



Residential Admissions Policy

Author	Written / Reviewed	Passed by Governors	Next Review
D Hart	March 2021		July 2022

Residential Admissions Criteria

Residential places are normally only available for children currently on role at Shenstone Lodge and up to and including Year 6. All residential placements must be agreed by the Local Authority through the placement and provision panel. This will include review by senior Inclusion Support staff in consultation with school, parents and other agencies where required.

Residential placements are not:

- Made simply because they are requested by a parent/carer or another agency
- An alternative respite facility
- An alternative for families who are unwilling to work with Social Care
- A permanent arrangement, but are reviewed on a termly basis

The criteria for residential placement should be read in the context of the wider criteria for working with pupils experiencing SEMH difficulties within Sandwell's SEND Handbook for Education Providers. Pupils may be placed in residential SEMH provision if it is felt that the residential provision can meet the needs as identified below.

A residential placement is to be used and seen as a time limited intervention and not ongoing provision and should be reviewed as a minimum on a termly basis.

Admissions criteria

1. Transport

For those children for whom the length of time of home-school travel to an appropriate special school is considered excessive and detrimental to the child and to the achievement of his/her educational outcomes.

2. Educational grounds

The pupil may have severe or multiple needs which may manifest themselves with behaviours that are extremely challenging and unhealthy/unsafe despite a consistent and well-planned programme of support. Their needs may be communicated in a variety of ways which may include:

- The pupil has an increased level of risk of harming self and others despite high levels of specialist therapeutic intervention
- The pupil requires prolonged periods of crisis co-regulation: de-escalation that can take several hours and requires more than 1 member of staff
- The pupil is experiencing extreme levels of social isolation or there are concerns regarding emotional wellbeing that requires additional support, enabling the child to remain engaged in learning and interacting with staff and peers.
- There is a deterioration in attendance (despite school / LA intervention) and increased levels of absconding

Please detail below information that has been gathered from teaching staff, wellbeing/pastoral staff, Senco and any other staff working with the child. This should also include detail of what is currently being offered during the school day.

3. Social care needs

This should include the following:

- Any current social care or targeted services involvement to include details of current plan
- Current access to the Local Offer and universal services

4. Health needs

This should include the following:

- CAMHS involvement, support for mental health and well-being through other agencies i.e. Murray Hall, internal therapists
- Medical needs including paediatric and medical consultants, school nurses, occupational and physio therapist
- Any health needs or other issues identified such as tiredness, absence, poor self-care skills, hygiene etc

5. Parents / carers views

- current access to social groups / clubs / wider community support i.e. extended family outside of school day
- views on the need and the likely impact of a residential placement

Procedure

- a) Discussion with teacher/SLT/parent/carer about needs highlighted and the opportunity for residence to be an additional intervention during the waking day hours.
- b) Request for any other supporting information from external agencies if involved.
- c) Report compiled by Head of Care
- d) Report supported to panel for review
- e) School to be notified after 2 weeks if the placement has been agreed or refused.
- f) If agreed, The Head of Care will liaise with the parent/carers to commence the admission of the child, agreeing nights and process. Residential staff will start admission paperwork with the child and introductions. The SEN team will amend and finalise the Education, Health and Care Plan to add residence with the usual monitoring arrangements
- g) If refused parent/carers have the right to appeal decision.