



CALDEW SCHOOL

Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements 2026-2027

Policy legally required

Reviewed under Student Welfare and Guidance Committee

On school website

Reviewed annually

Adopted: November 2025

Next review: September 2026

NOTE: Caldew School is an Academy and where reference is made to school(s) this should be taken to refer to 'academy' in so far as the reference specifically applies to Caldew School.

Introduction

It is the intention of the school to provide access to its Sixth Form provision for students who attend Caldew School, and those students from elsewhere who wish to join the Sixth Form, as long as there is a course of study which is at an appropriate level and there is space available for them.

Admissions Number

To achieve this, the following guidelines will be observed:

The maximum anticipated capacity of the Sixth Form will be 110 students in Year 12, the normal year of entry, and 90 in Y13 giving a maximum grand total of 200. Of these the majority will be transfers from Year 11 at Caldew School.

The published admission number for students admitted to Caldew from other schools will be 15 students in Y12 and 10 students in Y13. These students will be included in the maximum capacity figure above.

It is highly unlikely that this maximum capacity will be reached, but priority for places will always be given to children in public care.

The Admissions Policy

The basic requirement for admission to Caldew Sixth Form is that a course of study is available at an appropriate level. The Sixth Form does not offer courses at Level 2 or below, except for English and Maths at GCSE for those who have not achieved grade 4 or better:

Therefore, **the minimum qualification for entry into the sixth form will be that Level 2** (5 or more 9-4 GCSE grades or equivalent) **has already been gained**. It will normally be expected that a student has passed both Maths and English at Grade 4 or higher; admissions to students not achieving these grades will be at the discretion of the Headteacher. This will be the same for new entrants to the school and for those transferring from Y11.

The Sixth Form aims to accommodate a wide range of subject choices. However, if the number of places available in a given subject is less than the number of students wishing to take that subject, then the following over-subscription criteria will be applied in the following order to determine who may occupy the places available:

1. 'Looked after children' or children who have previously been looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order.
2. Students who meet the entry requirements for the subject (as set out in the school's post -16 subject guidance information).
3. Students with the highest grades at GCSE in the subject (or equivalent form of evidence of current aptitude and future potential, if the subject has not previously been studied to examination level eg art portfolio; instrumental music grades; GCSE in parallel humanities subject).
4. Students who have previously expressed the highest preference for the subject on their Sixth Form Choice form.
5. Students with the highest total average points score, using the best 8 grades methodology.
6. Students with the highest total average points score including all qualifications.

Note 1: A 'looked after child' is a child who (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions as defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989.

Suitable alternative courses or arrangements will always be explored in such circumstances to ensure that each student is following an appropriate course which will lead to meaningful future progression.

The Right of Appeal

Any student who is not offered a place has a right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. The panel is entirely independent of the Governing Body. Any student wishing to appeal should contact the Clerk to the Governors in writing at the school address.