



S T A F F O R D

14-19 Partnership

Admissions and Student Progression Policy

Signature: M Winkle
Chair of Governors

Name: M Winkle

Date: 24/07/2026

Signature: M Smart
Stafford 14-19 Partnership

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CHANGE CONTROL

Date	Issue	Details of Change
21.03.13	1.0	Initial Approved Version Controlled Document
12.03.2020	1.1	Changed logo and updated to reflect current practice
05.05.2021	1.2	Changed to accept V1.1 changes
22.09.2021	1.3	Added paragraph back into p.2 that was removed in error
11.10.2023	1.4	Added clearer processes for appeals
18.09.2025	1.5	Adapted to include base school course requirements and

		remove mixed entry criteria.
04.06.2026	1.6	Updated entry criteria

Admissions and Student Progression Policy

The aim of Stafford 14-19 Partnership is to maximise the opportunities for all students in Stafford by ensuring they have access to the broadest possible 16-19 curriculum. The Partnership aims to provide high quality education in a supportive community of schools. Our success is based on students following a full-time programme of academic or applied technical qualifications and tutorial and enrichment courses (minimum of 540 GLH per year), though this requirement may be waived in exceptional cases, where the educational needs of individual students require a reduction of programme. Thus, all students who apply to enter Year 12 must follow a study programme consisting of a minimum of three blocks of study at Level 3, alongside the enrichment and tutorial programme provided by their base school. All subject options can be found on the Stafford Sixth Form website. Students must study at least 1 of their subjects at their base school.

Eligible Applicants

Normally eligible applicant will meet the following criteria:

- Normally 16 or in curriculum year 12 at the start of their course unless there has been an interruption to their education.
- Enrolled at one of the Partner schools for the duration of the course.
- Meet the entry requirements for their chosen course.
- A current student who meets the progression criteria to move from Y12 to Y13
- Have not previously achieved a full qualification at the same level as their chosen course.

The Partnership schools are committed to ensuring that disabled people, including those with learning difficulties, are treated fairly. All reasonable adjustments to provision will be made to ensure that disabled students are not substantially disadvantaged.

In year applications will be considered on a case by case basis.

The Partnership schools reserve the right to refuse admission to any student whose behaviour/attitude/attendance at Key Stage 4 does not or has not met the high standards necessary for success in our post-16 offer.

Entry Criteria

The standard entry criteria to study in the sixth form is 9-5 in at least five different subjects, including English and mathematics.

- To study other subjects already taken at GCSE students must achieve at least a grade 5 or above in that subject.
- To study mathematics students will be required to achieve at least grade 6 or above at GCSE.

- To study modern foreign languages or music students will be required to achieve at least grade 6 or above in that subject at GCSE.
- To study science subjects at A-level (biology, chemistry or physics), students are required to achieve at least a 6 grade in additional science or have achieved at least 6 or above in the individual subject area if taken as a separate science.
- To study psychology students will be required to achieve at least grade 5 in biology.
- For some A-levels with a high mathematical content (particularly computing, chemistry and physics), GCSE at grade 6 in mathematics is also required.

Admissions Panel

Students can be referred to the Admissions Panel where an applicant:

- Has not met entry criteria but there are known mitigating circumstances;
- Wishes to repeat a year of a course.

The panel comprises representatives of heads from partner schools and the Partnership Manager. It meets during the first week of the Autumn Term. Students are required to submit their back up plan for the appeals meeting and any supporting information they wish the panel to hear. Students, parents/carers may attend the meeting if they wish to present their own case in support of their appeal.

After the meeting the Partnership Manager will send the outcomes to the relevant heads of sixth form who will contact their students to inform them of the outcome.

Students will be monitored to ensure they are achieving their full potential if they are admitted onto the course.

The panel reserves the right not to offer a place on a course to students who it believes would not benefit from it. If a student is unsuccessful in their application to one partnership school, they cannot be admitted any schools within the partnership.

Progression from Y12 to Y13

Progression from Y12 into Y13 can be withheld if the Partnership feels the student is not academically ready to progress into Y13 and they will be offered the opportunity to re-take Y12.

Students wishing to transfer from one partner to another after Y12 must apply formally to the new provider with an academic reference from their current provider.

Students following BTEC or similar qualifications must have submitted all their first year assignments at a pass standard by the end of the summer term of Y12 to progress to Y13. The agreement of the provider must be sought for any student who wishes to repeat a year of an A-level course.