



THE
RAISE
ACADEMY

Admissions Policy

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AIMS

We understand how important it is to find the right educational setting for your child. One that can fully meet their needs so that they can feel supported, safe, happy, settled and therefore, are able to reach their full potential.

The Admissions process can differ from school to school and we understand that at times it can appear quite complex so we are here to guide parents/carers through, making the admissions procedure as smooth and straightforward as possible. Therefore, this policy aims to:

- Give a **brief overview** of what The Raise Academy can **offer**
- Explain **how to apply** for a place at the Academy
- Set out the academies **arrangements for allocating places to learners**
- Explain **how to appeal** against a decision not to offer your child a place

LEGISLATION AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

This policy is based on the following advice from the Department for Education (DfE):
[Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years \(2014\)](#)

- [School Admissions Code \(2021\)](#)
- [School Admission Appeals Code \(2022\)](#)

As an Academy, the school is required by its funding agreement to comply with these codes, and with the law relating to admissions as set out in the [School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#).

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

OFFER

We offer 64 bespoke education places to students who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for SEMH. The Academy is able to provide a temporary assessment place for a student whilst an immediate needs assessment for SEMH takes place.

The role of The Raise Academy

The Raise Academy welcomes applications from all parents and carers, however, the school can only consider placement through official consultation via the local authority. The Local Authority will consult with the Raise Academy and the school will have 15 days to respond to the consultation. During the consultation period

parents/carers and prospective students may be invited to visit the school, representatives from the school may visit your child in their current school or at home. This is so that we can ensure that school can fully meet need and that offering the placement is in the best interests of the child.

The role of the Local Authority

As we are a Specialist School funded by the Local Authority. It is the Local Authority that controls admissions to the school in accordance with its Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) policies and procedures as well as considering the 2014 Code of practice and the 2010 Equality Act. The Local Authority will consult with the Raise Academy on request of parents following agreement from the Local Authorities SEN Panel. The Raise Academy will have 15 days to respond to the consultation. If the school are able to offer a place, then the final decision on placement will be agreed by the Local Authority.

The role of parents/carers

Parents are encouraged to visit and learn about the schools that are appropriate to meet their child's needs. The first instance, parents and carers are asked to contact the schools Pastoral Lead. Once contact has been made an appointment will be made to meet with the Pastoral Lead. During the initial meeting Parents/carers may also meet the headteacher and/or SENDCO who will explain about school policies and practices. Parents/carers (and their children if attending the meeting) will then be invited to tour the building to meet staff and pupil to see the provision available.

ASSESSMENT PLACES

The Academy is able to provide a maximum of 4 assessment places for a student whilst an immediate needs assessment for SEMH takes place. These places are limited and must be agreed and authorised collaboratively with The Raise Academy and the Local Authority. These places will be reviewed half termly, and progress and further information will feed into the EHCP process. If an EHCP is issued then The Raise Academy can be formally consulted for a permanent place. If an EHCP is not issued or the Academy is unable to meet the needs of a student placed then the academy will support and facilitate a graduated and bespoke transition.

HOW TO APPLY

All Students attending The Raise Academy must have an EHCP (or equivalent) or be under a needs assessment for SEMH. Applications for admission are made via the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team on behalf of the Local Authority. The Local Authority will consult with The Raise Academy and the academy will have 15 days to officially respond, stating if they can meet need and if they are able to offer placement or not. The school is not able to agree an admission unless the school has been consulted by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team.

ALLOCATION OF PLACES

The Academy has an agreed admission number of 64 but will open with 48 places growing to 56 then 64 learners by 2027.

Academic year 2024 - 2025	Academic year 2025- 2026	Academic year 2026 - 2027
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 places in year 7 • 16 places in year 8 • 8 places in year 9 • 8 places in Year 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 places in year 7 • 16 places in year 8 • 16 places in year 9 • 8 places in year 10 • 8 Places in Year 11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 places in year 7 • 8 places in year 8 • 16 places in year 9 • 16 places in year 10 • 8 Places in year 11

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will be given to those children who meet any of the criteria set out below, in order until all places are filled.

1. Highest priority will be given to looked after children and all previously looked after children who apply for a place at the school.
2. Priority will next be given to children on the basis of social or medical need. The school defines social and medical need as those students at risk in their social context as identified by professional bodies, and students whom are heavily involved with CAMHS for mental health support. The school requires further evidence from these professional bodies as supporting evidence if you are making an application on the basis of social or medical need.
3. Priority will next be given to children of staff at the school, in either of the following circumstances:
 - a) The member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or
 - b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
4. Priority will next be given to children who attended one of the other trusts alternative provision, or other specialist provisions – The Fermain Academy, The Axis Academy, The Keystone Academy or Cornerstones.
5. Priority will next be given to children with siblings at the school. Siblings include step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living

permanently at the same address. Priority will not be given to children with siblings who are former pupils of the school.

TIE BREAK

In the case of 2 or more applications that cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria outlined above, the school will use the distance between the school and a child's home as a tie breaker to decide between applicants. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home address to the school's front gates on Naylor Road. A child's home address will be considered to be where he/she is resident for the majority of nights in a normal school week.

IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS

The Local Authority can enquire about a place for your child at any time outside the normal admissions round.

If there are no spaces available at the time of your application, your child's name will be added to a waiting list for the relevant year group, if it is agreed that the child's needs can be met, as outlined in their EHCP. When a space becomes available it will be filled by one of the pupils on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed in section (6) of this policy. Priority will not be given to children on the basis that they have been on the waiting list the longest.

APPEALS

If your child's application for a place at the school is unsuccessful, you will be informed why admission was refused and given information about the process for hearing appeals. If you wish to appeal, you must set out the grounds for your appeal in writing and send it to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team

MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the YES Trust board.

Whenever changes to admission arrangements are proposed (except where the change is an increase to the agreed admission number), the Trust board will publicly consult on these changes.