

APPENDIX A



ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR ASC OPPORTUNITY BASE AT GLENTHORNE HIGH SCHOOL

Admissions Criteria

There are 20 places in the Glenthorne High School ASC Opportunity Base, a maximum of four in each year group from Year 7 to Year 11. Admissions to the Opportunity Base will not be made above the number of funded places.

Placement of a child in the Base is the decision of the Local Authority in consultation with the school. Pupils will be considered for the Base when it is clear that they will benefit from the provision and that they meet the following criteria:

- Pupils have an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP).
- Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) is identified as the prime need on the EHCP, and any other needs are secondary.
- Pupils have demonstrated, within primary education that they can, on the whole, access a mainstream curriculum.
- Any emotional and behavioural difficulties are not the prime difficulty and will not adversely affect the individual or the school community as a whole.
- The range of needs will reflect the triad of impairments which are related to the autistic spectrum:
 - Impairment of social interaction. This can involve difficulty in making sense of, and using, all aspects of verbal and non-verbal communication.
 - Impairment of social communication. This includes a fundamental disability in understanding something from another's point of view or perspective and affects a child's ability to make relationships with others.
 - Difficulties with flexible thinking and social imagination. This can include rigour of thought, liberal understanding of situations and insistence of preservation of sameness.
- In cases of oversubscription, priority will be given to Sutton residents.

Visits

In cases where the ASC Base is a possible placement for a child, the family will be encouraged to visit. Information may also be sought from the SENCO at the child's primary school. However, there can be no comment about the child's suitability, or an offer of a place, before the school has consulted the Local Authority. The decision to offer a place will be made by the Local Authority in consultation with the school.

Referral

All referrals need to be processed by the Sutton Local Authority SEN team. When a referral is received from the Local Authority, the school will consider the request and respond in writing within the time limit set by the Authority. If a decision is taken not to recommend offering a place, the Local Authority will be given the reasons for that decision. The reasons will be expressed in terms of the needs of the child and the efficient education of other pupils already at the school.

Children outside the London Borough of Sutton will be referred by the Local Authority in which they are resident to the SEN Team in Sutton for consideration.

Assessment

When a referral is made, the Local Authority will always attach the Education, Health & Care Plan, the most recent Annual Review and any appended reports about the child from the professionals involved. The Local Authority will not wish the school to duplicate any assessment, but the school may wish to speak to the SENCO at the child's primary school and seek the advice of the Local Authority, particularly if a recent report is not available.

The Headteacher will review the referral papers and request any additional reports required. If she decides that the child does not meet the admissions criteria, she will inform the Local Authority.

Transition

When placement has been agreed, contact will be made with the pupil's current placement to arrange a transition programme with exchange of information and reciprocal visits where practical and appropriate

Exit Criteria

The child will be referred to the SEN Panel if:

- it is considered that he/she has gained in independence and can access the mainstream curriculum without specialist support from the ASC Base;
- the changing needs of the child indicate that alternative provision may be more appropriate.

This Admissions Policy has been drawn up following consultation between Sutton Local Authority and staff and Governors of Glenthorne High School