

Admissions Policy and Procedure

Hopedale School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is our aim that all pupils fulfil their potential.

Review date: May 2018

Complies with Part 6, Paragraph 24 (3) (a) of The Education (Independent School Standards Compliance Record) (England) (Amendment) Regulations

At Hopedale School we are registered to educate children from the age of 5 to 18 covering Key Stages 1-5. No child is refused entry on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, religion or sexual orientation.

Hopedale provides education for pupils those with social, emotional and mental health difficulties, as well as other needs or diagnoses, including ADHD, CD, ODD, ASD, S&L and moderate to severe learning difficulties. All children are referred to us by Local Education Authorities.

The vast majority of our children have an Education, Health and Care Plan, and others may be undergoing assessment.

When Local Education Authorities refer a pupil to us:

A local authority refers pupils that they feel may be a good match to Hopedale. If there is a school place available, the Headteacher considers the EHC plan and shares initial thoughts regarding the suitability. The information provided assists the Headteacher her assessment as to whether a school placement is viable and appropriate. The Headteacher considers whether the school has sufficient staffing in terms of number and experience to manage such admission both in terms of the individual child's needs and respect of the potential impact that the admission may have on existing group dynamics. The Headteacher either seeks consent from the local authority to contact parents/carers and current education provision to observe the pupil, or states that we do not feel that Hopedale can meet the pupil's needs at this time

If agreed, Hopedale observes the pupil in their current education setting (or at home if they are not in education), and invites the parent(s)/Carer(s) and potential pupil to visit school.

The Headteacher meets with the parent(s)/Carer(s) and pupil ensuring that they will be fully supportive of our ethos and approach.

If agreed by all parties, then an admission plan is set out. This involves full information gathering, documentation completion, contracting and pupil induction.

On the day of admission, pupil details are entered into the admissions register and the accompanying information is filed.

All decisions regarding admissions are made in accordance with the Code of Practice for Schools, Disability Discrimination Act 1995 Part 4 and Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Hopedale has a policy for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in line with the SEN Code of Practice (July 2014)

Our school makes provision for children who have English as an additional language, (EAL) in the assessment procedure. We do not regard children as having a 'learning difficulty' solely because the

'language or medium of communication of the home is different from the language in which he or she is or will be taught' (Education Act 1996, Section 312(1), (2) and (3)).