

## **Admissions Policy**

Who is responsible	Head teacher (Principal)
Statutory policy	Yes
Review timescale	Annual by AGC
Last review	September 2020
Created on	December 2009
Next review	September 2021

**This Futura Learning Partnership Policy has been adapted for:**

**Aspire Academy**

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## **Aspire Academy**

### **Admissions Policy**

#### **1. Rationale**

Aspire Academy is a Special School for pupils with Social, Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH) difficulties as their primary need and may include Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or Speech, language and communication difficulties between the ages of 4-19.

This policy is intended to guide our admissions to ensure that pupils' needs can be met.

#### **2. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- a. Ensure the school discharges its legal responsibilities
- b. Ensure the school is able to meet the needs of the pupils referred & the requirements of the statement
- c. Ensure new referrals do not adversely affect the learning of those pupils already attending.
- d. Ensure it is inclusive in its approach to pupil needs.
- e. Ensure admission is linked to the school ethos and vision for learning.

#### **3. Procedures**

- a. Pupils are referred for placement by the Local Authority Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Team. Each referral is considered using the following criteria;
  - i. SEMH is the priority need
  - ii. Secondary needs may include ASC and/or Speech and Language difficulties
  - iii. There is space in the class/year
  - iv. The new referral does not adversely affect the learning of those pupils already attending
  - v. The school is able to meet the needs within funding available
- b. All pupils attending Aspire Academy on a full time basis have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). The requirements of the EHCP are considered as part of the admissions process.
- c. Each pupil referral is considered on the basis of need. If they have not already visited the child & their parents/carers will be invited to do so.
- d. If the school and / or Governors consider they are unable to meet the special educational needs of the pupil the Local Authority will be informed. The Local Authority will notify the parents/carers of the decision.
- e. Where the school is unable to meet a child's needs the parents/carers have a right to appeal to the Local Authority who made the referral.

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- f. The school is funded for 84 places during 2021-22 and 120 places from September 2022 following a building expansion. All places above that number will be negotiated on an individual basis with the Local Authority
  - g. The LA arranges transport in accordance with its own Home to School Transport policy.

#### **4. Equal Opportunities**

The school supports the right of all pupils and staff to equal access and opportunities regardless of age, ethnicity, gender, social circumstances, ability/disability and sexuality. The school adopts an inclusive approach to pupil needs.

#### **5. Health & Safety**

Health and safety issues are described fully in the school Health & Safety Policy. It is the responsibility of each adult to report health & safety issues without delay.

The health & safety of the pupil referred and the present pupils will always be considered as part of an admission decision. A risk assessment may need to be carried out.

#### **6. Professional Development**

All staff are provided with training opportunities to deliver the curriculum where appropriate. Training needs will be linked to staff appraisal, staff interviews and school improvement plan.

Additional training will be provided for staff where a pupil admission results in an area of special educational needs not previously resourced or where staff skills and knowledge are not felt to be adequate for the additional need.