



# HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

“Develop all learners to achieve their full potential”

“Create a culture of aspiration”



## ADMISSION POLICY

Hearor Gate Science College is part of the Spencer Academy Trust and is a specialist Science College. Our aims for the school are to DEVELOP ALL LEARNERS TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL and to CREATE A CULTURE OF ASPIRATION. This is what we all firmly believe in and strive to achieve at all times.

It is a mixed 11-18 secondary school offering high quality secondary education to children in the community. Our school ethos of ‘Aspire, Learn and Achieve’ will permeate throughout everything we do and is a shared vision that every member of the school community can be part of. We will insist on the very highest standards for all of the students in our care. As part of the Spencer Academies Trust we work alongside other schools in ensuring we deliver the very best education possible.

Hearor Gate Science College which is its own admission authority has a responsibility to ensure that this admissions policy is implemented and delegates this responsibility to the governing body of Hearor Gate.

For September the proposed Published Admission Number is 237

Children for whom Hearor Gate Science College is the named school in a statement of special education needs or education, health and care plan (EHCP) will be automatically offered a place at the school. The Governing Body of the school cannot guarantee a place at the school for any other category of application.

Students will be admitted at age 11 without reference to ability or aptitude. In the event of over-subscription, the following criteria will be applied, in the order of priority stated.

1. Students in public care.
2. Students who are both living in the normal area served by the school and have brother(s) and/or sister(s) attending the school at the time of the admission, who have expressed a preference to attend the school.
3. Other students living in the normal area served by the school at the time of the admission, who have expressed a preference to attend the school, with those living nearest the school, measured as the shortest walking distance from the entrance of the student’s home to entrance of the school’s main administrative building, being accorded highest priority.
4. Students living outside the normal area served by the school who have brother(s) and/or sister(s) attending the school at the time of admission and who have expressed a preference to attend the school, with those living nearest the normal area boundary, measured as a straight line from the entrance to the student’s home to the nearest point of the school boundary, being accorded the highest priority.
5. Students living outside the normal area served by the school who have expressed a preference to attend the school, with those living nearest the normal area boundary, measured as a straight line from the entrance to the student’s home to the nearest point of the school boundary, being accorded the highest priority.
6. Students whose parents/carers did not request a place by the deadline for applications appropriate to the year of entry.



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## Late Applications

Late applications are those submitted after the closing date for the co-ordinated admissions scheme and will be dealt in accordance with that scheme. Late applications will be considered up to the date in late December specified in the co-ordinated scheme providing the applicant can provide evidence that they have moved into the area after the closing date for applications or can establish at the time of completing the form that there were exceptional reasons for missing the closing date. Examples include: family bereavement; hospitalisation; family trauma. Supporting evidence may be required.

## In Year Admissions

All applications made outside of the normal year of entry should be made directly to the school and will be administered by the Governors in accordance with the criteria. If a place is available in the appropriate year group, then that will be offered. If no places are available the application will be refused and the right of appeal offered. If a place is offered arrangements will be made for the student to start at the beginning of the following half term unless there are exceptional circumstances and involves a move from out of County.

## Co-ordinated Admission Scheme

All applications for places in the normal year of entry are made on the common application form. For entrance to the school in September, the closing date of the co-ordinated admission scheme is 31 October preceding admission to secondary school. Places will be notified to parent on national offer day.

## Independent Appeals

Places in Year 7 at Heanor Gate Science College for September will be allocated on national offer day. Parents who have been refused a place have the right to an independent appeals panel. Repeat applications in the same academic year will not be considered unless there is a significant and material change in circumstances. Parents who have been refused a place have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel. Parents wishing to appeal should write to the Clerk of the Appeal panel at the school within 20 school days of notification. Independent appeals panels will be held off the school site.

## Admission to the Sixth Form including admission number for those admitted for the first time

To be accepted onto A-level courses, pupils will need five or more GCSE passes at grade 5 or above. In addition to this, many subjects require a specific (higher) GCSE grade to be achieved in that particular subject. (See school website / Sixth Form entry criteria for details.) Students are accepted whether internally from Year 11 or from other establishments. Applications are handled in the same way as other applications outside the normal year of entry. Applicants will have a meeting with a Sixth Form Leader to discuss the most suitable course of study. Meeting the requirements of any course does not automatically guarantee that applicants will be offered places on the preferred choice of subjects. Any applicant refused entry can appeal against the decision. Should oversubscription criteria be required, they will be as for Year 7, with the exception of Criteria 5 and 7. The School Published Admission Number for sixth form is 285



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## Applications for places outside the normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of the normal age group, for example if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Children should only be educated out of the normal age group in very limited circumstances. Parents should submit a request in writing as early as possible. Governors will make decisions based on the circumstances of each case in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent’s views; information about the child’s academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, the child’s medical history and the views of a medical professional and whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group. When informing a parent of the decision on the year group to which the child should be admitted, the parent will be notified of the reasons for the decision.

Where it is agreed that a child will be admitted out of the normal age group and, as a consequence of that decision, the child will be admitted to a relevant age group (i.e. the age group to which pupils are normally admitted to school) the school admission authority will process the application as part of the main admissions round on the basis of the determined admission arrangements only, including the application of oversubscription criteria where applicable.

The parent has a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at the school. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

## Acceptance of an offer of place

The Local Authority will inform parents that a place for primary/secondary transfer has been offered and required acceptance of this place within 14 days. If this confirmation is not received, the offer of a place should be withdrawn and offered to the next child on the list. Acceptance of an offer made as a result of an in-year application requires acceptance directly to the school with 10 days.

## Withdrawing an offer of a place

Any offers of a place found to be made on the basis of inaccurate information can be withdrawn. Such examples would include fraudulent applications, intentionally misleading applications, a false claim to residence in the catchment area and the failure of a parent to respond to an offer of a place within a reasonable amount of time.

## Tie Breaker

In the exceptional circumstances where students have the same distance measurement and there is no other way of separating the applications then the Governors will admit the additional child above the places admission number. Proof of residence may be required.

## Definitions:

### Looked After Child

A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by the local authority in the exercise of their social services functions.



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## Adoption Order

An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A ‘residence order’ is an order setting the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a ‘special guardianship order as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian (or guardians).

## Residence

This is defined as the child’s ordinary place of residence which is deemed to be the residential property at which the child normally and habitually resides with the person or persons having parental responsibility for the child at the time of completion of the application form. If a child’s parents live at separate addresses, whichever of the two addresses the child permanently spends at least three school nights, ie Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday will be taken as the place of residence. Addresses of other relatives or friends will not be considered as the place of residence even when the child stays there for all or part of the week. Proof of residence and other evidence from the court regarding parental responsibilities in these matters may be required.

## Siblings (brothers or sisters)

The term brother or sister includes:

- (a) a half-brother and/or a half-sister
- (b) a legally adopted child being regarded as a brother or sister
- (c) a step-brother and/or step-sister residing in the same family unit

## Multiple births

Where one child of a multiple birth can be admitted, the other child/children will also be admitted.

## Nomadic Travellers

Special Consideration will also be given to children of nomadic travellers living in the community

## Catchment Area

Details of the school’s defined catchment area can be obtained from the school or by visiting <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/normal-area-school-search/find-your-normal-area-school>.

## Linked Primary Schools

- Coppice Primary
- Horsley Woodhouse Primary
- Howitt Primary
- Loscoe Primary
- Morley Primary
- Mundy Junior
- Smalley Richardson Primary