

Mountjoy School

Admissions Policy

March 2021



Reviewed and Approved by FGB:

March 2021

Date of next review:

March 2022

Signed.....Name.....



Mountjoy School

Admissions Policy



The governors, in consultation with the Headteacher, will admit pupils who have been assessed by the relevant professionals up to a maximum number agreed and published annually.

The vast majority of pupils admitted to Mountjoy School will already have a Statement of Educational Needs. There may occasionally be instances where pupils may be admitted to Mountjoy School during the process of Statutory Assessment, if the expected and professional outcome is looking likely to result in the agreement of a Statement. All admissions to Mountjoy School will have been agreed by Dorset County Council Schools SEN Admissions Team, and will typically happen following SEN Admissions Panel Agreement. The SEN Panel meets termly to discuss and agree placements believed to be the most appropriate for each child. Some pupil admissions may take place in between SEN Admissions Panel Meetings, with careful and close planning taking place within Mountjoy and with the SEN Team, to ensure that we have the capacity mid-cycle.

The overriding aim of this policy is that it should work for the benefit of all pupils, parents and carers involved. It should be simple to use and assist parents and carers to make the best decision for the education of their children. It should contribute to raising standards for all children.

Mountjoy School aims to provide for children who are aged between 2.5 and 19 years who require Special School provision. Children can be admitted at any point between 2.5 and 19 years. This may occur for any one of the following reasons:

- A child's needs may require a special school placement.
- A child with SEN may move into the area, as part of a family unit.
- A child's needs may no longer be appropriately met in his or her current school.
The children all have a learning difficulty and often associated and complex needs.

Our aim is to ensure:

- Any pupil admission will not be contrary to the interests of pupils already in the school.
- All pupils will typically have a Statement of Educational Needs before they are admitted
- That there is a strong transition package including an initial visit with parents/ carers to meet the Headteacher and have a look around the school.

The Headteacher will set appropriate limits for class group sizes according to the needs of the pupils. The number of staff assigned to each group is agreed according to school organisation needs. One of these needs may include a reduction in the number of any pupils within a class group, if classroom organisation needs dictate that an existing resource is overcapacity or that the complexity of pupils reduces the scope for creating a responsive learning provision that contains a 'high' number of pupils.

Admissions are subject to constraints placed upon the school by the relevant authorities, including the Governing Body and Dorset County Council Schools Admissions Team.

Parents have the right to appeal to an independent panel against the decision of the Governing Body to refuse application for a school place. Details of the appeals procedure are available from the school upon request.