

Entry Requirements for entry in September 2025

Please note that the minimum entry requirements for Didsbury Sixth Form are 6 GCSEs at Grade 6, including English and Mathematics. In addition, some subjects have specific entry requirements.

Art and Design	Grade 7 in GCSE Art and Design
Biology	Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or Grade 7-7 in Combined Science. In addition, due to the content of the new GCSE specifications, we recommend that students have taken separate sciences at GCSE.
Chemistry	Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or Grade 7-7 in Combined Science and a minimum of Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics. In addition, due to the content of the new GCSE specifications, we recommend that students have taken separate sciences at GCSE.
Computer Science	Grade 7 in Computer Science or Grade 7 in Mathematics. Given the heavy mathematical and logical elements of the course, we strongly advise you study either A Level Maths or Core Maths alongside Computer Science. There is no requirement you to have a GCSE in Computer Science, but it would be highly beneficial for you to have experienced programming to a GCSE level prior to the course.
Drama and Theatre	Grade 6 in GCSE Drama. Students who have not studied GCSE Drama will need to be able to prove a performance level that is appropriate for A Level.
Economics	Grade 7 in GCSE English or Mathematics. GCSE Economics is not required.
English Language	Grade 6 in GCSE English Language
English Literature	Grade 6 in GCSE English Language and English Literature
Geography	Grade 7 in GCSE Geography
History	Grade 7 in GCSE History
History of Art	Grade 6 in English Literature and/ or History
Mathematics	Minimum Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics
Mathematics (Further)	Minimum Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics
Media Studies	Grade 6 in English Language OR English Literature. GCSE Media Studies is NOT required.

Modern Foreign Languages (French, Spanish)	Grade 7 GCSE in the chosen language
Music	Grade 6 in GCSE Music or ability to play an instrument and read music at Grade 5 level (ABRSM or equivalent). If you have not studied GCSE Music, you will need to be able to prove a performance level that is appropriate for A Level.
Philosophy	Grade 6 in a relevant Humanities subject at GCSE (ideally Religious Studies or History)
Photography	Grade 7 in either Art or Photography. Access to the course may be granted upon the production of a portfolio.
Physical Education	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE PE; if you have not studied this course, you will need to have studied either Btec Sport or Cambridge National at Distinction Level or above and have a grade 7 in GCSE Biology or a 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science. Additionally, you must either participate in a sport outside Sixth Form or you must coach a sport with a Level 1 NGB qualification. Please note that the activity must appear on the OCR A Level PE recognised activity list.
Physics	Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or Grade 7-7 in Combined Science and a Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics. In addition, due to the content of the new GCSE specifications, we recommend that students have taken separate sciences at GCSE. Due to the similarities between subjects and future progression, students wishing to take A Level Physics must also take A Level Mathematics.
Politics	Grade 7 in GCSE English Language or a relevant Humanities subject at GCSE
Psychology	Grade 6 in a Separate Science GCSE or Grade 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science
Mathematics (Core) Level 3 Certificate	No additional entry requirements

Didsbury Sixth Form reserves the right to withdraw any courses or make alterations.