

# What Makes a Good Application?

## The Student Applicants:

- Must apply between September and January of the year in which they are taking their GCSEs / National 5 exams.
- Must 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.
- Must 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.
- Must 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.
- Must be taking GCSE / National 5 subjects necessary for such a career and plan to study relevant A levels / Highers (including Maths) at your school, or another school/college affiliated to Arkwright Engineering Scholarships (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.**

