

Admissions Policy

St Piers Admissions Policy is focused on ensuring that placements at the school and college are matched with those children and young people with SEND and epilepsy, who will benefit most from our innovative approach to Education and the nurturing environment of our residential homes.

St Piers will ensure that it meets the requirements of:

- All legislation and regulation related to the admission and delivery of services to children and young people. With specific focus on the provisions of:
 - The Children Act 1989
 - Care Act 2014
 - Equality Act 2010
 - the Children and Families Act 2014
 - SEND code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years (2015)

The key elements of this policy and the associated procedure will be included as a matter in the relevant Statement of Purpose.

This policy is designed to ensure that the organisation has a clear and transparent approach to the assessment of children and young people for all school and college placements.

The guiding principle for assessing whether a placement at St Piers school and/or college is suitable for a child or young person is whether it is in their best interests.

The assessment of whether a placement meets this principle, will take into consideration:

- If their needs can be met within their existing community and/or in a mainstream setting or in a setting that can equal or better meet their needs.
- The preferred education setting of the child, young person, and family

These considerations reflect the requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years (2015) and the commissioning priorities of local authorities.

This means that St Piers College and School will only accept placements, where:

- It is agreed they will benefit from an educational placement
- It is in the best interests of children or young adults



- They, or their family, have chosen St. Piers College or School as their preferred education setting or are happy to accept the decision of a tribunal to place the young person at St Piers.
- We are named on the Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) by the funding authority
- It can be demonstrated that we can meet or exceed the requirements of an Education, Health & Care Plan, in terms of progression and achievement in relation to age and capacity appropriate outcomes associated with:
 - Communication and interaction
 - Cognition and learning
 - Social, emotional and mental health
 - Sensory and physical well being
 - Independent living
 - Employability
 - Community inclusion

The placement of the child or young adult in either the school or college will be based on a professional assessment which confirms it is the most appropriate environment for the child or young person and in their best interests. Assessment will be undertaken by a St Piers Admissions Panel and will consider the education, health and care needs of the child or young adult. The assessment process is open and transparent and will have due regard to information supplied by parents, professionals, and previous settings; full disclosure of any relevant issues is expected and failure to disclose may result in the withdrawal of any placement offer. This assessment will also take into consideration the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014, Care Act 2014, SEND code of practice 0-25 and any other associated regulations.

The assessment will consider but is not limited to:

- The age, ability, and needs of the child or young person
- The availability of a suitable peer group
- The behaviour of the child and young person and their impact on their peers
- The suitability of our environment in terms of meeting the needs of the child or young person
- Journey times and other external environmental factors that may affect the suitability of any placement

The assessment will include but is not limited to:

- A meeting with the child or young person's current provision
- An outreach visit if required
- A meeting with parents or carers
- An assessment visit in school or college
- An assessment visit to the residential house if appropriate
- Residential placements are only provided where it is agreed that the child or young person will benefit from an educational placement at St Piers. These are provided on a weekly boarding basis. Consideration will be given to the capacity and capability to meet



needs and provide an environment where students continue to develop and progress outside of the educational setting. This will also take into consideration, the necessary requirements to assure the health and well-being of young person, their peer group and the whole cohort.

- Referrals for school and college will only be considered where there is an Education, Health and Care plan. A transition plan, focused on the start of the placement, should also be prepared and made available. This policy will be updated in line with changes in education policy.
- In all admission decisions, Young Epilepsy will pay due regard to equal opportunities and diversity. Young Epilepsy will remain prepared to make reasonable adjustments to stated entry criteria to enable admission where it is felt to be appropriate to do so.

This policy is agreed by the Executive Principal and will be implemented by all Departments.	
Signed: 	Date: 1 November 2025
Name: Jeremy Law Title: Executive Principal	
	Date of next review: 1 November 2027

Version table			
Date of creation: 01/11/2023			
Approved by:			
Version no.	Date of changes	Reasons for change	Changes made by
2	01/11/2023	To ensure policy remains appropriate and fit for purpose	Sue Etheridge
3	20/10/2025	To ensure policy remains appropriate and fit for purpose	Sue Etheridge

