

Belper School Sixth Form Entry Criteria 2026-2028

All candidates are expected to have achieved a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grades 4-9 including GCSE mathematics and GCSE English Language or Literature. There are also subject specific requirements as detailed below. We have these entry requirements to ensure that students can thrive in their chosen subjects and they allow classes to study the curriculum content in depth. Students choose three A levels or a course that is equivalent. In some cases four subjects may be considered, if a student chooses Core Maths or Further Maths.

In addition to our academic entry criteria, students should be able to demonstrate that they are able to commit to study at this level and make a positive contribution to Belper School Sixth Form.

Subject specific entry criteria	
A Levels and Level 3 courses	
Art: Fine Art	GCSE Art Grade 5
Art: Graphic Communication	GCSE Fine Art or Graphic Art Grade 5
Art: Photography	GCSE Grade 5 in a creative subject Students who have a passion for photography with no GCSE in a creative subject
Biology	GCSE Science 6/6, GCSE Maths 6
Business	GCSE Maths Grade 5 and GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 5 Previous study of GCSE Business or a Level 2 Business qualification to Grade 5 equivalent is desirable.
Chemistry	GCSE Science Grades 6/6 or above and GCSE Maths Grade 6
Computer Science	GCSE Computer Science Grade 5 or above or Level 2 ICT qualification Pass or above
Criminology	GCSE English Language or English Literature Grade 5
D&T: Design	GCSE Grade 5 in a creative subject
Drama & Theatre Studies	GCSE Drama Grade 6
Economics	GCSE Maths Grade 5 and GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 5. Previous study of GCSE Business or a Level 2 Business qualification to Grade 5 equivalent is desirable.
English Language	GCSE English Language or English Literature Grade 6
English Literature	GCSE English Language or English Literature Grade 6
Film Studies	GCSE Media Grade 5 or GCSE English Language or English Literature Grade 6 if Media not taken at GCSE
Food, Science and Nutrition	GCSE Grade 5 in a relevant Food subject
Further Mathematics	GCSE Maths Grade 7
Geography	GCSE Geography Grade 5
Geology	GCSE Grade 5/5 in Science
History	GCSE History Grade 5
Mathematics A Level	GCSE Maths Grade 6
Mathematics Core	GCSE Maths Grade 5
Media Studies	GCSE Media 5 or GCSE English Language or English Literature Grade 6 if Media not taken at GCSE
Modern Languages	GCSE Languages Grade 6

Music	GCSE Grade 4+ in Music BTEC Music L2 M+ (or similar vocational qualification) Instrumental Grades (ABRSM/Trinity/Rock School) Grade 4+
Physical Education	GCSE Physical Education Grade 6 or BTEC Physical Education Distinction Science (Biology) and Maths minimum Grade 5 Candidates must be taking part in regular organised competitive sport outside of school for assessment purposes.
Physics	GCSE Science Grades 6/6 or above and GCSE Maths Grade 6
Politics	GCSE History Grade 5 or English Language or English Literature Grade 5
Psychology	GCSE Maths Grade 5 and English Language or English Literature Grade 5
Sociology	GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 5
BTEC – Each subject is equivalent to 3 A Levels	
Art and Design Practice	GCSE Grade 5 in an Art subject. A portfolio of artwork to be reviewed at interview.
Enrichment subjects (all students will participate in one Enrichment subject to be decided on following enrolment)	
Arts Award	
Community Sports Leadership	
Extended Project Qualification	
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	
Young Enterprise	