

# ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ADMISSIONS OF PUPILS TO ELDON GROVE ACADEMY 2021-2022



#### <u>Nursery</u>

Children are admitted into nursery on a part time basis; a child is offered either a place for 5 mornings or 5 afternoons and there is also an opportunity to access a flexible place e.g. 2 ½ days. Parents can access up to 30 hours free childcare if they meet the eligibility criteria set by the government. Admissions is usually in the September or January following the child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. A place in our nursery **does not** guarantee the child a place in school.

#### Main School

Eldon Grove Academy, as a non-selective and inclusive Academy, welcomes children regardless of their aptitude or ability. We have a standard admission number of 75.

The Board of Extol Academy Trust is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for the administration of the admission arrangements.

If the number of applications for places at the Academy is greater than the admission number set for that year group, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below.

After the admission of children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), where the Academy is named in part IV of the statement/recorded in the Plan, we will use the following factors, in priority order, to decide which students will be given places:

- 1. Looked after children (children in public care), or previously looked after children.
- 2. Children with brothers or sisters who are already at the Academy.
- 3. Children whose main residence is within the catchment area.
- 4. Children who are distinguished from the great majority of other applicants
- 5. Proximity to the Academy.

Criterion 5 may be used as a tie-breaker.

#### Definitions of Terms used in the Admission Arrangements

# Notes: Children who have an Education Health Care Plan and where the Academy is named in Part IV of the statement/recorded in the Education Health Care Plan (EHCP).

Those children will have undergone a statutory assessment of their special educational needs. Where an academy is named in the statement/recorded in the EHCP, the academy must admit the child.

#### 1. Looked After Children

The definition of a 'looked after child' is a person under the age of 18 who is provided with accommodation by a local authority, acting in its social services capacity, for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, by agreement with the parents or in accordance with section 22 of the Children's Act 1989. Previously looked after refers to those children who immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order (under the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014), or specialist guardianship order (under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989). Children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements (respite care) are excluded.

#### 2. Rules for Siblings

Those children who have brothers or sisters who will be attending the school in the following September Included in this factor are stepbrothers and sisters and half-brothers and sisters living at the same address and who will be attending the Academy at the expected time of admission.

#### Twins or multiple birth children

If you have more than one child who are twins or part of a multiple birth going through the application process this year, you must make a separate application for each child and indicate on each online or paper form that your child has a sibling also going through the process.

# 3. Rules for Residence

We have the right to investigate whether you live at the address you say you do and we may change any offer if incorrect information has been given.

# 4. Rules for Those Pupils who are Distinguished from the Great Majority of Other Applicants

Those children who are distinguished from the great majority of other applicants whether on medical grounds or by other exceptional circumstances and who would suffer significant hardship if they were unable to attend the Academy.

**Medical Grounds/Exceptional Circumstances** – A panel of specialist officers will determine whether the evidence provided is sufficiently compelling to meet the requirements for this criterion. If you think your child has a particular medical or social need to go to a certain school, you must provide supporting evidence from a doctor, psychologist or other professional involved with your child. The supporting evidence must relate specifically to the school you are claiming medical grounds/exceptional circumstances for, and clearly demonstrate why it is only that school that can meet your child's needs in a way that no other school can. If you are applying on-line for a place under this criterion, please send your supporting evidence to the Admissions Team by the closing date, which should include your child's name and date of birth.

NB: Exceptional social reasons do not, in the view of the Academy, include domestic inconvenience arising from parents' work patterns, child-minding problems, separation from particular nursery/primary school friends. Problems of this kind are widespread and cannot be classed as exceptional. Medical reasons do not include temporary conditions. They are permanent medical conditions which require special treatment available at the preferred school only. Medical evidence must be provided and the Academy must be satisfied that the child would suffer to a significant degree if he/she went to any other school

# 5. Proximity to the Academy

Those children who live closest to the school as determined by a 'straight line' distance measurement; from the (ordnance survey) address point for the child's home to the (ordnance survey) address point of the school.

# Tie Breaker

If more children qualify under a particular criterion than there are places available, priority will be given to those children who live closest to the school (as described under criteria 5).

# Appeals Against a Decision not to Admit a Child to the Academy

Parents have a legal right to appeal against a decision not to admit a child to the Academy. The Academy will be happy to provide information about this on request.

# Admission of Children Outside their Normal Age Group

In reference to paragraph 2.17 of the School Admissions Code, if a parent requests their child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, the admissions authority will decide on the basis of the circumstances provided.

# Waiting Lists

Waiting lists are held in school for all year groups. Please contact the Academy to place your child's name on the waiting list. Names will be ranked in line with the Admission Policy criteria. If a place should become available the academy will write to offer a place to the highest ranked child. If the child does not require a place it will be offered to the next highest ranked child until the place is filled.