



Admissions Policy

Date Published	March 2021
Version	3
Approved Date	July 2025
Review Cycle	Annual
Review Date	July 2026

An academy within:



“Learning together, to be the best we can be”

1. Context

- 1.1. Kingfisher Academy is designated for pupils whose primary special educational need has been assessed as 'Medical Needs'. The school currently has 195 planned places (65 in acute settings and 130 for medical outreach and support via Chapel House) for and the school will admit a pupil where a medical professional has admitted them to a hospital setting OR where medical evidence indicates the pupil is too ill to attend school. The age range of pupils is currently 5 – 18 years, with key stage places structured as follows (*please note numbers are indicative, and may vary throughout each academic year):

Key stage	Number of pupils
KS1 (5 -7yrs)	2
KS2 (7-11yrs)	26
KS3 (11-14yrs)	38
KS4 (14 -16 yrs)	89
KS5 (post 16)	5
Total	160

- 1.2. Places at Kingfisher Academy are funded in line with the High Needs Block Operational Guidance. Where children have additional needs, this will be defined by the school and agreed by the commissioning Local Authority.

2. Admission Criteria and Arrangements

- 2.1. Places will be taken up at the point of pupil's need. Admissions are agreed by medical staff based on needs of the medical needs of the child. Pupils will remain on their own school roll and will be registered with us as Guest or Dual Registered.
- 2.2. Places at our Post 16 provision will usually be taken up at the start of the school year, though by agreement with the Headteacher of both Kingfisher Academy and Silverdale, places can be accessed at any time of the year. Admissions are generally only agreed if an EHCP has been completed and the needs of the child have been clearly defined in line with the school's designation.
- 2.3. Consideration will always need to be given to the numbers in - and profile of - each year group.

3. Referral Routes

- 3.1. All referrals for Hospital Provision come from medical practitioners. They are also responsible for agreeing discharge.
- 3.2. All Referrals for Pupils at our Chapel House Provision come from medical practitioners. Where extent of medical need is unclear a Local Authority Panel will decide if a place is warranted.
- 3.3. Parents who wish to consider a place at Kingfisher Academy's Post 16 Provision for their child should contact their Local Authority SEND Assessment Team for guidance on relevant procedures
- 3.4. All EHCPs should incorporate clear and accurate description of needs together with appropriate funding to meet those needs. However, when this does not occur the school will negotiate, with the commissioning Local Authority, for the appropriate level of bespoke funding for the placement to be viable and sustainable. A formal review of the EHCP will be requested if needed.

4. Admission Eligibility Criteria

- 4.1. The child is currently too unwell to attend their own school.
- 4.2. The child's placement in the school is compatible with the efficient education of others and the efficient use of resources. (This is decided by the NHS).
- 4.3. The appropriateness of the resource required for children with challenging behaviour or complex medical needs have been considered alongside the needs of the existing year group and within the overall context for the school. (This is decided by the NHS).

Kingfisher Academy Post 16 Provision at Silverdale

- 4.4. The school is suitable for the child's age, ability, aptitude, disability and assessed special educational needs;
- 4.5. The child has an EHCP indicating "social, emotional, mental health" or "communication and interaction Difficulties" as a primary special educational need;

- 4.6. Parents and/or the child have expressed a preference for the school or in cases of dispute, the local authority has agreed with the school to name it in the EHCP;
- 4.7. The child's placement in the school is compatible with the efficient education of others and the efficient use of resources
- 4.8. The commissioning local authority provides top-up funding in line with the assessed needs of the child's educational, behavioural (including any additional supervisory requirements), medical and care needs and is relative to the cost to the school for delivering a support package which enables at least good provision to be in place
- 4.9. The appropriateness of the resource required for children with challenging behaviour or complex medical needs have been considered alongside the needs of the existing year group and within the overall context for the school.

5. Admissions Criteria/Priorities for when Placements are Limited

- 5.1. The placement allows for efficient use of school resources.

6. Admissions procedure including 6th Form (Post 16 places)

- 6.1. Admission into our 6th Form follows the same process as for all students
- 6.2. Once a placement has been agreed new pupils/students have a home visit or visit school with their parents/carers to plan a transition into school.
- 6.3. For Silverdale Hub, please see above.

7. Appeal Arrangements

- 7.1. Pupils may be placed within the hospital settings under section. Parents who wish to appeal this decision need to follow the NHS protocol. Kingfisher Academy school is not responsible for the admission of pupils



into hospital settings.

- 7.2. The Chapel House provision within Kingfisher Academy, as part of Nexus Multi Academy Trust, will always ensure that parents and the commissioning Local Authority are kept informed when the school is considering refusing an admission. The school will be clear with both parents and the Local Authority about the reasons underpinning a potential refusal which, by law, must relate directly to the suitability of the placement for the age, ability, aptitude or SEN of the child or young person, or to concerns that the placement would be incompatible with the efficient education of others, or the efficient use of resources
- 7.3. Where a parent is unhappy that the school is considering refusing admission, the school, Trust and Local Authority will consider any reasonable steps that could be taken to address identified concerns before a final decision is made. Parents must be informed that if they wish to appeal, the grounds for an appeal must be set out in writing.

8. Funding of Places

- 8.1. Local Authorities commission and fund places for pupils at the school based upon identified needs established through a Multi-Agency Statutory Assessment that are costed and recorded in an EHCP where relevant.
- 8.2. The Education & Skills Funding Agency provides some core funding for an agreed number of planned places, but it is commissioning Local Authorities that are responsible for ensuring that funding is appropriately matched to needs identified in EHCPs.