



NORWICH SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS GUIDE



ADMISSIONS INFORMATION
2020/21

Welcome

The key ingredient when thinking about the right school for you or a member of your family is fit: does it feel right? There are plenty of empirical factors which can be brought to bear in the decision-making process, from academic results to pastoral care ratios, from the number and quality of co-curricular activities to the amount of engagement with the wider community. However, there are also less tangible factors such as the physical location of the school and the value system which underpins its routines.

We hope that this document, in conjunction with our website (www.norwich-school.org.uk), helps to lay out what Norwich School offers so that you can analyse whether you feel there is a fit between you and us. It certainly contains information regarding measurable criteria and practical information about application, but I hope you can also get an impression of where we are and what we stand for from the images and explanation of our ethos and aims.

A document can only tell you so much, of course. We believe that a visit creates an even more vivid impression, so my colleagues, the pupils and I look forward to welcoming you in person to Cathedral Close.



Steffan Griffiths
Head Master



Ethos

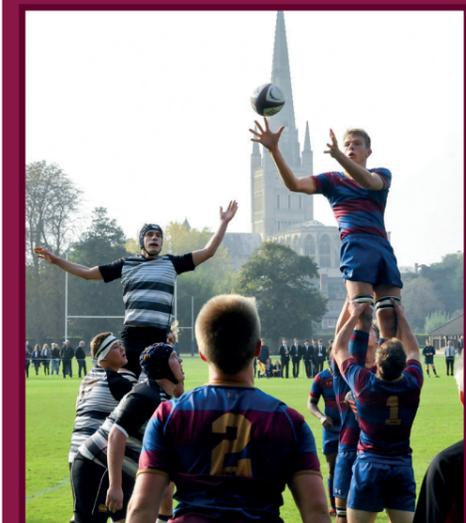
Learning is at the heart of the broad education we offer at Norwich School. This invaluable asset is underpinned by strong Christian values, especially those of love, care and compassion, which we emphasise in all activities and relationships within our community.



Aims

Norwich School is committed to:

- Nurturing and developing knowledgeable, reflective young people who are capable of understanding difficult concepts and expressing complex and profound ideas;
- Providing a rich, broad and varied education that develops the diverse talents of all;
- Equipping our young people for a lifetime of leadership and service.



Pastoral Care

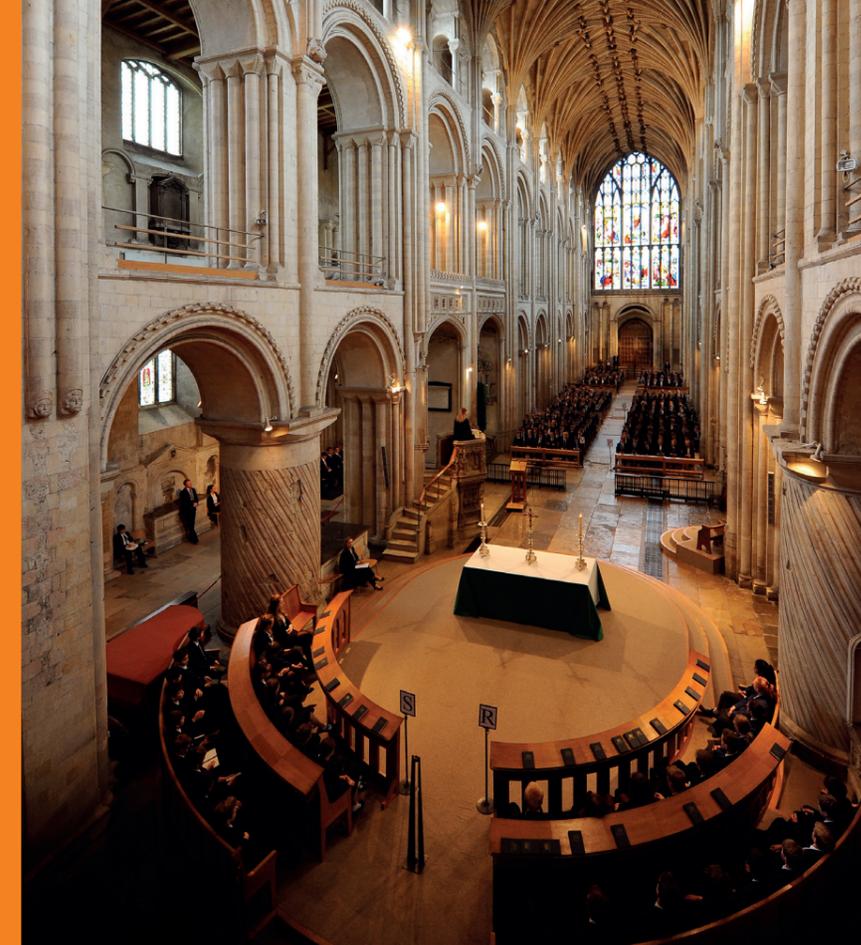
Lower School *(pupils aged 4 – 11)*

In the Lower School, pupils are in the care of their Form Tutor, who has a crucial role to play in the provision of pastoral care. Form Tutors provide pupils with a point of daily contact, monitor pupils' work and welfare, and act as a channel through which information passes to and from pupils, parents and teachers. The fostering of positive, constructive relationships between home and school is seen as crucial. Boys and girls in the Lower School are encouraged to be fully involved in school life and to reach their full potential.

Every boy or girl is assigned to a house. These are Conisford, Heigham and Magdalen – named after the historic gates of Norwich. There are regular competitions between the houses as well as a weekly House Star total. House Tutors monitor the pupils in the house environment, and this dual pastoral approach with the Form Tutors allows for the caring and comprehensive support of each individual.

The Lower School encourages and initiates regular communication between home and school. All pupils have a prep diary in which parents may leave notes for the Form Tutor. Parents may drop in to school in the morning to speak with a teacher or telephone the Lower School Secretary to make an appointment. There are also formal reporting times during the year in the form of end-of-term reports and Parents' Evenings in November and June.

“ The fostering of positive, constructive relationships between home and school is seen as crucial ”



Senior School

(pupils aged 11 – 18)

Senior School pupils receive pastoral support through two distinct structures. Firstly, a vertical structure where pupils are allocated to a house upon joining the school and remain in that house as they move up through the year groups.

Each house is managed by a Housemaster – a senior member of staff who comes to know the pupils and their parents very well during their years of association with the house, and who lends compassion and a sense of continuity to a pupil's life. The day-to-day care of pupils falls to their tutors, who monitor their academic progress, general welfare and co-curricular involvement. Tutors are the first point of parental contact for most enquiries or matters of concern. If a problem arises, the tutor will involve the Housemaster in its resolution.

Secondly, complementing the house structure is the 'horizontal' year structure. The Heads of Section, all of whom are members of the school's Senior Management Team, oversee the year groups.

For pupils in every year group, there is a schedule of full reports, grade cards and Parents' Evenings to communicate feedback on progress.

The school comes together for daily assemblies and services in the cathedral and the School Chaplain, Reverend Corin Child, supports the spiritual and pastoral needs of pupils and staff.



“ The Tutor plays a key pastoral role, seeing the pupil each day for registration and during weekly tutorial periods ”



Curriculum



Lower School

(pupils aged 4 – 11)

The Lower School curriculum offers an exciting and challenging range of subjects designed to develop a strong foundation of skills and knowledge. Pupils are taught by their subject specialists as well as their Form Teacher. We aim to nurture a love of learning and give pupils the confidence to be fully involved in all aspects of their education. In Reception, our curriculum focuses on fulfilling the Early Years Foundation Stage for learning and development.

Over their time at the Lower School, all children will normally perform on stage and compete against children from other schools in some sporting areas. Optional tuition is available in speech and drama and for around 20 different musical instruments.

Across the year groups, classroom activities are complemented by day and residential trips for all pupils, e.g. a visit to a Victorian workhouse as part of History studies or a residential coastal erosion study in Geography.

“
We aim
to nurture
a love of
learning
”

The following subjects are taught in the Lower School:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Art | Mathematics |
| Computer Science | Modern Foreign Languages (French, Spanish and German) |
| Design Technology | Music |
| Digital Literacy | Personal Development |
| Drama | Performing Arts |
| English | Physical Education |
| Games | Religious Studies |
| Geography | Science |
| History | |
| Knowledge About Language (featuring Greek and Latin) | |

Senior School

(pupils aged 11 – 18)

Lower 4 (age 11+)

Pupils in Lower 4 are taught a range of subjects which can be seen in the table below.

Lower 4 (age 11+) will study:

- Creative – Art and Design (including 2D Design, 3D Design and Art), Music and Drama taught separately
- CV (see below)
- English
- Geography
- History
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Modern Foreign Languages (two from French, German or Spanish)
- Science
- Sport
- PSHE
- Religious Studies

In Lower 4, CV is a broad course which covers study skills and a range of subjects that the pupils may not have experienced before, such as ICT, Philosophy, Exotic Languages, Relaxation Techniques, Field Studies and Study Skills.

Lower 4 pupils can expect homework in two subjects per night of approximately 20 minutes each.

Upper 4 (age 12+)

In Upper 4, pupils continue with their Lower 4 subjects. Upper 4 pupils can expect homework in three subjects per night of approximately 20 minutes each. At the end of Upper 4, the pupils considering studying Music or Drama to GCSE opt for these. The remainder do a foundation year in Art and Design. There are opportunities to switch creatives and to take three to GCSE in consultation with the Director of Studies.

Lower 5 (age 13+)

In Lower 5, the core subjects from Lower 4 and Upper 4 continue. Pupils also study the creative (Art/Design, Music or Drama) they opted for at the end of Upper 4, as well as one from Latin and Greek (combined), Latin or Classics (based on academic performance or choice). Most continue with just one Modern Foreign Language.

GCSE (age 14 – 16)

Each pupil studies a total of 10 GCSE subjects. All subject areas are studied for at least 2 years (Lower 4 to Lower 5) before choices are made. Parents and pupils are consulted at option points.



Sport forms part of the curriculum in every year, with two sessions a week, as do the tutorial provision and assembly time.

The curriculum is complemented by a variety of day and residential trips, e.g. to Hautbois House (Lower 4), a science trip to Mannington Hall (Upper 4) and German, French and Spanish exchange visits (Lower 5 and Middle 5).

In Middle 5 (age 14+) and Upper 5 (age 15+), the core subjects are:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- A language – French, German or Spanish
- Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics are taught separately for Triple or Dual Award
- Three options chosen from Classical Civilisation, Computer Science, Geography, Greek, PE, History, Latin, Religious Studies, Art, 2D Design, 3D Design, Drama, Music, German or Spanish

45%
OF GCSE PUPILS
ACHIEVED A*
IN 2019

2020 exam results: Centre Assessed Grades were awarded to pupils due to Covid-19

Exam Results

Year	GCSE		
	A* Grade	A* or A Grade	A* – C Grade
2019	45%	72%	99%
2018	45%	70%	89%
2017	47%	73%	91%
2016	44%	72%	85%
2015	43%	75%	86%
2014	42%	75%	89%

For the purposes of this document the new 9-1 gradings have been converted to: A* = 9, A = 7, B = 6, C = 5 or 4.

87%

OF A LEVEL PUPILS
ACHIEVED A* – B
IN 2019

Curriculum

Sixth Form

In the Sixth Form, a wide range of subjects are taught by expert teachers. Sixth Formers typically study three linear A levels over 2 years.

Sixth Formers enjoy access to study and leisure facilities in the Bishop's Palace and Junior Common Room.

Sixth Form pupils will select three subjects to study from the following:

Ancient/ Classical Greek	Computer Science*	Latin	Politics*
Art	2D Design*	Mathematics	Spanish
Art History*	3D Design*	Further Mathematics	Sports Science*
Biology	Economics*	Music	Theatre Studies
Business Enterprise*	English	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics*	
Chemistry	French	Physics	
Classical Civilisation*	Geography*	Psychology*	
	German		
	History*		

* Subjects which may be studied without previous knowledge provided that good GCSE grades have been achieved in appropriate complementary subjects.

NB: It may not be possible to provide every permutation of subjects listed here and confirmation of a combination should be sought from the Director of Studies. Usually a minimum of four pupils is needed for a subject to be viable.

Exam Results

Year	Advanced Level (A2)			
	A*	A* or A Grade	A*, A or B Grade	National Position
2019	23%	60%	87%	63rd
2018	24%	57%	83%	71st
2017	24%	60%	85%	55th
2016	24%	62%	85%	58th
2015	27%	66%	86%	55th
2014	28%	67%	89%	49th

2020 exam results: Centre Assessed Grades were awarded to pupils due to Covid-19



Leadership and Service



We aim to equip our young people for a lifetime of leadership and service. We see these two concepts as interdependent; inspirational leadership always involving the service of others, and through service, essential leadership skills are developed.

All pupils are given opportunities to develop their leadership skills through planned activities across the school including: taught lessons, workshops and training; societies and pupil representative bodies; team leadership; an annual Upper 5 leadership conference; the Community Service Programme; Sea Scouts and Duke of Edinburgh.

In the Lower School, through service in the community, pupils can work towards a Leadership and Service Award. In the Senior School, Lower and Upper 6 pupils take part in weekly-timetabled community service activities. The placements bring pupils into direct contact with a wide cross-section of the Norwich and Norfolk community.



“Pupils thoroughly enjoy the many clubs on offer and show great commitment”

Lower School *(pupils aged 4 – 11)*

The Lower School offers a comprehensive co-curricular programme of activities and events. All pupils are expected to be involved in some aspect of this provision. Pupils thoroughly enjoy the many different clubs on offer and show great commitment to the music groups, choir, drama productions, sports teams and numerous other activities.

Senior School *(pupils aged 11 – 18)*

The Senior School offers a wide-ranging programme of activities and events outside formal lessons, most of which revolve around the interests of the pupils. All pupils are encouraged to take part in at least one activity.



Sport key aims

PARTICIPATE

Engage pupils in sport and physical activity by creating a range of opportunities for participation.

PERFORM

Allow the pupils to enhance their talent and compete at a high level both at school and on representative pathways.

PREPARE

Provide opportunities and positive experiences to equip pupils with the necessary skills and knowledge to maintain a future active and healthy lifestyle.

Sport

Lower School *(pupils aged 4 – 11)*

Pupils take part in a variety of team and individual sports including hockey, netball, rugby, athletics, cricket and tennis.

There is a comprehensive Physical Education programme for all Lower School year groups which includes basketball, football, gymnastics, and dance.



Senior School *(pupils aged 11 – 18)*

During the Fourth Form (Years 7 and 8), boys will play rugby in the Michaelmas term, hockey in the Lent term, and cricket in the Trinity term. Girls will play hockey in the Michaelmas term, netball in the Lent term, and cricket or athletics in the Trinity term.

In Lower 5 (Year 9) and Middle 5 (Year 10), rowing is added as a main sport and is available across all three school terms. In addition to the main sport programme, a number of participation sports are introduced including fencing, kayaking and sailing, a series of health and fitness options including athletic development, dance, spinning and swimming are also offered.

Upper 5 and Sixth Form pupils

Although the school would always promote multi-sport, it recognises that some pupils will know where they want to continue their sporting aspirations on leaving Norwich School and we are, therefore, able to offer two-term specialisation through our main sports programmes.

Further competitive sports added to the programme in these senior years are: cross-country, basketball, badminton and football. Table tennis and squash are offered as further participation options, while boxercise and pilates are included to ensure a full range of health and fitness options are available.

Upper 5 and Sixth Form pupils have access to over

20 different sports





“
One of the
best British
schools
representing
the arts
”
- School House Magazine

Drama

The Arts enjoy a strong profile at the school. Pupils have opportunities to become involved in the many and varied arts activities on offer. Our aim is to provide a rich, varied and broad education that develops the diverse talents of the boys and girls and enables them to make their own mark on the creative life of the school and beyond.

In both curricular and extra-curricular drama, we offer pupils the most professional theatre experience possible.

There are Lower School, Junior, Intermediate and Senior productions in our yearly repertoire, including an annual musical.

Performances take place in our own Blake Studio, a purpose-built theatre and plenary space, and in local theatres including The Norwich Playhouse, Norwich Puppet Theatre and Epic Studios.

Our Senior Shakespeare production usually takes place outdoors in the Cloisters of Norwich Cathedral during our end-of-year creative arts festival, Gather.

Dance

The Dance Department at Norwich School strives to develop an energetic, enthusiastic and healthy community of pupils. It aims to give all pupils experience in a range of dance styles and dance performance. All pupils are encouraged to partake in a variety of dance events and dance classes, whilst we provide gifted dancers with opportunities to work with industry professionals and to choreograph shows.

Pupils engage in a variety of dance styles: from musical theatre to hip hop, jive to commercial, Norwich School dancers have the opportunity to explore and adopt a genre to suit them. Pupils are also encouraged to choreograph and create their own routines for performances.

All pupils are encouraged to involve themselves in our many dance opportunities as there is something for everyone. Each year, the talent is showcased at the annual Dance Festival.

135

pupils took
to the stage
in this year's
Dance Festival





35+

instrumental music teachers visit the school



Music

Lower School

(pupils aged 4 – 11)

Music plays a vital role in Lower School life. Instrumentalists can join a string orchestra, wind band, recorder club, guitar club or percussion group, all of which are led by musical specialists. We believe that singing is central to a musical education. We have exclusive choirs in the Reception – Year 2 section, Year 3 and our large school choir is open to all pupils in Years 4 to 6. There is also a smaller Chamber Choir, for which pupils who enjoy a challenge may audition. The choirs take part in many different events including the Marie Curie Service of Light, the Barnardo's National Choir competition and Young Voices at the O2 arena with an audience of 12,000!

75% of our pupils learn instruments, many of them taught within the school by our numerous peripatetic teachers. There are many opportunities for soloists to perform at our regular Informal Concerts. All pupils in Year 4 learn a musical instrument (violin, flute or trumpet) as part of the music curriculum.

Senior School

(pupils aged 11 – 18)

With over 20 different music ensembles rehearsing every week, there's something to suit everyone! Pupils can choose from a range of choirs, bands, orchestras and chamber ensembles designed to nurture musical performance at all levels. Most ensembles do not require an audition.

The Senior Concert Band recently performed at the Royal Norfolk Show, and the Chapel Choir sang in the final of the Barnardo's Choral Competition at London's Royal Festival Hall.

ABRSM Music Exams are held here, with entries welcome from pupils learning both in and out of school. Theory tuition is also available.

Singing is at the heart of school life and features in daily cathedral assemblies, with concerts, musicals and services throughout the year. Our choirs have earned a reputation for excellence and some pupils are members of the National Youth Choirs.

More than 35 music teachers visit the school for individual music lessons, many of whom play an active part in the musical life of the city and county. Specialist instrumental tuition is available for a range of instruments.



MORE THAN

20

different music ensembles rehearse every week

Cathedral Choristers

Boys' Choir

Being a Cathedral chorister provides an unparalleled musical education alongside the other opportunities on offer at Norwich School.

The Cathedral's Master of Music is happy to meet parents at any time to discuss the possibility of their son becoming a Cathedral chorister.

The choristers sing daily services in the cathedral during term time, at Christmas and Easter, and take part in concerts, tours, recordings and live broadcasts.

Parents of boys aged 6 – 8 are encouraged to bring their son for an informal audition without obligation, before making a formal application to the Cathedral Choir.

Boys usually start in the choir in Years 3 or 4, with formal auditions taking place each January. The Cathedral Choir Endowment Fund pays a scholarship that equates to approximately 50% of school fees for all boy choristers, with further means-tested bursarial support available so that no boy is excluded on financial grounds.

Girls' Choir

Norwich Cathedral Girls' Choir is open to girls of senior school age (Year 7 upwards), who attend different schools across the area. The girl choristers sing Evensong in the Cathedral every Tuesday during term time and on some Sundays, and they meet to rehearse on Saturday mornings. In addition, they sing at the major Cathedral services at Christmas and Easter, give concerts, make recordings, go on tours and take part in radio broadcasts. Girl Choristers receive an annual financial award, intended to support their musical education.

Further information about both opportunities is available from the **Cathedral Master of Music, Mr Ashley Grote: 01603 218306 or music@cathedral.org.uk**

“

The Cathedral Choir Endowment Fund pays 50% of school fees for all boy choristers

”





Admissions Process

for September 2021 Entry

Lower School

(pupils aged 4 – 11)

The deadline for receipt of completed applications for the Lower School is 10th December 2020.

For entry into Lower 1 to Upper 3, children will be assessed on Saturday 9th January.

Applications to Reception remain open on an ongoing basis, but assessments will take place on 11th January and then again in March/April 2021 should there still be availability in the year group.

Assessments will be carried out through a variety of individual and small group activities designed to ascertain independence of thought, curiosity, articulacy and sociability in structured and non-structured situations.

Boys and girls attend in casual clothing and will undertake a number of activities where their verbal and social skills, intellectual aptitude and reasoning are assessed. For children of school age, we will seek an academic reference from your child's current school unless you have indicated otherwise on the application form.

Senior School

(pupils aged 11 – 16)

The deadline for receipt of completed applications for the Senior School is 10th December 2020.

Candidates will be assessed during the morning of Saturday 9th January 2021, with interviews taking place on Saturday 23rd January 2021.

Boys and girls attend in casual clothing. All children undertake papers in Mathematics and English, with an additional verbal reasoning paper being taken by 11+, 12+ and 13+ entrants. All pupils are then invited in for an interview day which includes a variety of activities. Please note that we will seek an academic reference from your child's current school unless you have indicated otherwise on the application form.

We do not require applicants to over prepare for the entrance assessments as it is important for us to ascertain a realistic picture of their current abilities. We also find that over preparation can cause children unnecessary stress. Should you require further guidance on what the assessments entail, please contact the Admissions Department for further guidance.



The deadline for Lower School and Senior School applications is 10th December 2020



The deadline for Sixth Form applications is 15th November 2020



For help with applications contact our Admissions team on 01603 728 449 or admissions@norwich-school.org.uk

Sixth Form

(pupils aged 16 – 18)

The deadline for receipt of completed applications for the Sixth Form is 15th November 2020.

Sixth Form candidates are assessed by interview, testing and academic reference from their current school. Interviews will take place on Saturday 28th November 2020.

Open Day

Our annual Open Day takes place in September. This is a superb opportunity to meet our pupils and staff, take part in activities, see our beautiful location and hear from the Head Master. The school also hosts two Open Afternoons each year, which take place during the school day in March and June. Parents and pupils have the opportunity to take a tour of the school and see lessons in action. Registration for these events is via the admissions pages on our website.

Application forms

Application for entry into the Lower School, the Senior School or the Sixth Form can be made via the school's website.

A non-refundable application fee of £95 is payable per application.

International Admissions

(pupils aged 16 – 18)

Norwich School is proud to welcome pupils from all over the world to join our Sixth Form community. Our international pupils join us in our Lower Sixth Form and are wholly integrated into our academic and extra-curricular life. Pupils are given the opportunity to rapidly improve English skills in individually matched homestays. We admit very small numbers and are over-subscribed every year.

Norwich School is a Tier 4 Sponsor and is able to issue Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) to support a visa application.

There is a registration fee and acceptance deposit for international candidates. This reflects the additional costs of administering these applications. We also ask for the first term's fees to be paid in advance.

Norwich School is a day school, and so our international pupils are placed with our trusted and highly-experienced 'homestay parents'.





Scholarships and Financial Assistance

Scholarship programme for excellence and potential

The school offers a range of awards for excellence in five areas. A place on one of our Scholarship Programmes is made available to Senior School pupils with outstanding ability and potential which the school assesses by examination, interview, portfolio and audition, as appropriate.

Selection is made in the following areas: academic excellence, music, sport, drama (16+ only) and art and design (16+ only). If you wish to apply, please indicate your interest on the application form. Pupils may apply in more than one discipline, though it is unlikely that more than two awards are made to any individual.

Means-tested financial support is also available to candidates applying for these awards.

Financial Assistance

The school sets aside generous funds in the form of bursaries to enable boys and girls to come to Norwich School who would not be able to do so without financial help. All bursaries are means-tested and can result in a reduction in fees of up to 100%. There is a sliding scale dependent on family income and finances, and on the resources of the school. Resources are finite and demand can exceed the funds available. As a general rule, it is unlikely that a bursary will be awarded when family income is greater than four and a half times the school fees or assets are greater than 20 times the school fees.

Scholarships and bursaries are available for Senior School applicants. If you wish to be considered for bursarial assistance, please indicate that interest on the application form and the relevant paperwork will be sent to you. A detailed Application for Financial Assistance form, covering all aspects of your family's finances, would need to be filled out and sent to the Bursar prior to the prospective pupil's assessment.

The school funds bursaries from many sources, which include its own savings as well as contributions from the Worshipful Company of Dyers, the Old Norvicensians, the Friends of Norwich School and other charitable trusts.

“The support of the school, through my studies, music and financially, has been truly invaluable”

– Sixth Form bursary recipient and musical scholar



Tuition Fees

A holding deposit of £500 is required once a place has been offered; this is held until the end of the last term and used to pay any extra charges outstanding once the pupil has left. Any remaining money will be refunded to parents. A sliding scale of deposit operates for pupils awarded bursarial assistance.

Fees for Reception – Year 2 age groups include a hot lunch and care between 8am and 4pm. There is an additional cost for after-school care of £7 per hour, per child between 4pm and 6pm.

Year Group	Per Annum	Per Term
Lower School (Reception – Year 2)	£11,493	£3,831
Lower School (Years 3 – 6)	£15,441	£5,147
Senior School (Years 7 – 13)	£16,941	£5,647

*Please note the above fees are for Michaelmas 2020. Further terms fees will be announced at a later stage.

Details of fees for international students can be found on the school website at www.norwich-school.org.uk



Leading
Independent
Schools



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