



# Mercia School



## MERCIA COLLEGIATE SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY SEPTEMBER 2026

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### DOCUMENT CONTROL

*Unless there are legislative or regulatory changes in the interim, this policy will be reviewed every year. Should no substantive changes be required at that point, the policy will move to the next review cycle.*

## **Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form Admissions Policy September 2026**

The school reserves the right to amend this policy at any time in the academic year and to direct formal disciplinary procedures at any level, as appropriate. The contents of this policy will be disseminated and shared with all scholars during their induction period and is available online.



## Context

These are the determined admission arrangements for entry into Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form, Year 12, in September 2026.

Mercia School is its own admissions authority. These arrangements will be administered fairly, consistently and impartially, and in accordance with the School Admissions Code and all relevant admissions legislation.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form is an academically selective sixth form. It provides a rigorous A Level curriculum for scholars who have demonstrated the academic ability, commitment and independence required to thrive in a highly aspirational sixth form environment.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form aims to support scholars to achieve exceptional A Level outcomes and progress to the most competitive post-18 destinations, including Russell Group universities, Oxford and Cambridge, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, apprenticeships and other highly selective routes.

The academic entry criteria set out in this policy apply equally to applicants currently on roll at Mercia School and to applicants from other schools. Mercia School pupils will apply through the internal application process. Applicants from other schools will apply through the external application process.

Throughout this policy, the term “scholar” refers to a pupil admitted to Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form.

## Published Admission Number, Capacity and Eligibility for Entry

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form has capacity for up to 100 scholars in each year group.

For entry into Year 12 in September 2026, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form has a Published Admission Number of 20 external places.

The Published Admission Number refers to the number of external applicants who may be admitted into Year 12, provided they meet the published academic entry requirements, subject-specific entry requirements and any required stages of the admissions process.

The Published Admission Number does not operate as an absolute cap on external admissions. Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form may admit more than 20 external applicants where there is capacity within the Year 12 cohort after eligible internal Mercia School applicants have been accommodated.

Usually, only pupils born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010, and who have completed their GCSEs in summer 2026, can apply for entry to Year 12 in September 2026.

Applicants who are older than the usual Year 11 cohort, including those seeking to restart sixth form, should contact the school directly before applying. Such applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account academic suitability, curriculum availability, the applicant’s prior study, and whether Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form is an appropriate setting.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form does not admit scholars into Year 14. Upon completion of A Level examinations in Year 13, scholars are expected to progress to an appropriate post-18 destination.

Internal Mercia School applicants who meet the minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements will be eligible to transfer into Year 12, subject to course availability, the published subject blocks and the requirements set out in this policy.

The number of external places available in any given year will depend on:

- the number of eligible internal Mercia School applicants transferring into Year 12;
- the overall Year 12 capacity of 100 scholars;
- staffing, rooming and curriculum capacity;
- the number of places available on individual A Level courses;
- the published subject blocks;

- whether applicants meet the relevant academic and subject-specific entry requirements.

Where the number of eligible internal and external applicants can be accommodated within the Year 12 capacity and within available courses, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form may admit external applicants above the Published Admission Number.

Where the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, the oversubscription criteria set out in this policy will be applied.

## Minimum Study Programme

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form is a full-time educational provider. All scholars admitted to Year 12 will be expected to enrol on a full-time programme of study comprising at least 540 planned hours per year.

The Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form programme includes A Level lessons, directed independent study, Professional School, enrichment, assemblies, academic intervention, careers education, super-curricular preparation and other activities deemed necessary by the school.

Admission to Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form is therefore admission to the full sixth form programme, not only to individual A Level lessons.

Scholars are expected to attend school every day, to be punctual, and to meet the attendance, conduct and academic expectations set out by Mercia School and Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form.

## Minimum Academic Entry Requirements

The minimum academic requirements for entry into Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form are:

- a grade 7 or higher in each of the subjects intended to be studied at A Level;
- a GCSE Average Point Score (APS) of 7.0 or higher, based on a minimum of eight GCSE subjects;
- a minimum grade 5 in GCSE English Language;
- a minimum grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.

These are minimum entry requirements. Meeting the minimum academic entry requirements does not guarantee a place at Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form, nor does it guarantee a place on a particular course or combination of courses.

Where individual courses are oversubscribed, higher actual GCSE grades may be required to secure a place on a particular course.

Final admission decisions will be based on actual GCSE results achieved in summer 2026, subject availability, the published subject blocks, and the oversubscription criteria set out in this policy.

## Qualifications Included in the Grade Point Average

The grade point average will normally be calculated using GCSE qualifications studied by the applicant.

Vocational or equivalent qualifications may be considered only where Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form is satisfied that the qualification is equivalent in academic demand and assessment to GCSE study. The school reserves the right to determine whether a qualification should be included in the grade point average.

Community languages, qualifications without substantial written examination, or qualifications not considered equivalent to GCSEs may be excluded from the grade point average calculation.

Where there is uncertainty about a qualification, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will assess this on a case-by-case basis.

## Subject-Specific Entry Requirements

Applicants must normally have achieved at least a grade 7 in each GCSE subject they wish to study at A Level.

Where an applicant has not studied the subject at GCSE, or where a subject has additional requirements, the following criteria apply:

## Biology

Applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE Biology or at least grade 7,7 in GCSE Combined Science.

## Chemistry

Applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or at least grade 7,7 in GCSE Combined Science.

## Computer Science

Applicants must achieve at least grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics.

## Economics

Applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics and at least grade 7 in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

## Further Mathematics

Applicants must achieve at least grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics.

## Physics

Applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE Physics or at least grade 7,7 in GCSE Combined Science.

## Politics

Applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE History. Where History has not been studied at GCSE, applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

## Psychology

Applicants must achieve at least grade 7 in GCSE Biology or at least grade 7,7 in GCSE Combined Science, and at least grade 7 in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

## Course Availability and Subject Blocks

Achievement of the minimum academic and subject-specific entry requirements does not guarantee a place on a particular course or combination of courses.

Applicants must choose subjects from the published subject blocks. Some subject combinations may not be possible due to timetabling constraints.

Where a course is oversubscribed, places on that course will be allocated in line with this policy. Applicants may be offered an alternative course where:

- they meet the entry requirements for the alternative course;
- there is space available;
- the alternative course fits within the published subject blocks;
- the school considers the course to be academically appropriate.

Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C	Option Block D	Option Block E
Biology	Biology	History	Geography	Chemistry
Computer Science	Chemistry	Physics	Further Mathematics	Further Mathematics
English Literature	Economics	Psychology	Mathematics	Politics
Mathematics				

## Application Process

Applications for September 2026 entry will open in October 2025 following the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form Open Event.

All applicants, whether internal or external, must complete the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application form by the published deadline.

Internal Mercia School applicants will complete the same online application form as external applicants. However, Mercia School will verify their academic attainment, predicted grades and subject suitability using internal school data.

External applicants will also be required to provide details of their current school so that Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form can request a reference and verified predicted grades. All applicants must select their intended A Level subjects as part of the application process. Subject choices may be discussed as part of the admissions and enrolment process, but final subject allocation will be dependent on GCSE results, subject-specific entry requirements, subject availability and the published subject blocks.

## References and Predicted Grades

External applicants must provide details of their current school as part of the application process.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will request a reference from the applicant's current school. This reference must verify the applicant's predicted GCSE grades.

The current school must submit the reference through the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application system by the published deadline.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that their referee submits the reference by the stated deadline. Where predicted grades submitted by an applicant differ from those verified by the applicant's current school, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will use the grades verified by the current school.

Predicted grades will be used to determine whether an applicant is eligible to continue through the admissions process. Final admission decisions will be made using actual GCSE grades achieved in summer 2026.

## External Applicants

External applicants who wish to join Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form must complete the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application form by the published deadline of 31 December 2025.

External applicants must meet the same minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements as internal Mercia School applicants.

The external admissions process will operate in three stages.

### Stage 1: Online Application and School Reference

All external applicants must complete the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application form by 31 December 2025.

Applicants must identify the A Level subjects they wish to study. Subject choices will be reviewed against the published minimum entry requirements, subject-specific requirements and published subject blocks.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will request a reference from the applicant's current school. This reference must verify the applicant's predicted GCSE grades.

The current school must submit the reference through the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application system by the stated deadline. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that their referee submits the reference in time for the application to be considered.

Where predicted grades provided by the applicant differ from those verified by the applicant's current school, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will use the grades verified by the current school.

External applicants whose verified predicted grades indicate that they are likely to meet the minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements will be invited to Stage 2 of the admissions process.

External applicants whose verified predicted grades do not indicate that they are likely to meet the minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements may not be invited to Stage 2.

## Stage 2: Aptitude Tests

External applicants who meet the minimum academic and subject-specific entry requirements based on their verified predicted grades will be invited to sit aptitude tests.

Applicants will normally sit aptitude tests in two of the subjects they have applied to study at A Level. The specific subject tests will be selected by the MCSF Admissions Team.

Each aptitude test will normally be 45 minutes in length.

Aptitude tests will be marked on a pass/fail basis. A pass will be determined by a threshold that reflects the academic standard required to access A Level study successfully in that subject.

External applicants who pass both aptitude tests will be invited to Stage 3 of the admissions process.

External applicants who fail one or both aptitude tests will not normally be invited to interview and will not normally receive a conditional offer.

Where an applicant does not attend an aptitude test without prior agreement, their application may be withdrawn from the admissions process.

## Stage 3: Interview

External applicants who pass the aptitude tests will be invited to attend an interview at Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form.

The interview will normally focus on one A Level subject chosen by the MCSF Admissions Team and will be conducted by a member of the MCSF team.

The interview will be marked on a pass/fail basis. A pass will be granted where the applicant's responses are deemed satisfactory by the interviewer.

At interview, applicants may be assessed on the following areas:

- love of the subject;
- breadth of knowledge;
- academic drive;
- ability to respond to new information, text, data, stimulus material or academic discussion;
- understanding of the demands of A Level study;
- suitability for the chosen subject or combination of subjects.

Applicants may be presented with a new idea, concept, text, poem, graph, data set, image, object or other academic stimulus, and asked to respond to questions or discussion about it.

Where preparatory material is required, applicants will be informed in advance.

External applicants who pass the interview will remain under consideration for a conditional offer.

External applicants who do not pass the interview will not normally receive a conditional offer.

Where an applicant does not attend an interview without prior agreement, their application may be withdrawn from the admissions process.

## Conditional Offers for External Applicants

External applicants who complete Stages 1, 2 and 3 successfully may be made a conditional offer to study at Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form.

A conditional offer is not confirmation of a place. Final confirmation will be subject to:

- achieving the minimum GCSE entry requirements;
- achieving the relevant subject-specific entry requirements;

- course availability;
- the published subject blocks;
- successful completion of the admissions process;
- confirmation of actual GCSE results in August 2026.

Where there are more successful external applicants than available places, places will be allocated in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria.

## Internal Applicants

Mercia School applicants who wish to transfer into Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form must complete the same Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application form as external applicants by the published deadline of 31 December 2025.

Internal applicants must meet the same minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements as external applicants.

Internal applicants will not ordinarily be required to complete the full external admissions procedure. Academic suitability will normally be assessed using information already held by Mercia School, including predicted GCSE grades, internal assessment data, mock examination outcomes, subject teacher evidence and any other relevant academic information.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form reserves the right to require an internal applicant to complete one or more aptitude tests and/or attend an interview where the MCSF Admissions Team considers this necessary.

This may include, but is not limited to, circumstances where:

- the applicant's predicted grades are borderline;
- there is uncertainty about the applicant's suitability for one or more chosen subjects;
- the applicant wishes to study a subject where additional academic evidence is required;
- the applicant's internal assessment profile is inconsistent;
- the chosen subject or subject combination is heavily oversubscribed;
- there are concerns about the applicant's drive, ambition or suitability for sixth form study.

Where aptitude tests are required, the subject or subjects to be tested will be determined by the MCSF Admissions Team. Aptitude tests will normally be 45 minutes in length and will be marked on a pass/fail basis.

Where an interview is required, it will normally focus on one or more of the applicant's chosen A Level subjects and will be conducted by a member of the MCSF team. The interview will be marked on a pass/fail basis.

At interview, applicants may be assessed on the following areas:

- love of the subject;
- breadth of knowledge;
- academic drive;
- ability to respond to new information, text, data, stimulus material or academic discussion;
- understanding of the demands of A Level study;
- suitability for the chosen subject or combination of subjects.

Where an internal applicant is required to complete an aptitude test or attend an interview and does not pass, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form reserves the right not to offer a place, or not to offer one or more of the applicant's chosen subjects.

Internal applicants who meet the required threshold will be eligible to transfer into Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form, subject to:

- achieving the minimum GCSE entry requirements;
- achieving the relevant subject-specific entry requirements;
- course availability;
- the published subject blocks;

- successful completion of any aptitude test or interview required by MCSF;
- meeting the expectations of Mercia School and Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form.

Final confirmation of a place will be made following receipt of actual GCSE results in August 2026.

## Applicants with an Education, Health and Care Plan

This section applies to applicants seeking entry into Year 12 in September 2026 who are of the expected age to begin sixth form in September 2026 and who have completed the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form online application form by the published application deadline.

Having an Education, Health and Care Plan does not, in itself, guarantee admission to Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form. Applicants with an Education, Health and Care Plan must meet the relevant academic entry requirements, subject-specific entry requirements and course requirements, unless otherwise required by law.

Where an applicant has an Education, Health and Care Plan naming Mercia School, the school will act in accordance with its statutory duties.

Where an applicant with an Education, Health and Care Plan applies after the published deadline, or is not of the expected age to begin Year 12 in September 2026, the application will not be considered as part of the normal Year 12 admissions round. Any such case will be considered separately, taking into account the applicant's age, prior education, academic suitability, curriculum availability, course sequencing, subject availability, the efficient education of others and the efficient use of resources.

Where Mercia School is consulted by a local authority about being named in an Education, Health and Care Plan, the school will provide a response in accordance with the relevant statutory framework.

## Oversubscription Criteria

The oversubscription criteria will only be applied where there are more eligible applicants than places available.

For the purposes of Year 12 admission, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will first determine the number of internal Mercia School applicants who are eligible to transfer into Year 12 because they have met the minimum academic entry requirements, subject-specific entry requirements and any other requirements set out in this policy.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will then determine the number of external places available, taking into account:

- the overall Year 12 capacity of 100 scholars;
- the number of eligible internal Mercia School applicants transferring into Year 12;
- course availability;
- staffing, rooming and curriculum capacity;
- the published subject blocks.

Where there is sufficient capacity, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form may admit more than 20 external applicants.

Where the number of eligible external applicants exceeds the number of external places available, places will be allocated in the following order of priority.

### 1. Looked-after and previously looked-after children

Highest priority will be given to looked-after children and previously looked-after children who meet the academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements.

This includes children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

### 2. Applicants eligible for Free School Meals

Priority will then be given to applicants who qualify for, or have in the last six years qualified for, Free School Meals in the United Kingdom, provided they meet the academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements.

### **3. Applicants from Mercia Trust schools**

Priority will then be given to Year 11 applicants eligible to transfer from Mercia Trust schools, provided they meet the academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements.

### **4. Distance from Mercia School**

Remaining places will then be allocated to eligible applicants according to distance from Mercia School, with priority given to those who live closest to the school.

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the applicant's permanent home address to Mercia School.

Where two or more applicants are tied for the final available place after distance has been applied, the final place will be allocated to the applicant with the highest GCSE average point score across their best eight GCSE subjects.

Where two or more applicants remain tied after GCSE average point score has been applied, the final place will be allocated by random allocation supervised by a person independent of Mercia School.

### **Evidence of Home Address**

The applicant's permanent home address is the address at which the applicant normally lives.

Mercia School may request evidence of address as part of the admissions process. Where there is uncertainty or dispute regarding an applicant's address, Mercia School will determine the address to be used for admissions purposes based on the evidence provided.

Where false, fraudulent or intentionally misleading information is provided, Mercia School reserves the right to withdraw an offer in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

### **Exceptional Circumstances**

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form recognises that some applicants may have experienced exceptional circumstances that affected their GCSE performance or their ability to participate fully in the admissions process.

Exceptional circumstances may include significant illness, bereavement, serious family circumstances, or other substantial disruption.

Such circumstances must be supported by appropriate evidence. Evidence may include, but is not limited to, medical evidence, correspondence from the applicant's current school, or documentation from an appropriate professional.

Exceptional circumstances will be considered carefully and sensitively. However, the existence of exceptional circumstances does not guarantee admission and does not remove the requirement for applicants to demonstrate that they are academically suitable for the courses they wish to study.

Any consideration of exceptional circumstances will be applied consistently and in line with the published oversubscription criteria.

### **Non-Standard Qualifications**

Applicants with non-standard qualifications, including qualifications taken outside England, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will consider whether the qualifications are equivalent to GCSEs and whether the applicant is academically prepared for the A Level courses chosen.

Applicants may be asked to provide certificates, transcripts, course specifications, examination results, references or other evidence to support the assessment of equivalence.

Where Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form cannot verify the equivalence of a qualification, the qualification may not be included in the grade point average calculation.

## GCSE Results Day and Confirmation of Enrolment

On GCSE Results Day in August 2026, all applicants holding a conditional offer must complete the enrolment process by the published deadline.

Applicants will be required to upload a copy of their GCSE results to the Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form admissions portal by the stated time.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will review the submitted GCSE results and confirm whether the applicant has met:

- the minimum academic entry requirements;
- the subject-specific entry requirements;
- the requirements for their chosen subject combination;
- any additional course requirements.

A conditional offer does not become a confirmed place until Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form has verified the applicant's GCSE results and confirmed the place in writing.

Applicants will be notified whether a place can be offered. Where a place is confirmed, the applicant will be informed of the subjects they are able to study.

Where an applicant has not met the entry requirements for one or more chosen subjects, Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form may consider whether an alternative course is available and appropriate. This will depend on the applicant's GCSE results, subject availability and the published subject blocks.

## Applicants Who Do Not Meet the Entry Requirements

Applicants who do not meet the minimum academic entry requirements or subject-specific entry requirements are unlikely to be admitted.

However, all applicants holding a conditional offer should still upload their GCSE results by the published deadline, even if they believe they have not met the required grades.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form will review all submitted results before making a final decision.

In exceptional cases, the school may consider whether an applicant has demonstrated academic strength in a relevant subject or group of subjects, despite narrowly missing one element of the entry criteria. Any such decision will be made consistently, carefully and in accordance with this policy.

## Changes to Subject Choices

Applicants who wish to change their subject choices after submitting their application, after receiving a conditional offer, or on GCSE Results Day must request this through the admissions team.

Subject changes will only be agreed where:

- the applicant meets the subject-specific entry requirements for the new subject;
- there is space available on the course;
- the subject fits within the published subject blocks;
- the school considers the change to be academically appropriate.

Where a course is full, the applicant may be placed on the waiting list for that course or advised to select an alternative subject.

Applicants are not guaranteed the right to change subjects after receiving a conditional offer.

## Late Applications

Applications received after the published application deadline will be treated as late applications.

Late applications will only be considered after all on-time applications have been processed.

Late applicants must meet the same minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements as on-time applicants.

Late applicants will only be offered a place if a place remains available after the oversubscription criteria have been applied.

## Clearing

If Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form has available places after GCSE Results Day and after places have been confirmed for eligible applicants holding conditional offers, the school may operate a clearing process.

The clearing process will be for applicants who did not initially apply, or who applied late, but who meet the relevant academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements.

Places offered through clearing will be subject to course availability, subject blocks and the oversubscription criteria set out in this policy.

## Waiting List

A waiting list will be maintained for applicants who have not been offered a place but who meet the minimum academic entry requirements and subject-specific entry requirements.

The waiting list will be maintained in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out in this policy.

The waiting list will not operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

If a new applicant is added to the waiting list, the list will be re-ranked in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

The waiting list will be held until at least 31 December 2026.

Inclusion on the waiting list does not guarantee that a place will become available.

## Withdrawal of Conditional Offers

Mercia School may withdraw a conditional offer only where it is lawful and appropriate to do so.

A conditional offer may be withdrawn where:

- the offer was made in error;
- the applicant does not accept the conditional offer by the published deadline;
- the applicant does not complete the enrolment process by the published deadline;
- the applicant does not provide GCSE results by the published deadline;
- the applicant does not meet the minimum academic entry requirements;
- the applicant does not meet the subject-specific entry requirements for an available and viable programme of study;
- the offer was obtained through fraudulent or intentionally misleading information;
- information provided by the applicant cannot be verified.

Internal applicants remain subject to Mercia School's behaviour, attendance and safeguarding policies throughout Year 11. Concerns relating to behaviour, attendance or conduct will be addressed through the relevant school policies and procedures. Such concerns will not be used as a separate admissions criterion unless they directly affect the applicant's ability to satisfy the published academic entry requirements, subject-specific entry requirements, application process or enrolment requirements.

Where Mercia School is considering withdrawing a conditional offer, the applicant and their family will be informed of the reason.

## **In-Year Admissions**

Applicants seeking admission outside the normal admissions round should contact Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form directly.

In-year admission will only be considered where:

- there is a vacancy;
- the applicant meets the minimum academic entry requirements;
- the applicant meets the subject-specific entry requirements;
- the applicant has followed an equivalent programme of study;
- the school is satisfied that the applicant can successfully integrate into the courses already underway;
- the requested subject combination is available and viable.

Due to the specialist and sequential nature of A Level study, in-year admissions after the start of the academic year are unlikely to be appropriate except in exceptional circumstances.

In-year admissions into Year 13 will only be considered where the applicant has studied the same examination specifications and where Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form is satisfied that transfer is academically appropriate.

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form does not admit scholars into Year 14.

## **Transition from Year 12 to Year 13**

Admission to Year 12 does not automatically guarantee progression into Year 13.

Progression from Year 12 to Year 13 is subject to scholars meeting the requirements set out in Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form's Progression Support Policy.

This may include requirements relating to academic progress, attendance, punctuality, conduct, completion of work and suitability for continued study.

## **Attendance and Conduct Expectations**

Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form has high expectations of attendance, punctuality, conduct and academic engagement.

Scholars admitted to Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form are expected to attend the full sixth form programme, including lessons, directed study, Professional School, enrichment, assemblies, academic intervention and all other required elements of sixth form life.

Failure to meet the expectations of Mercia School and Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form may result in intervention, support, sanctions or action under the relevant school policies.

## **Appeals**

Where an applicant is refused admission to Mercia Collegiate Sixth Form, they have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Appeals will be heard in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

Details of how to appeal, including the relevant deadline and contact details, will be provided when an applicant is notified that a place has not been offered.

Appeals will normally be heard during September 2026

The appeal should set out the reasons why the applicant believes that a place should be offered. Where the applicant believes that the admissions policy has not been followed correctly, this should be made clear in the appeal.

## **Complaints**

Concerns about the administration of the admissions process should first be raised with Mercia School.

Where a complainant remains dissatisfied, the matter may be considered under the relevant complaints process.

Complaints about the conduct of an independent admissions appeal panel for an academy may be referred to the Department for Education, where appropriate.

## **Review and Publication**

These admission arrangements will be reviewed annually.

Any amended arrangements for the following September will be determined and published in accordance with the statutory admissions timetable.

Once determined, the admission arrangements will be published on the Mercia School website and will remain available throughout the relevant offer year.

