ADMISSIONS POLICY FROM AUGUST 2027

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October 2026

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1. INTRODUCTION

Harington School ("the School") is an academic post-16 provision offering A level courses only. It is a co-educational, non-denominational free school, governed by the Harington Local Governing Body and is operated by the Rutland and District Schools' Federation.

The School is its own admissions authority and as such is responsible for setting the criteria for admission to the School and their interpretation.

This policy is prepared and operates in line with The Equality Act 2010 and applies to all students seeking admission to the School's full time courses for students aged 16-19.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the School is 150 per year group.

This policy was determined by the Harington Local Governing Body on Thursday 15 October 2026.

2. CRITERIA

The School is open to all students who satisfy the minimum entry requirements for admission as set out below:

- A minimum of grade 4 in Maths and English Language.
- At least five grades 5s (or equivalent) GCSEs

Students will also need to meet the following subject based criteria in each subject they wish to take as an A level.

Subject	Criteria
Physics, chemistry or biology	Grade 7 in that subject at GCSE or 7 in both Combined Science grades. Students studying physics are required to study A level mathematics. Students studying chemistry and biology would also benefit from studying mathematics at A level.
Mathematics or Further Mathematics* **subject to demand and resources*	Grade 7 or above in GCSE mathematics.
Business studies	A combination of Grade 5/6 in GCSE English and GCSE mathematics or a grade 6 in GCSE business studies.
Design technology	GCSE grade 6 in design technology or the equivalent GCSE subject.
Economics	GCSE grade 6 in English and mathematics.
Psychology	GCSE grade 6 in English, grade 5 in mathematics and grade 6 in a science.
Physical education	GCSE grade 6 (or equivalent) in sport/PE A letter from a suitable qualified coach supporting your application, commitment to a sport and the current level that you train and compete at.
All other subjects	6 in the equivalent GCSE subject.
Economics and business studies	Students are not permitted to study both economics and business studies.

3. APPLICATIONS AND OFFERS

Applications must be submitted using the application form available on the School website by no later than the closing date of Monday 8 February 2027.

All offers of admission will be conditional upon applicants achieving the minimum GCSE entry requirements for their chosen subjects, as set out in this policy.

Applicants will be asked to indicate their preferred A Level subjects on the application form. An offer of a place at the School does not guarantee that a particular course will run. The School will endeavour to provide courses in line with student demand; however, courses may be withdrawn if there is insufficient uptake. The School reserves the right to amend its curriculum offer in response to student demand and operational requirements.

Students with an ECHP and have named Harington School as their chosen provider are still required to submit an admissions application.

4. LATE APPLICATIONS

All applications received by the published deadline will be considered before any late applications.

Applications received after the closing date will be considered; however, offers will only be made where places remain available or where places subsequently become available during the admissions and enrolment process.

5. OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

All students admitted to the School will be expected to meet the minimum entry requirements. Where the number of applications for places exceeds the number of places available as specified by the Planned Admission Number, the following criteria, in priority order, will be applied to determine those students that will be admitted:

1. Looked After Student
A looked after student is a student who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority, who meets the minimum entry requirements. Priority under this criterion will also be given to a previously looked after student who has ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the Adoption and Children Act 2002) or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order (under the Children Act 1989).

2. Students with Educational Health Care Plans
Students who have an Education Health Care Plan will be allocated a place at the School providing we can meet their needs and they have met the entry requirements for the subjects that they wish to study.

3. Free School Meals
Students who have been in receipt of Free School Meals in the last six years.

4. Staff Link
Where the member of staff has been employed at Harington School for two or more years at the time at which the application to the School is made; or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Sibling Link
Where there is already a sibling at the School and the sibling will either be at the School or have attended the School within the last five years at the time of admission. Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, foster brother or sister, or the child of the parent's/carer's partner where the child for whom the School place is sought is permanently living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

6. Designated Feeder Colleges
Students who currently attend the feeder colleges of:

- Catmose College, Huntsmans Drive, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6RP
- Uppingham Community College, London Road, Uppingham, Rutland, LE15 9JT

7. Distance
Students who live closest to the market towns of Oakham and Uppingham by distance. Distance is measured from the centre point of the student's home address to either:

- In Oakham, Victoria Hall, LE15 6AH
- In Uppingham, Town Hall, LE15 9PY

The route is defined as a driving route or safe walking route, whichever is the shorter, using a computerised mapping system.

Places will be allocated in advance of a family moving into the area where suitable confirmation, such as proof of property purchase, or a letting agreement for a minimum of 6 months has been received.

6. TIE BREAKER

In the case of there being oversubscription in criteria 1–5, places will be allocated using the distance criterion in 5.7. In the unlikely event that two or more students live in the same block of flats and/or in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last remaining available place at the School, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to determine which student shall be offered the place.

7. WAITING LIST

A waiting list, with applicants prioritised in line with the oversubscription criteria will operate up to the end of the first term.

8. HOME ADDRESS

In the case of a student being in the care of two separated parents or carers, the home address will be the address where the student spends the majority of school nights (i.e. Sunday to Thursday) in the week. The School may request evidence in support of such home address.

9. FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Eligibility for Free School Meals is based on specific criteria for families in receipt of Universal Credit. FSM can be Targeted, Expanded or Previously eligible within the last 6 years.

10. ADMISSIONS APPEALS

Should an application to the School be unsuccessful, the parents / carers of the student and / or the student have the right to appeal. When responding to an appeal we aim to:

- Address all the points at issue and provide an effective and prompt response
- Respect appellants rights of confidentiality;
- Ensure that any decisions made are lawful, rational and follow the guidance set out in this Admission Policy;
- Keep the appellant informed of their rights and the time-frames for the appeal process.

Time-Frames

We expect appeals to be made within 10 days of receiving notification that an admission has been unsuccessful. Additional time may be given in exceptional circumstances where there are valid reasons for a delay.

The Appeals Process

Our appeal process has two stages:

Stage 1 – Appeal heard by the Head of School

The first stage of our admission appeals process is for the appeal to be heard by the Head of School. The appellant should contact the school at office@haringtonschool.com stating that they wish to make an appeal and provide the grounds for their appeal. The Head of School should respond to this request suggesting a meeting date within 20 working days of the appeal being submitted.

Stage 2 – Appeal heard by the Governors Admission Panel

If the appellant remains dissatisfied with the Head of School response, the appeal must be referred to the Governors Admission Panel. The Clerk to the Governing Body will form a panel consisting of two Harington governors and one independent member with no previous involvement or connection to the appeal. The information provided at stage 1 and the response from the Head of School will be shared with the panel prior to the meeting. The Clerk will confirm with the appellant the details and order of the admission panel appeal. The appeal will normally be heard within 20 school days of the request. The Clerk will give the appellant a minimum of 5 ordinary days' notice of the date, time and place of the meeting.

Any reasonable request made by the appellant for an alternative date should result in a mutually convenient alternative date being set at the earliest possible time.

Appellants who do not wish to attend a meeting may present their case to the panel in writing or by email to be received no later than two days before the meeting.

Where the appellant chooses to attend in person the usual order of proceedings shall be as follows:

- The Chair of the panel will welcome the appellant and introduce the panel and confirm the procedures;
- The appellant may choose to restate the reason for why they have appealed the original admission decision;
- The appellant may be asked questions by the panel or Head of School;
- The Head of School will be asked to present a statement to the panel regarding the appeal and may be asked questions by the panel or appellant;
- Both parties are provided with the opportunity to summarise their case;
- The appellant and Head of school will be asked to leave the meeting;
- In private, the panel will discuss the issues raised and agree whether to uphold the appeal or not. The Clerk will remain to record the conclusions reached;
- Where possible, the two parties will be informed of the decision as soon as is practicable and the outcome will then be confirmed in writing by the Clerk within 5 days of the meeting.

There is no further right to appeal.