

What Makes a Good Application?

The Student Applicants Must:

- apply between October and January of the year in which they are taking their GCSEs / National 5 exams.
- be of 'good' academic ability. We set no academic pass mark but, typically, successful applicants are predicted to get a mix of grades 9-6 at GCSE (or equivalent) and are likely to go on to get similar grades at A level / Scottish Advanced Higher.
- have a strong practical ability to conduct hands-on projects and be able to apply the knowledge they gain in STEM lessons in a real-world context.
- be genuinely interested in a future career in engineering and/or technical design, to be pursued after A levels / Highers either through university study or through a higher-level apprenticeship.
- be certain that their studies will lead to acceptance by their chosen University or Higher Degree Apprenticeship provider for them to study Engineering. (Arkwright does not support students who leave school / college at 16).

The On-line Application Form:

Note: The application form is an integral part of the application process and is marked.

- A teacher has the option to write a short reference for each student, prior to submitting each on-line application, covering: leadership potential; interest in engineering/technical design, academic ability.
- The student must complete a standard on-line application form to tell us:
 - What specific interests in engineering / technical design they have (a general interest is fine)
 - About a practical project that he/she has performed or is performing. This is used to assess the applicant's ability to apply their STEM knowledge.
 - Their thoughts about how their post-school education and subsequent career will pan out. A good application will show evidence of some research into: university degrees or higher-level apprenticeships; mention of specific engineering disciplines, sectors of industry and/or possible employers that the applicant is interested in
 - About any extra-curricular or home-based activities, the applicant conducts in STEM, e.g. an after-school Science/Engineering Club, CREST Awards, local robot club, visit to relevant museums etc. A good applicant will show a range of STEM activities to prove their interest in a future career in engineering and/or technical design
 - About personal activities (curricular, extra-curricular, home-based) not related to STEM that show general social prowess, leadership skills, positions of responsibility, tenacity e.g. Scout Patrol Leader, Grade 8 piano, Karate Black Belt, Captain of netball team, Duke of Edinburgh Awards, volunteering, mentoring. A good applicant will show evidence that they are starting to take up positions of authority and responsibility and can persevere and succeed at activities.

As with an application form in any walk of life - a fully-completed, well-researched, neat form, showing a range of relevant information, is likely to perform the best.

