

Welcome to North Cestrian School



We hope you will enjoy the following information summarising some key points in our school's history.

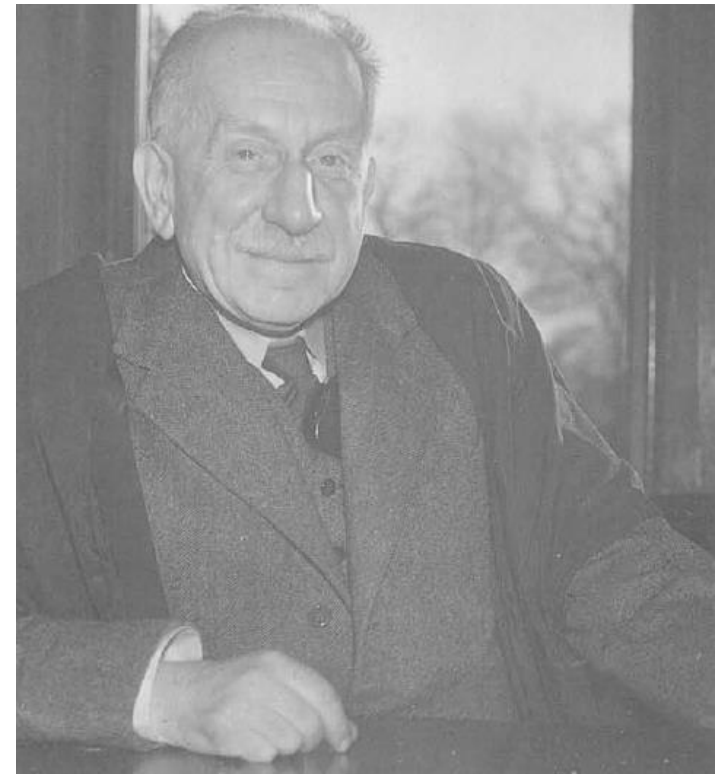
History of North Cestrian School

- In 1872, the original house called Fernlea was built. It was owned by Mr Armitage, an industrialist.
- In 1908, the house was extended to build a ballroom which has now become the library and a conference room.



School History continued...

- In 1914, the house was purchased by the Belgian government and used as the Belgian Consulate.
- In 1925, the house was purchased by the Co-Op and used as a welfare centre.
- In 1950, Mr Walter Hamblin retired after 17 years as Headmaster of Altrincham Grammar School for Boys.
- In 1951, he decided to open a school with a grammar school type of education and rented a room in Fernlea (this is now the headmaster's office) which he used as a classroom.



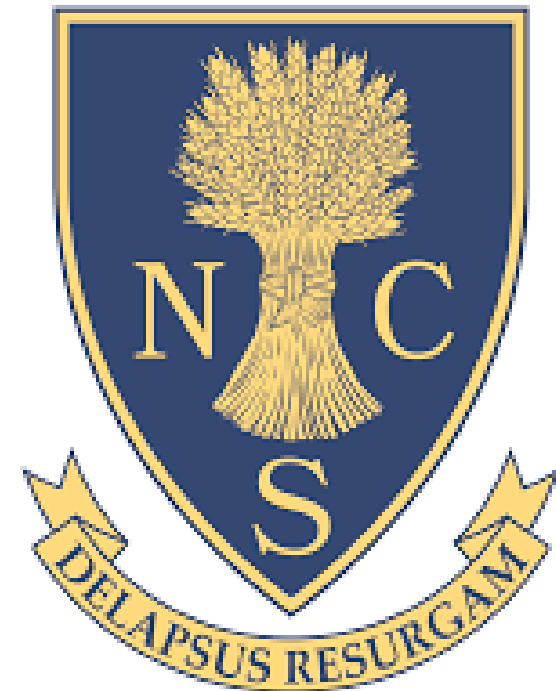
Scool History...

- The school opened with 26 pupils who were all boys.
- Mr Hamblin called it North Cestrian Grammar School. (Cestrian is Latin for Cheshire.)
- How is it pronounced? Classical Latin would have it as a soft C as in 'et cetera'. Tradition has it, however, that Mr Hamblin preferred a hard C as in 'calendar'. In any event, no one alive has heard a Roman so you can pronounce it either way.

School History...

▫ The crest which is a sheaf of wheat is a variation on the Cheshire County symbol. It can symbolise a variety of things:

- The harvest of educational seeds sown
- The idea of we are stronger together
- Working hard to produce good results



School History...

- In 1958, the school purchased the building from the Co-op.
- From 1959 to the present, school buildings have been gradually extended with new buildings added.
- In 2008, the school became co-educational.
- In 2016, the school converted to become North Cestrian School – a ‘free school’ - which is a type of academy, and gives the school certain freedoms compared to local authority schools. At the same time, the school became part of The Hamblin Education Trust, along with Altrincham Grammar School for Boys.





