

THE CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL

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15 October 2026

To whom it may concern,

RE: Consultation on the Admission Arrangements for Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School 2028-29

The Governing Body of **Cardinal Vaughan Memorial school** invite you to view the proposed admissions policy for 2028 – 2029 as part of the required public consultation when changes are made to admissions criteria.

This consultation will start on **19 October 2026** and will close on **29 November 2026** at midnight.

Summary of Proposed 2028–29 Year 12 Admission Arrangements

The proposed changes relate to admission to Year 12 and the minimum level of attainment required for the different courses. All other criteria remain unchanged.

Current requirements		Proposed requirements	
Course 1 BTec level 3 Diploma in Business Studies with up to two further subjects	At least six GCSEs. Six qualifications must be Grade 5 or above, with English and Mathematics at Grade 4 or above.	Course 1 The BTec will be replaced with 2 of the new vocational awards, which are now single award plus up to 2 A levels.	At least six GCSEs (or equivalent qualifications up to a maximum of two). Six qualifications must be grade 5 or above with English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above.
Course 2 Four subjects including Business and Sociology	At least six GCSEs. Six qualifications must be Grade 6 or above, with English and Mathematics at Grade 5 or above	Course 2 Four subjects, including 2 from Business Studies, Sociology and VQs	At least six GCSEs (or equivalent qualifications up to a maximum of two), the best 6 of which provide an APS (<i>average points score</i>) of 6. Qualifications must include English and Mathematics at Grade 5 or above.
Course 3 Four subjects	At least six GCSEs. Four qualifications must be Grade 7 or above and a further two must be Grade 6 or above, with	Course 3 Four Subjects	At least eight GCSEs (or equivalent qualifications up to a maximum of two), the best eight of which

	English and Mathematics at Grade 6 or above.		provide a minimum APS of 6.5; qualifications must include English and Mathematics at grade 5.
Course 4 Five Subjects	At least six GCSEs. Four qualifications must be Grade 8 or above and a further two must be Grade 7 or above, with English and Mathematics at Grade 7 or above	Course 4 Five Subjects, one of which may be an Extended Project Qualification	At least eight GCSEs (or equivalent qualifications up to a maximum of two), the best eight of which provide a minimum APS of 7.5; qualifications must include English and Mathematics at grade 7.

Rationale for Proposed Changes

Currently there are anomalies arising from the complexities and rigidity of the course requirements. The most common example is a pupil who excels in STEM subjects not meeting their offer because of a 5 in English, or a pupil who excels in humanities not meeting an offer because of a 5 in maths. Furthermore the current arrangements have been in place for a number of years and patterns of GCSE attainment mean that an increasing number of pupils qualify for four A levels, but cannot make sufficient subject choices due to individual subject requirements. These changes will therefore make the course requirements fairer to all and more accessible.

How to Submit Feedback & Comments

The Governing Body welcomes feedback from all interested parties. Comments, support, or objections regarding the proposed changes must be submitted in writing by midnight on **29 November 2026**. Responses can be submitted via the following channels:

Online Form: Available [here](#)

Email: consultation@cvms.sjscat.co.uk

Thank you in advance for your feedback.

Yours faithfully,

The Governing Body of Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School