



Admissions Policy

Introduction

The Brackley STEAM Park Academy is an educational SEND provision for pupils aged 4-11 who would benefit from a placement away from their mainstream primary school setting.

The aim of the academy is to promote inclusion, raise standards of behaviour and achievement by proactive early help. This will support primary schools in reducing fixed term and permanent exclusions.

Pupils are likely, but not exclusively, to have experienced school attendance problems, social, emotional or behavioural difficulties.

Pupils who will benefit from a placement at Brackley STEAM Park Academy are likely to fall into the following categories:

- Pupils who have social and emotional difficulties which are impacting on their education. This may manifest itself through withdrawal from temporary education and school life
- Pupils who have had patterns of poor school attendance and cannot re-establish consistent attendance at their mainstream setting
- Whereby the mainstream setting cannot meet the needs due to staff shortages or the pupils complex needs
- Pupils who are disaffected with mainstream education to such an extent that continuation of a full time placement in their setting is no longer a positive option
- Pupils who have been bullied
- Pupils who are disadvantaged and vulnerable due to a range of social circumstances and factors (e.g. families experiencing risks such as poverty, substance misuse, mental health)
- Pupils who have had, or are at risk of having a fixed term or permanent exclusion

The purpose of this document is to set out the academy's admission policy and to demonstrate that pupil admissions will be fair, open and transparent.

The admissions policy will:

- Offer primary schools and academies early help placements to meet the needs of disaffected and vulnerable pupils
- Enable Brackley STEAM Park Academy to provide a structured, calm, safe, stable environment which will ensure that we are able to meet the pupils needs of each pupil
- Support the aim of Brackley STEAM Park Academy which is to re-engage pupils with learning and return to a mainstream primary education

Admission Arrangements

The principal aim of the Brackley STEAM Park Academy is to provide early help to support for primary schools and pupils and help re-engage pupils with their learning in a mainstream setting. Due to this, the majority of placements at Brackley STEAM Park Academy can be short or long term, with pupil's dual roll registered. This will be subject to regular review.

Full time or longer term placements will be available where it is clear that an early return to mainstream school would not be appropriate.

Primary schools will only admit pupils to Brackley STEAM Park Academy in line with this admissions policy and following referral steps from an academy trust, a maintained school or by WNC Local Authority.

Brackley STEAM Park Academy will be run in accordance with all equalities law. It will admit pupils aged between 4 and 11 years who have been referred to the schools' admissions panel through one of the referral routes set out below:

- by an academy trust which, under general powers in the articles of the academy trust may send pupils off-site to an alternative provision academy as part of early help measures to address behaviour
- named by a pupil on an application from the (LA) Local Authority, in accordance with a school attendance order after consultation with the Secretary of State.
- by a maintained school or academy when they have a duty under Section 100 of the Education and Inspections Act 20062.
- by the Local Authority where they have a duty under section 19 of the Education Act 1996.
- by a maintained primary school under powers set out in section 29(A) of the Education Act 2002

Brackley STEAM Park Academy does not accept referral applications from parents/carers or self-referrals.

Local authorities are able to issue school attendance orders if a child is not attending school.

These are legally binding upon parents. Such an order might, for instance, be appropriate where a child has a place at Brackley STEAM Park Academy but his/her parents are refusing to send him/her to school. The order will require a parent to ensure his/her child attends a specified school.

Section 100 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires maintained schools and academies to arrange full-time education for pupils on a fixed period exclusion of more than five days from the sixth day of the exclusion.

Section 19 of the Education Act 1996, and regulations made under that section, require a (LA) Local Authority to make arrangements (from the sixth day of exclusion where a pupil has been permanently excluded) for the provision of suitable, part time (unless there are medical reasons as to why this would not be appropriate) education at school or otherwise for a child of compulsory school age who, for a range of reasons, would otherwise be without education.

Section 29A of the Education Act 2002 provides that governing bodies of maintained schools may direct a pupil off-site "for the purpose of receiving educational provision which is intended to improve pupils behaviour".

Pupil Admission Numbers

The Brackley STEAM Park Academy has a published pupil admission ratio number of 6 part-time equivalent places per session.

As the academy will operate with predominantly short-term and part-time placements the admission numbers should allow for considerable flexibility in meeting commissioner's needs.

Pupils will not be admitted above the published admission number unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Admission Procedures

Register or a placement must be made on the Brackley STEAM Park Academy referral form or through the LA.

Referral forms need to be accompanied with the pupil's most recent EHCP or EOTAS or pathway to ASD.

Brackley STEAM Park Academy will discuss potential referrals both with SENCO, commissioners (if applicable) and the pupil's parents/carers prior to any start date being confirmed at our SEND provision.

Pupils will be given a morning afternoon trial session period on roll to ensure that the provision can meet their needs before full acceptance on roll. This will be discussed with the school SENCO.

Pupil Registration and Information Sharing

The numbers on roll at Brackley STEAM Park Academy will fluctuate throughout the academic year. Brackley STEAM Park Academy will make sure that all pupils are registered accordingly in line with section 434 of the Education Act 1996. All part-time pupils or those attending on early help or on a fixed term exclusion will remain on the register at the commissioning primary school and with Brackley STEAM Park Academy (dual registration). A pupil attending who has been permanently excluded will be removed from the parent school's register and be dual registered on the Local Authority roll.

Oversubscription Criteria

Brackley STEAM Park Academy aims to be flexible in its approach to placement requests and will at all times strive to offer a part-time placement as a minimum to commissioners. In the case of oversubscription, after the admission of a pupil with an Education Health and Care plan (EHCP) where Brackley STEAM Park Academy is named on the plan, the following criteria will be applied:

- Looked After Children who are in public care and previously Looked After Children
- Pupils who have an EHCP for social and emotional issues which are impacting on their education. This may manifest itself through withdrawal from education and school life

- Pupils who have social and emotional issues which are impacting on their education that manifest themselves through withdrawal from education and school life
- Pupils who have had patterns of poor school attendance and cannot re-establish consistent attendance at their mainstream setting
- Pupils who are disaffected with mainstream education to such an extent that continuation of a full-time placement in their setting is no longer a positive option
- Pupils who have been bullied, or have bullied others
- Pupils who are disadvantaged and vulnerable due to a range of social circumstances (e.g. families experiencing risks such as poverty, substance misuse, mental health issues)
- Pupils who have had, or are at risk of having a fixed term or permanent exclusion

Appeals

Admissions appeals arrangements are not statutory regarding AP schools and academies. However, at Brackley STEAM Park Academy we want to be as fair, objective and transparent as we can with all stakeholders regarding our admissions procedures.

Commissioners have the right of appeal against the refusal of a place at Brackley STEAM Park Academy for which they have applied. Commissioners wishing to appeal must contact the manager.

The commissioner of any child who is refused a place at Brackley STEAM Park Academy has a right of appeal to an independent appeals panel. The panel consists of three people who are independent of the school body and the Local Authority. The panel will consider the circumstances of the case put before them. Both Brackley STEAM Park Academy and the commissioner must abide by the decision it makes.

This policy was adopted by: Brackley STEAM Park Academy	Date: 5 September 2024
To be reviewed: 4 January 2025	Signed: HARVEY SHARMAN