



# **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

**September 2017**

# Admissions Policy

## INTRODUCTION

Radius Trust is committed to providing outstanding educational opportunities for all our pupils and students. All young people deserve to leave education confident that they have developed the skills they need to achieve their ambitions, with meaningful education, work and life experiences to draw on.

Radius Trust is committed to equality of opportunity and to promoting diversity. We have a 'can do' approach to meeting the needs of all pupils and students.

Radius Trust is committed to meeting the needs of a wide range of students who have a broad spectrum of additional learning needs, some of which may be complex and severe. Some needs will relate to specific learning difficulties, autism, mental health needs, physical and medical needs or those relating to emotional wellbeing and behaviour.

All pupils and students will typically have a 'primary need'; however, many will have a range of additional special needs that can act as a barrier to their learning and development. Our expertise provides pupils and students with the support and experiences which they require to succeed in following their life and career ambitions.

## ADMISSIONS

Any placement within a Radius Trust school will be as a result of careful consideration of that young person's needs, how effectively those needs can be met in that provision and whether they can be met without detriment to other pupils and students already at the school. It is essential that each school carefully manages its pupil and student intake to ensure that they are placed within a context that will most effectively support them to reach their full potential.

Decisions regarding the placement of children and young people involve a number of stakeholders, such as the view of the child or young person, parent/carer preference and the views of experts within the school and/or the Trust. For pupils/students wishing to access SEND specialist placements, the Local Authority is responsible for commissioning the place. Each Radius Trust school requires applicants to have a Statement of Special Educational Needs (historic) or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). For those requiring this, however, it may be necessary in exceptional circumstances to make an emergency placement. Examples of exceptional cases when it may be necessary to make an emergency placement include:

- *the child or young person's medical circumstances have changed suddenly, causing a rapid and serious deterioration in their health or development, including safeguarding concerns*

*– where a child or young person arriving unexpectedly in the LA exhibits such significant learning or other difficulties as would normally warrant a statement.*

In deciding whether a child or young person currently being supported in a mainstream or other setting requires admission to a Radius Trust school, the key question is whether there is convincing evidence that the individual's profile of needs have not sufficiently responded to purposeful action taken by that setting, along with the help of external support and advice. Typically the child or young person's needs will have been supported through a high level of additional resources and will be persistent or recurring, complex and long term. Assessments are thorough and it is likely that the child or young person will be observed as part of the overall assessment process.

When a referral is received from the placing Local Authority the school will consider the request and respond in writing. If a decision is taken not to offer a place, clear reasons will be given for that recommendation. The reasons will be expressed in terms of the needs of the child or young person, whether a place is available at the provision within the appropriate context (e.g. year group) and/or the efficient education of other young people already in situ, so that it is clear why the recommendation is made that they do not meet the published admissions criteria.

Once placement has been agreed, clear and planned transition arrangements are put in place to manage the move. These will be tailored for individual pupils and students.

## **RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Equality & Diversity Policy  
SEND Policy