

ADMISSIONS POLICY

*This policy applies to the whole college, including boarding, and is publicly available at natmatci.ac.uk.
Hard copies and accessible formats are available on request from the College Office.*

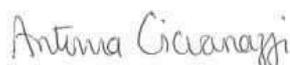
Legal Status:

- Complies with the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) (Amendment) Regulations currently in force.
- Part 3 of the Students and Families Act 2014 and the *SEN Disability Code of Practice, 0-25 years 2014 (SEND Code 2015)*.

Applies to: Whole College, including boarding.

Monitoring and Review: This policy is subject to continuous monitoring, review and refinement by the Principal. The Proprietors will undertake a full annual audit of the policy, its procedures and the efficiency of the associated policy systems. This review will be documented in writing and any deficiencies identified by the Proprietors will be remedied immediately. The policy may be reviewed earlier than the date given below, if significant changes to the systems and arrangements of the College take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require. All College Staff will be informed of any updates or amendments made to this policy.

Signed:



Antonia Giovanazzi
Principal



Dr Elizabeth McFarlane
Proprietors' Nominated Person

Date of policy review and update: April 2019

Date of next review: April 2020



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ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

NMSC operates selective entry based on successful completion of the College Entry Assessment tests along with an interview with the Principal. This process helps the admissions team to decide if NMSC is the best place for you to study for your A levels and which of our programmes of study will help you achieve your full potential.

At NMSC we have two programmes of study available: our **A Level Programme (2 years)** leading to A level certification and our **Pre-A Level programme (1 year)** which builds students’ knowledge and skill base in Science, Mathematics and English, enabling students to join our A level programme the following year.

A Level Programme (2 years)

To study on the A Level Programme, you will need the following GCSE or iGCSE qualifications:

- At least 6 (i)GCSEs at level 7.5;
- Level 7.5 in any subject you wish to study at A Level;
- Level 8 in Mathematics.

If you wish to study Chemistry, Biology or Physics at A Level, you must have GCSE level 7.5.

Some A level subjects require higher or additional qualifications, specifically Further Mathematics and Economics. Please see the relevant subject pages on [our website](#), for the most up to date information.

If you are not studying the GCSE/iGCSE programme, our admissions team will assess your qualifications and your most recent school reports

International students must also have an IELTS overall score of 5.5

All offers for international students are conditional on obtaining an IELTS overall score of 5.5.

Students not in possession of an IELTS score of 5.5 may be required to enter the Pre-A Level Programme.



Pre-A level Programme (1 year)

To study on the Pre-A Level with us, you will need to provide:

- A school report showing your academic achievements for the last 2 years;
- A minimum IELTS overall score of 4.0.

All offers for international students are conditional on obtaining a minimum IELTS overall score of 4.0.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

All prospective students are required to:

- Sit Entry Assessments in Mathematics and English
- Attend an interview, in person or online, with the Principal & Senior Teacher
- Provide a copy of the student's most recent school report

Our admissions team will then consider your suitability to study with us, based on your performance during the application process, your school record and other factors.

On successful completion of the above, NMSC will issue a **Place Offer letter**. To accept a place, parents must complete and return the Acceptance Form together with the registration fee and refundable deposit, which will secure the student's place at NMSC.

Information about how to pay, including payment by instalments, and the dates by which payment should be received, are included in the Place Offer letter.

Our Application Process can also be found on our website at natmatsci.ac.uk/apply.

Please follow this easy step by step guide:

1. Complete the application form. This can be done online using the **enquiry form** or contact your local agent for further information.
2. Sit the Entry Assessment tests in Mathematics and English at 'in country' agent offices of agents or at your school (by prior arrangement) and have an online interview with the Principal & Senior Teacher. This will be arranged at a date and time convenient to you.
3. We will request a reference from the Head or Principal of your school. Not necessary if we have school reports so we can delete this.
4. Normally you will be notified within 10 working days of the outcome of your application.

ENTRY ASSESSMENTS

You will be formally assessed on your skills in Mathematics and English. Details can be found below of what to expect, to help you prepare. You will also have an interview with our Principal, which is an opportunity to demonstrate your English-speaking skills as you discuss why you are passionate about STEM A Level subjects.

Mathematics

A strong foundation in Mathematics is needed to ensure that you can fully engage with the College's curriculum. In the Mathematics Entry Assessments test, we are generally interested in the higher GCSE Mathematics Algebra and Geometry topics:

- Quadratics, including: solving by factorising; the quadratic formula; difference of two squares; completing the square; features of parabolas; use of the discriminant
- Algebra, including: simultaneous equations and points of intersection; simplifying algebraic fractions; laws of indices; laws of indices



- Triangle geometry, including: Pythagoras' theorem; trigonometry; the sine and cosine rules; area of a triangle given two sides and included angle; graphs of $y=\sin(x)$ and $y=\cos(x)$
- Circle geometry, including: area and circumference of a circle; circle theorems; area of a sector; arc length; volume of a sphere; volume of a cone
- Sequences, including: sum of an arithmetic sequence and the formula $1+2+\dots+n=\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$
- Properties of numbers, including: greatest common divisors and lowest common multiples; manipulating surds and rationalising the denominator

Section A of the assessment is more straightforward and will give us an idea of your technical skills. Section B of the assessment has two questions of which you must answer one of your choosing. It requires more reasoning and is designed to be a challenge (you don't need to answer both questions in Section B, but you may if you wish). There may be some question types in the assessment which feel unfamiliar, but it will always be possible to solve the problems using careful, imaginative reasoning and the concepts mentioned above.

English

The English assessment will consist of two parts and is designed to gather information about English competency and skill level, as well as giving us an insight into your critical thinking skills.

Part 1: The Oxford Online Placement Test is an online test which helps us to place you into the appropriate level class. The test is adapted to your individual level and will be different for each student.

Part 2: Writing assessment. This assessment gives you the opportunity to demonstrate your critical thinking skills in English. You will have 15 minutes to complete the task, with no word limit.

Some possible essay titles are:

- What do you think is the best invention in history? Describe the invention and explain why you think it is so important.
- How do you think will the world change in the next 100 years?
- How do you think science and technology make our lives easier?
- Science is the most important school subject. Do you agree or disagree?

INTERVIEW

Following your assessments, you will be invited to an interview and feedback session, in person or online, with the Principal and members of the academic team. During the interview we will discuss your mathematics assessment with you and find out more about you. It will also be an opportunity for you to ask us questions about College life. The interview will last approximately 30 minutes.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Visa Application Process

- If you are successful in your application, our admissions team will manage your visa application process.
- If you have a query you can submit it using our enquiry form.

English as an Additional Language

Our College makes provision for students who have English as an additional language (EAL) in the assessment procedure. We do not regard students as having a 'learning difficulty' solely because the 'language or medium of communication of the home is different from the language in which he or she is or will be taught' (Education Act 1996, Section 312(1), (2) and (3)). All students will be assessed in English to ensure equal access they have full



access to the appropriate curriculum. Our College has a policy and procedures for students requiring English as an Additional Language (EAL).

Additional Needs

Special Educational Needs are known as 'Additional Needs' at NMSC. Where a student who has additional needs joins the College, we will always consult with parents to ensure that the required curriculum is provided. The College will make reasonable adjustments to meet the additional needs of student. Any additional services that are needed to meet the requirements of a Statement or additional services, such as dyslexic tuition, will be subject to a charge. The College has limited facilities for students with additional needs but will do all that is reasonable to comply with its legal and moral responsibilities, to accommodate the needs of applicants who have additional needs for which, with reasonable adjustments, the College can cater adequately.

It is very important that the parents of students who have received special services or who believe they may need support, contact the College as soon as possible. Specific information relating to a child in need of special services will be considered by the College, who will make determinations about admissions.



[Our admissions process](#) helps to guide our decisions on the best programme of study for each student. If you are unsure about which programme is right for you or you'd like some further details, please contact our Admissions Manager:

Lara Hoffman, admissions@natmatsci.ac.uk

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