



Admissions Policy

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Introduction

Compass Learning Partnership currently consists of two schools, The Village School and Woodfield School. We have followed the DfE's Schools Admission Code when developing our admission arrangements.

Our school aims to ensure that pupils have the maximum opportunity to participate fully in society to enhance their life and be prepared for adulthood.

Pupil Profile

The Village School is an all age special school (3-19 years) which caters for all student's needs. All pupils who come to The Village School have an Education Health and Care Plan. The school meets the needs of children with the following profiles:

- All levels of learning from Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties to pupils who are able to access nationally accredited courses and national curriculum.
- Autism Spectrum Condition
- Moderate to Severe Learning Difficulties
- Complex medical conditions and physical Disabilities
- Communication difficulties
- Sensory impairments including hearing and visual impairments

Provision

The school is housed in a state of the art specialist provision, and has two further sites, one of which is located within a mainstream partner provision. The Village School has particular strong links with Kingsbury High School.

Our curriculum is highly differentiated to provide for individual needs. This is supported by the multi-agency teams which includes speech and language therapists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists. The core of the curriculum is an emphasis on functional communication, life skills (including financial management), personal, social and health education (PSHE).

It is very important that we work in partnership with families in order to provide the best outcomes for our learners. We expect families to attend scheduled meetings across the year in order to support their child's learning and development.

A number of pupils transfer to the school from mainstream schools and we offer a range of Inclusion opportunities for pupils who need the highly specialist provision of a special school but also have potential for some mainstream inclusion opportunities.

The classroom structure is: (Is this bit needed?)

- Staff ratios are high and staff are deployed in accordance with the needs of the pupils.
- As pupils move through the Villages they have access to new opportunities in an age appropriate and meaningful context.
- Pupils are taught in class sizes from 8-12 pupils per class.

Employed by The Village School there are:

- A range of primary and secondary teachers with special and mainstream educational needs experience and training.
- Specialist teachers in the Expressive Arts; Physical development and Education
- Qualified Teachers for the Visually Impaired, Hearing Impaired and Qualified Teacher for the Multi- sensory Impaired
- Swimming Pool Instructor and Pool Attendants
- Speech and language therapists and assistants
- Occupational therapists and assistants (including moving and handling assistants)
- Physical Management Strategy Team (Lead and assistants)
- Family Workers
- Administration team knowledgeable in SEND, data and website management
- Highly skilled ICT team experienced in SEND and network management
- Dedicated site management team
- Positive Behaviour Inclusion Team

Hosted at The Village School;

- An experienced team of paediatric nurses employed by the National Health Service (NHS) and based in our building
- Highly experienced NHS physiotherapists and physiotherapy assistants
- Visiting NHS paediatric consultants for school based clinics and medicals
- NHS Orthotics clinics
- AJM Healthcare Wheelchair clinics (commissioned by NHS services)
- NHS Dietician advice and appointments
- Connexions and health transition support
- Apprenticeships and work experience opportunities

Admission Criteria

The majority of our pupils join us in the Early Years but we accept applications at any point in the pupil's educational journey particularly at secondary transfer.

A child is eligible to be offered a place at The Village School, if they meet the following criteria:

- The child has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- The child presents within the aforementioned pupil profile.
- There is evidence from professionals that the child will benefit from access to a highly modified, personalised curriculum within a special school environment.
- The child's profile is banded within Brent's 4-6 SEND Banding range for most of the students. If deemed appropriate additional funding may be sought above the base banding.
- A place is available in an appropriate class group that will offer a suitable peer group to meet the child's personal, social and learning needs
- The child's parents are in agreement with the idea to place their child within a special school setting

Children may be placed on any of our sites during the duration of their education. The location is determined by the Head Teacher.

NB. The Hope Centre site is not an ideal setting to meet the needs of children with significant physical disabilities or medical needs as we are housed in a two-storey building with 2 flights of stairs, with limited access. There is limitation of the available space within this setting as it was not purposefully built.

The Village School can only admit a child:

- If there is a vacancy in an appropriate key stage/class group/year level
- If the needs can be met by the school
- If the child's needs can be accommodated without adversely affecting the education of the other children in the school;
- If the placing LA agrees to the Banding (funding) identified by our School

A school will not be able to admit pupils over our number (PAN) except in exceptional circumstances for example where they are at risk of exclusion or where no other appropriate placement can be found. Admission over number can only be agreed with the consent of the School's Head Teacher in liaison with the Chief Executive Officer & Executive Head Teacher. If consent is agreed to place a pupil over number, the placing Authority must agree to the Banding and support level requested by the school.

Most of our pupils will have more than one complex need. A review of the EHCP is carried out by the school each year on each pupil in conjunction with the pupil, the family, the Local Authority and other professionals involved. If the provision at The Village School is no longer found to be appropriate the placement is reassessed.

We do not have a waiting list as places rarely emerge throughout the year. We do not accept direct applications to the school as all places are allocated via the Brent SEN Panel. This ensures that every child has their individual case considered.

The level of therapy support

Speech & language therapy, Occupational therapy and Physiotherapy is determined by the individual pupil's EHCP and will be charged accordingly in addition to the banding. Physiotherapy is provided by the NHS local trust which have specific eligibility criteria. If the student is deemed out of borough (e.g has a GP outside of the local trust area), individual physiotherapy will be calculated and costed accordingly. The school will provide this support through funding their own educational employed physiotherapist.

Therapeutic equipment will need to be funded in addition to the banding cost. An approximate cost will be calculated when the school offer a placement. This will need to be agreed. Once the child is accepted, assessment and quotations from therapeutic specialist reps will be provided (e.g. standing frames, acheeva beds; specialist seating).

Pupils requiring high levels of medical support and intervention will need to have this clearly identified on their EHCP and any enhanced level of support funding should be identified. This will include additional funding through the CCG.

Admission procedure for families

Please visit the school website (www.tvs.brent.gov.uk) for more information about our school.

Parents/Carers considering The Village School for their child are encouraged and welcome to visit the school. Please contact the school office to make an appointment with Elsie Penez (family worker). Please specify the specific needs of your child so Elsie can arrange which site may be more suitable to view.

If following your visit, you are interested in a place for your child, you should discuss this further with the London Borough of Brent Special Needs Department (Tel: 0208 387 3851), or your own local authority.

Brent SENAS will apply to appropriate schools based on the EHCP and parental choice. This may mean The Village School will receive an application for consultation. As part of the consultation process at The Village School, the child and parents/carers are required to attend an Initial Assessment Meeting at the school. Following this assessment, the school's admission team will review the assessment and determine whether there is a suitable class and if the school can meet your child's needs. The Local Authority will then be notified of the outcome.

If the school decides that it can meet the child's Special Educational Needs and there is a suitable place available, the Local Authority will be asked to confirm that it accepts financial responsibility for the placement before a place can be secured.

Following confirmation that the Local Authority will accept financial responsibility for the placement, a transition plan is developed with a mutually agreed start date by the school, the local authority and parents.

Priority for all places are given to Brent residents, according to age and need. Requests from out of borough children and young people are considered on an individual basis.

Appeals and oversubscription

As schools for pupils with SEND, our trust has decided that all of our admissions will be conducted via Brent Local Authority.

As an academy trust we reserve the right to refuse admission when an individual's admission does not comply with the above. Appeals will be heard by our appeals committee that is made up of Local Academy Board governors and trustees from our board.

If an individual wishes to appeal against an appeal outcome they should discuss and address their appeal with the Secretary of State for Education.

Name of policy: TVS Admissions Policy
Next review: September 2022

Revision history

Date	Details	Author
Sept 2020	Reviewed	Jessica Maye (Head of Therapies)
Sept 2018	Reviewed	Hermann Farrington (Deputy Head Teacher)
Nov 2017	Reviewed	Jessica Maye (Head of Therapies)
Sept 2016	Reviewed	SLT

