



RIPPLEVALE
SCHOOL

Admissions Policy

Staff Responsible: Headteacher

Approved by: Directors

Date: 03/09/2018

Last reviewed on: Feb 2022

Next review due by: Feb 2023

Ripplevale School Admissions Policy

'Ripplevale School provides a caring learning environment where our students make meaningful progress, relative to their individual starting points. Our aim is to encourage them to develop appropriate personal, social and employable skills enabling them to become confident, independent and aspiring young people.'

Ripplevale School is an independent day Special School. Ripplevale School will accept young people who have an EHCP and have a diagnosis of ASD. They may have experienced a disruptive and disturbed educational life and may have very low self-esteem, social and emotional and sensory needs, including anxiety, coupled with difficulties relating to communication.

Initial enquiries may be by phone, letter or e-mail and visits arranged by Admissions Manager.

Students are referred by their Local Educational Authority who will be responsible for the funding of any agreed placement. Privately funded student referrals are also accepted, with ASD and associated needs.

Ripplevale School has an extensive and robust admissions process to ensure that the specific physical, emotional and educational needs of the students will be met and the placement is suitable for them.

Admissions criteria

- The age of the child on date of admission must be between 6 and 18 years of age.
- Students will not have challenging behaviours that may cause distress to other students.
- The child or young person must be capable of working in a class of up to a maximum of eight students.
- All children and young people admitted must have clearly stated that they will aim to try to conform to the standards of behaviour.
- Parents and/or carers will be asked to agree to a working partnership that will be open and honest throughout their child's stay at Ripplevale School and sign a home school agreement.
- All students referred should have an EHCP or be in the process of obtaining this.
- Prior to the formal interview being arranged Ripplevale School will require the EHCP and consultation from the Placements Officer or relevant documentation from privately funded students.

Student Friendly Interview

A student friendly interview will be held at Ripplevale School by appointment for parents/carers and their son. The family will have the opportunity to walk around the school and see parts of the school day to get a feel of Ripplevale life and any questions pertinent to the individual student.

There is an expectation that a decision to attend Ripplevale School should not be arrived at without due consideration. Following a successful tour and interview, a 'taster day' will be offered during which time

the child or young person will be informally assessed in terms of whether the provision can meet the needs as outlined in the EHCP. This may include time with our Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist, potential class group and SENCo. After this process the Placements Officer will be informed of the final decision by the Admissions Manager and the family informed thereafter, and in the case of privately funded students, the family will be informed.

Six week assessment period

During the initial six weeks staff gather evidence relating to academic levels, social and emotional needs within our setting. During this time parents/carers receive phone calls to let them know how the student is settling in.

At the end of the six week assessment the SENCo will liaise with the teaching staff team in the collation of findings.

A comprehensive report will be sent to the relevant Local Authority and parents / carers.

The report will provide information relating to the way that the school will interpret the Provision Plan and Outcomes initially, possibly with new short term targets and any relevant interventions that will support the student holistically.

If necessary, parents / carers will be invited to attend a meeting at school to discuss the report and any in school alterations to the Provision plans.

It is then hoped the parents/carers will participate in the day-to-day progress and needs of the student including the annual EHCP review and regular parents' evenings and will become as involved in their child's educational progress as is possible. They will be supported in this by the tutor, SENCo and Parent Support Advisor.

UPDATE SCHEDULE

Version	Reviewed	Reason for update
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1	Sept 2017	Statutory Review
<u>2</u>	Nov 2019	Statutory Review
<u>3</u>	<u>March 2022</u>	<u>Changes made</u>