

The Academy of Central Bedfordshire

ADMISSIONS POLICY



Last Review Date: January 2019

Next Review Date: January 2020

Approved by: _____(Sign)

_____ (Print)

_____ (Date)

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Introduction

The Academy of Central Bedfordshire (ACB) is an alternative provision free school for students in Years 7 – 11. Places are commissioned at The ACB by the local authority and local schools. The ACB fulfills the role of a PRU for the LA, providing day 6 provision for all permanently excluded students. Schools and neighbouring authorities are able to commission places at The ACB as an alternative provision provider. The Academy of Central Bedfordshire is for students who would benefit from extra personal support to succeed and is committed to improving the education for students who have been excluded or those who are at risk of exclusion.

Admission Arrangements

The Academy of Central Bedfordshire is situated across two sites in Central Bedfordshire, with one site in Stotfold and the other in Houghton Regis. The Academy of Central Bedfordshire can cater for up to 140 students each academic year, across the two sites.

Placements at the Academy of Central Bedfordshire will be considered in the following ways:

- 1) Referrals made by Academies, Maintained Schools and neighboring authorities for short stay/part time access to The ACB.

The student in this case will be dual registered, with their referring school being the host school and The ACB being the subsidiary. The length of these placements will depend on the student's needs and will be subject to review.

- 2) Referrals made by Academies and Maintained Schools for full time access to the Academy.

The student will be at risk of permanent exclusion and a full time place will be commissioned to enable a permanent exclusion to be averted through early intervention. The student in this case will be dual registered with their referring school being the host school and The ACB being the subsidiary. The student may stay at The ACB accessing the alternative curriculum provision with reintegration to mainstream schools considered only if deemed appropriate. Reintegration will be considered on a student by student basis against assessed needs and progress.

- 3) Referrals made by the Local Authority

The student in this case will be registered at The Academy of Central

Bedfordshire. This placement will normally be for students who have been permanently excluded and where the Local Authority is responsible for the student's education from the 6th day of a permanent exclusion.

N.B. With all of the above, parental agreement/preference will be addressed. The Academy of Central Bedfordshire recognises parental right to express an alternative preference at another school or Academy.

Admissions Criteria

In the event of oversubscription of referrals criteria will be applied in the following order:

(1)	All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after'
(2)	Where medical and/or social circumstances set out that the Academy of Central Bedfordshire is the most suitable provision for the student. Written evidence must be provided from a relevant professional, i.e. doctor/consultant, social worker etc.
(3)	Children who live nearest to the school determined by straight line distance from the school site to the student's home address.

The admissions criteria will be applied separately and sequentially until all places are filled. Priority is not given within each criterion to students who meet other criteria. The distance criterion will be used as a tiebreaker in each criterion where required to determine the allocation of places.

In the event of (a) two or more students living at the same address point (e.g. students' resident in a block of flats) or (b) two addresses measuring the same distance from the school, the ultimate tie-breaker will be random selection, using the Tribal Admissions database to allocate the place.

DEFINITIONS

'Looked after' children

A 'looked after' child is a child who is (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

Previously 'looked after' children

A previously 'looked after' child is one who immediately after being 'looked after' became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. An 'adoption order' is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'residence order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians)

Waiting list arrangements

In the event of there being more referrals for places than places available the Academy of Central Bedfordshire will hold a waiting list for one term prioritising students for a place in accordance with the admissions criteria for the Academy.