



Admissions Process September 2025 Entry

Overview

Whalley Range Sixth Form is a well-established college, providing academic and vocational courses for young women of all abilities. We ensure progression to Higher Education, apprenticeships and/or employment. The vision for our Sixth Form is to prepare our students to change the world by developing their independence and leadership skills, allowing them to make a real difference in their studies and to meet their full potential in their lives.

Whalley Range Sixth Form welcomes applications from all students and supports those with additional needs and disabilities to access the curriculum. The Sixth Form aims to ensure that the recruitment of students is undertaken in a fair and non-discriminatory manner in line with the school's Equality Policy.

The admissions authority for the school is the Greater Manchester Education Trust who have approved this policy.

Policy

All students offered a place must agree to subscribe to the standards and expectations of students enrolled with us, and the wider sixth form ethos.

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to maintaining an open access policy in which each individual applicant is treated on an individual case. Applicants will be provided with clear information about entry requirements for each course and these will inform discussions at the enrolment stage. If there are concerns about a student's ability to study a particular course, the sixth form will seek to establish the potential of that student, to develop the underpinning skills necessary for success, advise the student of the most appropriate course of study to support their future ambitions, and where appropriate, will provide an appropriate support package to enable a successful outcome.

Course guidance and course requirements will be reviewed on an annual basis in the light of student retention, achievement rates and changes in the curriculum.

Widening Participation

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to increasing and widening participation in education and training. Applications to attend Sixth Form courses are actively encouraged from all interested individuals in the local community and beyond who are aged 16-18. Information about financial and learning support will be provided at every stage of the admissions journey.

Guidance

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to providing impartial guidance in the admissions process to help applicants to choose the course or programme which is right for them. Key in this guidance is ensuring full discussion and consideration is given to a programme of study which is consistent with, and fully supports, the progression plans of the applicant.

Confidentiality

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to ensuring confidentiality during the admissions process to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018. Whalley Range Sixth Form treats the confidentiality of applications very seriously. Government legislation means we may share basic information, but no further.

Equality of Opportunity

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to ensuring that the admissions process will be open and transparent, and that no individual or group receives less favourable treatment by virtue of protected characteristics, for example but not exclusive to age, disability, economic status, faith, gender, marital status, sexuality, race, colour, nationality including citizenship, ethnic or national origin.

Whalley Range Sixth Form will actively combat discrimination in all its forms by implementing effective policies and empowering staff and students to take appropriate action.

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to ensuring that people with disabilities, including those with learning difficulties, are treated fairly. All reasonable adjustments to provision will be made to ensure that individuals with disabilities are not disadvantaged.

Whalley Range Sixth Form aims to extend the diversity of its student population through the development of an inclusive learning environment.

GCSE Maths and English

Whalley Range Sixth Form is committed to making sure that students have the best qualifications possible, particularly in English and Maths. Employers, universities and other progression routes will expect students to have reached a suitable standard in these subjects, and we expect students to give priority to studying them alongside their main course.

All students at Whalley Range Sixth Form who do not have a GCSE grade 4 or above in Maths and English must continue to study towards this level whilst they attend Whalley Range Sixth Form.

Special Educational Needs/Disabilities

The application process provides the opportunity for applicants to identify how they would like to let Whalley Range Sixth Form know about any help they are likely to need, for example by talking confidentially to a member of staff at their interview, by talking confidentially to a member of staff by telephone, in writing, or through someone else such as an advocate, parent or carer who will accompany the applicant to interview.

Whalley Range Sixth Form will help applicants with additional needs /disabilities by helping to assess their learning needs and by providing access to additional support where appropriate.

Applicants with an Educational Health Care Plan will be supported through the local authority to ensure that Whalley Range Sixth Form is able to offer a suitable course and is equipped to meet their individual needs, through liaison with our SENDCO.

International Students – Please see [LINK](#)

Whalley Range Sixth Form does not hold a UK Border Agency sponsor licence under Tier 4 of the points-based system and therefore cannot accept applications or possible enrolments from students who want to study full-time in the United Kingdom using a Student Visa. We welcome applications from qualifying students, and we will require evidence of appropriate qualifications equivalent to GCSE/Level 2 to allow us to determine the most appropriate qualifications for study. This would normally take the form of a ENIC certificate provided by ECTIS (which replaces the NARIC certificate) provided by the applicant before enrolment.

Applications from current Year 11 students to join Whalley Range Sixth Form in Year 12.

Applications for Whalley Range Sixth Form should be submitted online by the 31st January 2025.

All students who submit an application by 31st January 2025 will be invited to interview. It is an expectation that students attend interview at the time stated, if students do not attend their interview without informing us first, we reserve the right to withdraw the offer of this place.

Any applications received by Whalley Range Sixth Form after this time will be considered a late application. Invitations to interview will be made at the discretion of the Head of Whalley Range Sixth Form.

Applications from students not currently in Year 11 to join Whalley Range Sixth Form in Year 12

Only in exceptional circumstances will current Whalley Range Sixth Form students be authorised to restart Year 12.

Students wanting to join Whalley Range Sixth Form in Year 12 from another post 16 educational institution will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Applicants must complete the application form and clearly indicate the institution where they are currently studying and not their previous high school. Full reasons for wanting to study at Whalley Range Sixth Form, reasons for changing sixth form provision/course and as much information as possible about the exceptional circumstances to be considered must be given.

Applications to Whalley Range Sixth Form from students who will be 18 years and older when they plan to start studying will not be considered as Whalley Range Sixth Form has no available provision for adult learners.

Entry Requirements

The entry requirements for Whalley Range Sixth Form, both general and subject specific are detailed below. Students must meet these requirements in order to obtain a place with us for September 2025. The entry criteria are the same for both internal and external applicants.

<https://wrhs1118.co.uk/sixthform/wrsf-courses/wrsf-entry-requirements>

General Requirements

Pathway	Entry Requirements
A Level (4)	All GCSE grades 8/9
A Level (3)	5 x GCSE grades 9-4 including 2 x grades 6s and 4+ in Maths and 4+ in English Language
T Level	5 x GCSE grades 9-4 including 2 x grades 5s and 4+ in Maths and 4+ in English Language
Blended Pathway (2 A Levels and Extended Certificate) or (1 A Level and Diploma)	5 x GCSE grades 9-4 including 4+ in Maths and 4+ in English Language
Applied (Diploma and Extended Certificate)	5 x GCSE grades 9-4 including 4+ in English Language
Intermediate Vocational Level 2 pathway	Level 2 pathway: fewer than 5 x grades 9-5 with the majority of GCSE grades are 3s including minimum grade 2 in both Maths & English Language. You must have achieved at least 1 grade 4 in a subject other than Maths or English Language to be eligible for this course

Subject specific requirements

A Level

Arabic: Grade 5 in GCSE Arabic

Business Studies: Grade 4 in GCSE Business Studies (If taken).

Computer Science: Grade 4 in GCSE Computer Science (If taken).

English Language: Grade 5 in English Language.

English Literature: Grade 5 in English Literature.

Geography: Grade 5 in Geography or Science.

History: GCSE grade 5 in History or English Language.

Maths: GCSE grade 6 in Maths.

Media Studies: Grade 5 in English Language.

A Level Science: 1 of either Biology, Chemistry or Physics: Combined Science Grade 6-5, Separate Science Grade 6,6,5, Maths Grade 5.

2 of either Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths: Combined Science Grade 6-6, Separate Science Grade 6,6,6 Maths Grade 6.

3 of either: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths: 2 x Grade 7s and 1 Grade 6 in GCSE Combined Science, Separate Science, GCSE Maths.

Psychology: Grade 5 in Science.

Religious Studies: Grade 5 in English Language.

Sociology: Grade 5 in English Language is beneficial but not essential.

Urdu: Grade 5 in GCSE Urdu.

Applied

Business Diploma and Extended Certificate: Grade 4 in English.

HSC Diploma and Extended Certificate: Grade 4 in English.

Applied Science Diploma and Extended Certificate: Grade 5-4 in Core Science and Grade 4 in English.

Criminology Diploma: Grade 4 in English.

IT AAQ: Grade 4 in English.

Conditions of a conditional offer

Internal and external students must meet the same academic admissions criteria to be admitted to the Sixth Form. An applicant holding a conditional offer will need to meet the entry requirements for Whalley Range Sixth Form and their individual selected courses. Evidence of this should be shown on enrolment, where their conditional offer will be changed to unconditional. Applicants are advised to do this on their first enrolment day. All applicants will be enrolled on Thursday 21st August 2025. Places on the courses are allocated to those who arrive for the enrolment on this first day until the courses become full. We may hold waiting lists for some subjects where there is oversubscription.

Whalley Range Sixth Form retains the right to determine which courses are available for students to study as well as the right to determine the maximum number of places on a course and how these places are allocated.

The Sixth Form will have a combined Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 12 and Year 13 which cannot exceed 320.

Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applicants the school's Sixth Form is oversubscribed, parents/carers may request that the applicant student is placed on a waiting list.

In-year applications

In year applications can be made anytime during the two-year programme. However, since the introduction of linear A Level and Vocational qualifications, it is more difficult for students to transfer to Whalley Range Sixth Form after the start of teaching. All Level 3 courses at Whalley Range Sixth Form are taught over a two-year period and colleges are free to choose which exam board they use as well as the order of teaching. This inevitably will cause difficulties for any student seeking to transfer mid-year.

Applications to transfer to Whalley Range Sixth Form will be considered on an individual basis and full details of exceptional circumstances should be provided.

Applications from students who could continue at their current institution will not normally be considered.

Students will be invited to interview at the discretion of the Head of Sixth Form and will need to be accompanied by a parent or carer. Any offer of a place would be subject to the normal admissions criteria for Whalley Range Sixth Form and the receipt of supportive academic references from the student's previous school/college.

Progression to Year 13

Students who fail to achieve a record of continuous effort to make good progress in their Year 12 studies, will, at the end of Year 12, be invited with their parents/carers, to a consultation to discuss progression routes based upon Year 12 progress.

Please note:

Proof of qualifications, identity and residence may be required from applicants. Whalley Range Sixth Form may withdraw a place at a later date if false, incorrect or misleading information has been provided. Parents/carers must inform Whalley Range Sixth Form of any changes to their address or circumstances.

Right of Appeal

Under the terms of Education Act 1998, all candidates and parents/carers of candidates refused admission have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel against any decision made by Whalley Range Sixth Form. The decision of the Independent Appeals Panel is binding on both Whalley Range Sixth Form and parents/carers.