

## Statutory Consultation on Proposed Admission Arrangements for entry from September 2026

The governing body is the admission authority for Fortismere School and as such are required under *The School Admissions Code 2021 (SAC 2021)* to carry out a consultation if certain changes are proposed to the school's published Admission Arrangements (the Admissions policy). The governing body will ensure that the consultation process meets the statutory requirements as published in SAC 2021.

The proposed change relates to the Sixth Form academic entry requirements for admission to the A Level pathway from September 2026 and details are shared below. Governors would welcome any feedback on the proposed change.

**This consultation runs from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.**

### 1. What is the proposed change?

The change relates to the minimum academic entry requirements for admission to the Fortismere Sixth Form A Level pathway. The proposed change will mean that from September 2026:

- Minimum entry requirements for admission to the A Level pathway will change from: at least 5 x GCSE grades 5-9 including Maths and English to: **An average point score of 5.5 across the best 8 GCSE subjects (or GCSE equivalents) including Maths and English at grade 5 or above**

### 2. What is the reason for the proposed change?

The rationale for the proposed change is:

- To ensure we are placing students on a course of study they have the foundational knowledge and skills to be successful on, supporting them to move on to the best possible post-18 pathways. Students with an average below 5.5 made, on the whole, the least amount of progress in studying three A Levels.
- To ensure inclusivity while supporting students to excel in their areas of strength. The proposed change in entry requirements supports students who demonstrate exceptional ability in specific subjects, such as the Arts, to access the Sixth Form by considering their overall average point score rather than the raw number of GCSE grades 5+.
- To maintain Fortismere's reputation and competitiveness as a high achieving, academic Sixth Form in our local community, ensuring we are able to retain our own Fortismere students as well as to recruit external students to fill the Sixth Form and thereby be able to financially maintain our broad and balanced curriculum offer.

### 3. What about the rest of the policy?

The rest of the policy will remain unchanged and is not part of the consultation but you can still tell us what you think about the whole policy if you wish.

### 4. Where can I read the full proposed policy?

The full proposed Admissions policy for September 2026 entry is available on the school website [on this page](#). Sixth form admissions are covered in sections 13-15 of the policy.

If you would like a paper copy of the proposed Admissions policy please contact the Clerk to governors at Fortismere [smurray@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:smurray@fortismere.org.uk)

**5. How can I respond to the consultation?**

Governors would like to hear feedback on the proposed change set out above. If you have any other comments on the rest of the Admissions policy these can also be shared with governors. Please email your feedback and comments to the Clerk to governors [smurray@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:smurray@fortismere.org.uk) **The closing date for responses is 31st January 2025 5pm**

You can also post your feedback and comments to: Ms S Murray, Clerk to governors, Fortismere School, Tetherdown, London N10 1NE

**6. What happens after the consultation ends?**

After the closing date, Governors will meet and consider the consultation responses. Governors will then decide and agree a final Admissions policy for September 2026 by the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025. The determined policy will be published on the school website and shared as required by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**7. What if I have questions about the consultation process?**

If you have any questions about this consultation please contact the Clerk to governors, [smurray@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:smurray@fortismere.org.uk)

**Mark Chapman**  
**Chair of governors**  
**Fortismere Governing Body**