required to provide a satisfactory reference from their current school and to attend an interview to assess suitability for Sixth Form study, conducted by the Sixth Form Leadership Team.

### **Pathway C**

External students from recognised *partner schools* who have not applied by the external deadline but who wish to join the Sixth Form after the publication of GCSE results. A partner school is defined as a local school with which the Sixth Form Team has an established professional relationship and from which a reference can be obtained during the final week of the Summer break. Admission under this pathway is subject to course availability following the confirmation of examination results.

### **Pathway D**

All other applicants. This includes students who would otherwise have been eligible under Pathway A but who did not submit an application by the published deadline.

Within each pathway, priority may be given to students with a sibling attending The John Fisher School at the time of admission, or whose parent or guardian is a member of staff at the School.

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## **TIE-BREAK**

Where there are more applicants than places available within a category, and all other criteria are equal, places will be allocated by random allocation, independently administered.

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## **HOW TO APPLY**

All applicants must complete The John Fisher School Sixth Form Application Form

This document will be available on the School's website and must be submitted by the published closing date.

Incomplete or late applications will only be considered if there are places remaining after all on-time applications have been processed.

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## **OFFERS OF PLACES**

Offers of places will be issued by the School by the published notification date. Parents and students will be required to confirm acceptance of the offer by the deadline specified in the offer letter. Failure to do so may result in the place being offered to another applicant.

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## **WAITING LIST**

Where appropriate, the Governing Body will maintain a waiting list until **30 September 2027**, ranked in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria. Priority on the waiting list is not determined by the date of application.

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## **FAIR ACCESS**

The School participates in the local Fair Access Protocol and is committed to supporting vulnerable and hard-to-place students in accordance with locally agreed arrangements.

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## **EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE NORMAL AGE GROUP**

Parents may request that their son be educated outside his chronological age group. Such requests must be supported by appropriate evidence and will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Governing Body.

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## **APPEALS**

Parents have the right to appeal against a decision not to offer a place in the Sixth Form. Appeals will be heard by an independent panel in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

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## **NOTES**

For the purposes of these arrangements:

- *Catholic* means a baptised member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome.
- *Looked after child* and *previously looked after child* have the meanings set out in the School Admissions Code.
- *Sibling* refers to a brother living at the same address.

These Admissions Arrangements should be read alongside The John Fisher School Admissions Policy.