



Monday 29th September

Dear Parent/Carer

The Duchess's Community High School – Applications for September 2026 now open

Your child is now in Year 6 and will be moving on to high school in September. We wanted to share some information with you about our school and how to apply for a place.

It is a very exciting time when you start to think about applying for a place at a secondary school for your child, but we also know that it can be very daunting. Don't worry, we have a great team of staff waiting to welcome you to the school. The Open Evening aims to show you some of the amazing staff, facilities and subjects on offer at the DCHS.

We will be hosting an 'Open Evening' at school on **Wednesday, 15th October (5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)**. We don't believe in gimmicks here at DCHS, we believe in traditional standards and high expectations, so on our open evening you won't see fireworks being set off by the Science department, or activities that look great but students won't actually be able to do when they get to high school; the night is planned to be an authentic representation of what to expect here at DCHS. You will be free to walk around the school, talk to students and staff about what it is like to study here.

If you would like to see a flavour of some of the incredible things that are happening at DCHS this year, then please feel free to visit our Instagram page @dchsalnwick as well as look at our website.

The portal for applying for High School places in Northumberland is now open and closes at midnight on Friday, 31 October 2025. Please note that any applications received after Friday, 31 October will be dealt with as a late application. You can find our admissions policy [here](#).

Further information about the admissions process and access to the online application portal can be found by following the link [here](#). If you require any further assistance, please contact the admissions team at County Hall directly on 0345 600 6400. Final confirmation regarding the allocation of places is made on Monday, 2nd March 2026.

If you have any questions or queries relating to any of this information, please do not hesitate to contact us at school or via email at admin@dchs-alnwick.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr Alan Rogers	Mr James Wilson	Mr Paul Straker
CoHeadteacher	CoHeadteacher	Head of Year 7 (2026)

Co-Headteachers Mr Alan Rogers & Mr James Wilson
The Duchess's Community High School, Taylor Drive, Alnwick, NE66 2DH

Registered address: Pele Trust, c/o Ponteland High School, The Crescent, Callerton Lane, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE20 9EG.
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