# Thomas Alleyne Academy

# Proposed Sixth Form Admissions policy 2026/27

[www.tas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tas.herts.sch.uk)

Direct line: 01438 344341

Head of Sixth Form: Mrs Kate Barfoot

## Policy and Numbers

The Thomas Alleyne Academy is in partnership with a consortium of Stevenage schools to broaden the range of courses on offer to post 16 students that will include a variety of level 2 and 3 academic and vocational courses.

You may contact us by telephoning: 01438 344341 or logging on to the Academy website sixth form section that lists the courses on offer and entry criteria for each subject.

## General Entry Requirements

Current entry criteria for Level 3 qualifications are grade 5 and above in English and Maths. Some subjects have specific entry criteria above grade 5 and this information is on our website [www.tas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tas.herts.sch.uk).

We ask all applicants to attend a meeting to discuss their intended pathway and career destination. This is not part of the admissions process but is suggested in order to ensure that students accepted into the Sixth Form can be placed on appropriate pathways where they are likely to succeed.

Alongside our current Year 11 students we also accept applications from students wishing to transfer from other schools. Academic entry requirements are the same for both internal and external places. Application forms can be obtained by telephoning the direct line for sixth form: Mrs Barfoot, Head of Sixth Form, The Thomas Alleyne Academy, High Street, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 3BE Tel. 01438 344341

## Current Size of Sixth Form: oversubscription policy

The school will have a published admission number (PAN) of 20.

In 2024/25 there were nearly 120 students in the sixth form (Years 12 and 13). It is anticipated that there will be continuing growth in numbers in 2026/27 and it is strongly advised that students make a timely application in January 2026 to secure a place on the specific subjects they wish to study.

Where applications for admissions exceed the numbers of places available the following rules will apply but Rule 1 must be applied as a priority. Entry criteria remain the same for all candidates.

**RULE 1**: Children looked after and children who were previously looked after, including those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England, and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order1 or a special guardianship order.

Places are allocated to children in public care according to Chapter 7, Section 2 of the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012.

These children will be prioritised under rule 1.

Highest priority will also be given to children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order[[1]](#footnote-1) or a special guardianship order[[2]](#footnote-2). This includes children previously from abroad who were cared for by the state because he or she would not otherwise have been cared for adequately and was subsequently adopted.

A “child looked after” is a child who is:

a) in the care of a local authority, or

b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (section 22(1) of The Children Act 1989)

All children adopted from care who are of compulsory school age are eligible for admission under Rule 1.[[3]](#footnote-3)

Children in the process of being placed for adoption are classified by law as children looked after providing there is a Placement Order and the application would be prioritised under Rule 1.

Children who were not “looked after” immediately before being adopted, or made the subject of a child arrangement order or special guardianship order, will not be prioritised under rule 1. Applications made for these children, with suitable supporting professional evidence, can be considered under rule 2.

**RULE 2**

Students in Priority Area 5. The Tie-break rule will be applied if there is a need to differentiate between students in Priority Area 5.

**Tie break**

Priority will be given to children who live nearest to the school measured by using the Hertfordshire Local Authority’s ‘Find your nearest School’ online facility.

The measurement is taken from the point of your child’s house to a point of distance which has been agreed by the Governors on the school site. Should two applicants have the same home to school distance a random allocation will be made and that process will be independently supervised.

**Multiple births:**

The school will admit over the published admission number when a single twin/multiple birth child is allocated the last place at a school.

**Right to Appeal**

Applicants who do not receive an offer of a place in the Sixth Form will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. These appeals will be heard once GCSE results are known and will be held early in the new academic year.

You can lodge an appeal in writing to Mrs Barfoot, Head of Sixth Form, The Thomas Alleyne Academy, High Street, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 3BE.

or via email to [admin@tas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tas.herts.sch.uk).

**Entry Requirements into Year 12**

Students aspiring to study subjects at Thomas Alleyne Sixth Form must meet the minimum average point score and meet the individual subject entry criteria as listed on the Thomas Alleyne website [www.tas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tas.herts.sch.uk)~~.~~

**Application Process for Entry in September 2026**

The Initial Application Form needs to be completed by 31 January 2026. This will allow time to arrange meetings with Head of Sixth Form. However, late applications are acceptable where decisions regarding progression have significantly altered.

All current students and external applicants will be invited to a pathways meeting in February 2026 to discuss their initial option choices. This is not a statutory element of the admissions process.

Taster days take place in July, and students have another opportunity to determine subject choices.

Sixth Form Enrolment Day is held in late August, on GCSE results day. Students will be asked to complete final paperwork. When completing final enrolment students must provide all GCSE results (a copy of the statement of results is preferable).

1. **Child Arrangements Order**: Under the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014, which amended section 8 of the Children Act 1989, residence orders have now been replaced by child arrangements orders which settle the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **Special Guardianship Order**: Under 14A of The Children Act 1989, an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian or guardians*.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. This definition has been amended in accordance with paragraph 1.7 (footnote 17) of the School Admissions Code that came into force on 19 December 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)