



Physis Heathgates Academy

Admissions Policy

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Postholder responsible: Cheryl Matthews	Date: 30/06/2022
Last reviewed on: 09/06/23	
Next review due by: 09/06/2024	

1. Introduction

Physis Heathgates Academy is a specialist Independent School providing education to girls aged 11-18 who are at risk or who been victims of exploitation, trafficking, abuse and neglect. The

Academy delivers individualised educational provision to students whose complex needs, require high levels of understanding, consistency and continuity through integrated therapeutic approach.

We focus on students who may be 'lost to education/, at risk of exclusion or out of school with a placement difficult to establish. This may include, but is not limited to, young people who have a Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and young people who do not have a EHCP but are undergoing a Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment. Typically, they will be young people who have faced disruption, isolation or other challenges in their learning journey through a number of factors. They may be those who are at risk of becoming long term 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' (NEET). In addition, they may have a range of associated difficulties such as: Specific Learning Difficulties such as Dyslexia, ADHD or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Our aim is for high standards of attainment by providing an individualised bespoke curriculum. To ensure the students are provided with a safe and secure nurturing environment. Helping students to have a positive and confident attitude towards themselves and belief in their abilities in order for them to achieve their full potential.

The underlining ethos of the school is humanistic in that we maintain a strong commitment to our belief that given the appropriate level of engagement, support, resource and encouragement, that children and the young people we work with can make sense of their past experiences, make full use of opportunities on offer, and subsequently live fulfilled and productive adult lives.

We recognise our duty to embrace diversity and to work to overcome prejudice and we do not discriminate on grounds of gender, ethnicity, race or religion. Admission is reliant on the school's admissions procedures as set out below.

2. Referrals

Physis Heathgates Academy provides for girls aged 11-18 who are at risk or who been victims of exploitation, trafficking, abuse and neglect. Young people are referred to Heathgates Academy either as part of their referral for specialist residential care with the Physis Quantum Group or for a day placement via their home Local Authority (LA), parents/carers and other external agencies subject to state funding.

Placements are full time on a day provision basis. Admissions to Heathgates Academy can be made at any point in the academic year though referrals for young people in year 11 should ideally made during the autumn term.

3. Admission procedures

Admissions to the school come through Physis Quantum Group, to whom the school belongs. Students who attend are either in residential care or reside within the local area and have needs requiring specialist provision due to CSE.

Admission is arranged through the Physis Quantum Group referral team based at the Head Office in Whitchurch, in consultation with the Headteacher. Following an initial inquiry, completed referral documents will be requested. On receipt of referral information, dialogue and meetings may take place with the LA, parents/carers and any other relevant professionals involved with the child or young person and further necessary information gathered. For young people who are referred for placements in Physis Quantum's specialist residential care and require education provision at Heathgates Academy, the Headteacher along with the Registered Care Manager and Director of Children's Services will consider all available information and reply to the referring body with the decision regarding admission. For young people who are referred for a day placement via their LA, parents/carers or other external agencies, admissions will be considered by the Headteacher and Director of Children's Services. If the decision is to admit a student, an acceptance form, with fee structure and terms and conditions, is sent to the funding body. On receipt of confirmation from the funding body that the place will be taken up, a meeting will be arranged with all relevant individuals involved with the student, to plan their transition and induction to the school.

4. Inability to offer a placement

Decisions around admission to the school will be made following consultation with the referring body, parents/carers and other relevant agencies working with the child or young person. Should they child or young person's stakeholders wish to appeal a decision made regarding admissions, they should follow the procedure as set out in the schools Complaints Policy.

Heathgates Academy retains the right to refuse the admission of a student on the following grounds:

- The school feels that the student's needs, as identified in their Education Health and Care Plan and/or referral information, would not be met.
- The school feels that the student's needs could be met by other LA services such as mainstream schooling or alternative provision and that a placement at Heathgates Academy would be inappropriate given the needs of the young person.
- The school has reached its capacity in terms of the number of placements.
- Any competition for placements would see a 'Looked After Child' take precedent over other non 'Looked After' Children.

5. Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually, by the Headteacher or other appropriate member of the school's senior leadership team. The policy will also be approved by the school's Governing body.

Monitoring

	Signature	Date
Policy Reviewed By:		
Next Review Date:		
Interim Review Comments:		
Policy Reviewed By:		
Next Review Date:		
Interim Review Comments:		
Policy Reviewed By:		
Next Review Date:		
Interim Review Comments:		