

# The Meadows School



## Admissions Policy

Updated: June 2026

Date to be reviewed: June 2027

Ratified by Governors: June 2026

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## **1. Rationale**

This policy has been adopted and written in relation to Admissions at the Meadows School and should be read in conjunction with the LA's policy and procedures and any DfE Policy, Statements and Guidelines.

## **2. Introduction**

- 2.1 The Meadows School educates pupils aged 9 - 19 with complex, profound and multiple learning difficulties, associated communication and language difficulties and challenging behaviours.
- 2.2 We offer pupils a broad and balanced curriculum, whilst aiming to meet their individual special educational needs. The school is committed to equal opportunities, and where appropriate, pupils are expected to leave School with accredited qualifications. Preparation for life takes on a more prominent role as pupils progress through the school. Our curriculum is highly differentiated to provide for individual needs. This is supported by a team of multi-agency professionals, including, Speech and Language therapists, Occupational therapists, Physiotherapists, teachers for Hearing and Visually impaired students, Educational Psychologists and Community Nurses.

## **3 Principles**

- 3.1 The Admissions Authority for The Meadows School is Sandwell Local Authority.
- 3.2 Pupils are accepted if they meet the following criteria:
  - They have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) agreed by Sandwell LA which specifies severe, complex or profound and multiple learning difficulties, or autism spectrum conditions
  - The needs of the pupil could be met within the schools' resources without compromising the efficient education of others
  - The needs of the pupil are significant and affect most areas of learning
  - The school has a vacancy according to planned PAN (Pupil Admission Numbers)
- 3.3 Prospective pupils will normally have the opportunity to visit the school with their families prior to them being admitted. Pupils can be enrolled at the Meadows School at any point within the year.
- 3.4 Looked after children (or those previously looked after) can be admitted to the school at any time (providing the needs and provision outlined in the EHCP can be met), even if this means the school exceeds its planned place number.

## 4 Procedures

- 4.1 Children are referred to the school in conjunction with the LA. The views and opinions of those agencies and professionals who know the child will be sought during this consultation.
- 4.2 Any independent approach or consultations received directly from out of borough to the school will be referred to Sandwell SEN team.
- 4.3 The Meadows School Published admission number (PAN) is 215 (at December 2022). The local authority and Governing Body must take into consideration the PAN when allocating and accepting places to ensure resources are deployed appropriately.
- 4.4 As part of the consultation process The Meadows will:

Review all consultation documentation to assess if we can meet need or not and send our response to the Local Authority. Placement allocations are conducted on the basis of capacity within each of the school's distinct and defined pathways. Each of the pathways match the educational provision and capacity to the educational need of the individual.

The school leadership team is empowered to make the decisions regarding admissions that are right for the school and to consider the following factors:

- Health and Safety
- Class groups sizes and capacity within pathways and Key Stages
- Staff to pupil ratios based on their Educational Needs
- Resources and Expertise
- Wellbeing of Staff and Pupils

The school will be able to reject a request for a school placement based on the following grounds:

- The placement would be unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or SEN of the young person, or
- The attendance of the child or young person there would be incompatible with either
  - -The efficient education of others (or)
  - -The efficient use of resources.

- 4.5 If a child is offered a place at The Meadows, then the Local Authority will issue a draft EHCP naming The Meadows School.

For further information, please see **[Sandwell LA Admissions](#)**

## 5 Admissions Flowchart

