

DOVE HOUSE SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST

Admissions Policy

Policy Title		Admissions Policy	
Author / Reviewer		Headteacher/Governance Lead	
Trustee Committee		Board of Trustees	
Signed by: Lisa Goodall (Chair of Trustees)			
Reviewed: October 2021	Approved: October 2021	Next Review: October 2022	

Dove House School Academy is a secondary school for students with moderate learning difficulties (MLD). We offer a structured, calm, caring and friendly environment where students can thrive academically and personally. We believe that preparation for adulthood and employment is key to all that we do at Dove House.

Our class sizes are smaller than those in mainstream schools, resulting in higher staff/student ratios. We offer the National Curriculum for the secondary phase (excluding modern foreign languages) with a highly structured approach and delivered at a pace and level, matched to students' individual needs.

Each student has an individualised plan that sets out short-term targets and the support provided to achieve them, which is designed to facilitate their individual access to the curriculum. Depending on their level of need, students have the opportunity to gain accreditation at either Entry level, Foundation level or GCSE.

All students at Dove House School Academy are subject to an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP), the Code of Practice for Identification and Assessment of Student with Special Educational Needs and/or any modifications to that legislation or requirement as issued by the DfE and Hampshire County Council.

The student's EHCP will be reviewed at least annually enabling us to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the plan. This provides the opportunity for parents/carers, the student, the school and other professionals to discuss the student's progress and whether any adjustments need to be made to the EHCP.

Dove House School Academy expects that any student and their parents/carers who accept a place at the school implicitly accept the school's Behaviour Policy (available on our website).

Tours of the school are available during the day, led by one of our Senior Leadership Team. If you would like to visit, then please contact the school on 01256 351555.

The Local Education Authority SEN team determines all admissions to Dove House School Academy and therefore parents/carers do not need to complete an application form.

You can tell the Local Education Authority SEN team your preferred education setting for your child and they will name that education setting in the final EHC plan unless:

- it is incompatible with the child or young person's age, ability, aptitude or special educational needs

and

it is incompatible with the efficient education of others with whom the child or young person would be educated, or the efficient use of resources.

This means that the Local Education Authority SEN team feel the education setting would not be suitable for your child given their age or ability. Also, that it might impact in a negative way on the education of other children or the resources available in the setting.

When considering which education setting to name, the Local Education Authority SEN team will always consult with:

- the child's current education setting
- the child's catchment mainstream school or college
- any other education setting deemed by the Local Education Authority SEN team as the 'nearest suitable'
- the education setting preferred by the parents or young person, if different to the above.

The Local Education Authority SEN team will carefully consider the views of these settings. It is possible that the setting will raise concerns about being able to meet the needs of the child. They might decline to offer a place for the child or young person.

The Local Education Authority SEN team will work with the setting to ensure that they are meeting all their statutory duties. They must make reasonable steps and not treat any child less favourably because they have SEN or disability. When an education setting is named in an EHCP, it must admit them.

Sometimes, it won't be possible for the Local Education Authority SEN team to agree to name the education setting preferred by the you or child. In this case, the Local Education Authority SEN team will always discuss this with you and explain their decision.

Information about Special Educational Needs can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/specialneeds/sen or from the SEN Service Tel: 0300 555 1384 or E-mail: enquiries.sen@hants.gov.uk

Students will normally be admitted in the autumn term, but may also be admitted at other times and the process for an in-year application will follow the same process as normal admissions and are managed by the Local Education Authority SEN team.

Post 16 Provision

Dove House School Academy has a Post 16 provision, which accepts students between the ages of 16 – 19. Our programme provides individually tailored packages for each student which will support and develop their independence, confidence and employability skills. We support students to find and sustain employment.

The criteria for admission to our Post 16 provision is:

- Entry Level /Level 1 learners (Level 2 requiring specialist support)
- An existing EHCP, which highlights the need for Post 16 provision, which prepares them for employment
- Students likely to progress into employment within the next 2 years
- Students who would benefit from accessing a specialist SEN provision and support, with high expectations and aspirations.
- Students willing to participate in work placements with a positive attitude towards learning
- Students requiring further support from specialist therapies, additional life skills or travel training.

If you are interested in our Post 16 provision, you will need to name Dove House Post 16 as your preferred option on your EHCP.