



Sixth Form Admission Policy

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Contents

Introductory Statement	3
Admission	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Entrance Requirement	4
Enrollment	5
Induction Day	6
Summer Holiday Work	6
Right og Appeal	6

Introductory statement

Swanlea School and Sixth Form is a large, vibrant and thriving secondary school in the heart of London. With approximately 250 students in Key Stage 5, our dedicated staff work alongside exceptional colleagues to support students in achieving outstanding outcomes at every stage of their journey.

Our students consistently progress to highly competitive universities or secure prestigious degree apprenticeships. Specialist careers guidance and a rich programme of extracurricular opportunities are central to our offer, ensuring every student is equipped with the skills, knowledge and confidence to pursue the best possible future pathways.

Underpinning all that we do are our core values of Respect, Aspire, and Achieve. These principles shape our culture, inspire our ambitions and drive our commitment to helping every learner reach their full potential.

1. Admissions

Swanlea Sixth Form will have a total capacity of 250 places (full-time equivalent) for students in the age range 16-19.

Admission to Year 12 is open to approximately 125 students who are turning 17 during that academic year.

Students must apply to Swanlea Sixth Form using the online digital application form and complete all mandatory fields. References will be requested from external applicants.

a. Applying for places

The closing date for 'expressions of interest' to join Swanlea Sixth Form is Friday 20th February 2026. Applicants should apply on the online form which can be accessed by clicking the 'Apply tab' on the website from the 9th January 2026.

Applicants will be invited to interview between Monday 22nd February – Friday 9th March 2026. Attendance at interview does not necessarily mean a student has been accepted in to Swanlea Sixth Form. All decisions about places will be made on results day.

b. Internal Admissions

Up to 90 of the available 125 places available are offered as a priority to our current Year 11 students who are progressing into Year 12, providing that they meet our entry requirements.

c. External Admissions

After allocating 90 places for our current Year 11 students, up to 35 places will then be offered to students from other secondary schools, providing that they meet our entry requirements.

Although we can offer 35 places to external students, we cannot guarantee that there will be places available in individual subjects on enrolment day.

All students who apply before the final deadline and who meet the entry criteria will be offered an interview in the spring term. Students who attend their interview will then be given a conditional offer.

The offer will be conditional on the applicant:

- Providing the necessary documents to process their application (a form of photo ID and proof of address)
- Meeting the exam entry requirements
- Demonstrating that they have good attendance and punctuality.

- The offer will also be conditional on there being places on the applicant's chosen courses at the time at which the applicant enrolls on enrolment day.

d. Late Applications

Late applications will only be considered if there are places remaining at Swanlea Sixth Form or on a specific course.

e. In year applicants

We do not normally accept in-year applications due to the quantity of work that will have been missed. In-year applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis and only where the student has studied the same exam board and the same units.

f. Oversubscription

If there are more external applicants than places available, places will be offered in priority order based on the average points score achieved across all GCSE subjects taken by the applicant. The applicant with the higher score will have priority.

g. Withdrawal of an offer

Swanlea Sixth Form reserves the right to withdraw an offer of a place if false or misleading information is provided. Applicants should be aware that Swanlea Sixth Form carries out checks to confirm predicted and actual GCSE grades.

2. Entrance Requirements

A Level subjects: Students must have at least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 5 and above, including English **and** Maths. They must also meet the subject criteria as shown below in the A Level subjects we offer.

Vocational Level 3: Students must have at least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 and above, including English **OR** Maths. Students who have **either English OR Maths at level 3**, not below, **have to retake** that subject and pass it in Year 12.

Subject	Level	Entry Requirements
A Level Art	3	Art Grade 5 and English Grade 5
A Level Biology	3	Grade 6+ in Biology or Grade 7-7+ in Combined Science and Maths Grade 5+
A Level Chemistry	3	Grade 6+ in Chemistry or Grade 7-7+ in Combined Science and Maths Grade 5+
A Level Computer Science	3	English and Maths Grade 6+
A Level Economics	3	English and Maths Grade 5+
A Level English Literature		English Language Grade 6+
A Level Geography	3	English and Maths Grade 5+ and

		Geography Grade 5
A Level History	3	English Grade 5+ and History Grade 5+
A Level Maths	3	Maths Grade 7+ and English Grade 5+
A Level Physics	3	Grade 6+ in Physics or Grade 7-7+ in Combined Science and Maths Grade 6+ It is compulsory that you study A Level Maths alongside A Level Physics
A Level Politics	3	English Grade 5+
A Level Psychology	3	English Grade 5+ and Maths Grade 5+
A Level Religious Studies	3	English Grade 5+ and RE Grade 5+
A Level Sociology	3	English Grade 5+
BTEC Extended Certificate in Business	3	English Grade 4+ or Maths Grade 4+
BTEC Extended Certificate in Computing	3	English Grade 4+ or Maths Grade 4+
BTEC Extended Certificate in Early Childhood Development	3	English Grade 4+ or Maths Grade 4+ and Science Grade 4-4+
BTEC Extended Certificate in Medical Science	3	English Grade 4+ or Maths Grade 4+ and Science Grade 4-4+
BTEC Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care	3	English Grade 4+ or Maths Grade 4+ and Science Grade 4-4+
GCSE English (retake)	2	Must be completing a vocational course
GCSE Maths (retake)	2	Must be completing a vocational course

Class sizes

There is a maximum class size for all A-Level, BTEC and GCSE retake classes although some popular courses will offer more than one class to accommodate students.

3. Enrolment

On enrolment day students will be interviewed again to check their course choices and that they have the appropriate qualifications for the courses they have chosen. Please note that students who have had persistent attendance issues in Year 11 may not be offered a place at Swanlea Sixth Form.

On GCSE Results Day, external applicants will be required to upload a copy of their GCSE results to our admission portal by 12pm and attend an enrolment meeting on the same day.

Students (or an adult representative) must be available to attend the enrolment meeting at their scheduled time slot. Please note that an invitation to an enrolment meeting is no guarantee of a place in the Sixth Form which will be dependent on the GCSE grades achieved and the course availability of the combination of subjects selected by the applicant, but the applicant will know by the end of the meeting whether the Sixth Form can offer them a place.

It is unlikely that an applicant will be enrolled on to a course where they have missed the minimum entry criteria.

4. Induction Day

Students are expected to attend a Sixth Form induction day. Details will be confirmed during enrolment.

5. Summer Holiday Work

Students are expected to complete Summer Holiday HW for subjects they have received conditional offers for, this work will be set via an online platform.

6. Right of appeal

Where a student is not offered a place or an offer is withdrawn, the student has the right to appeal the decision. This should be done in writing to the board of governors no later than twenty days after notice that the offer has been refused.