Barrs Court School
‘Together we empower and believe to thrive and achieve’

Admissions Policy

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designated Staff Member</th>
<th>Lisa Appleton</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date of Recent Review and Ratification</td>
<td>March 2019 v1.2</td>
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| Date Produced           | July 2018                      |
| Date of Last Update    | NA                             |
| Next Review Date       | March 2020                     |
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Admissions Policy

1. Introduction
1.1 Admission of students to the school is through a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan). Admissions to special schools, such as Barrs Court, are for the Local Authority (LA) to determine on the basis of its consideration of all the advice received about a Child or Young Person’s special educational needs and disability (SEND). The Local Authority is Herefordshire Council’s Children’s Wellbeing Directorate, the admissions authority.
1.2 All students on roll at the school have been assessed as having a learning difficulty and/or disability and may have characteristics that include:
   - Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)
   - Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD)
   - Multi-Sensory Impairment
   - Autistic spectrum disorder;

2. The Admissions Process
2.1 The Admissions Process at Barrs Court School is determined by ‘The School Admissions Code’ and ‘The Admissions Appeals Code’ written by the Department for Education (DfE).
2.3 The level and type of provision required by a Child or Young Person is considered at the point of agreeing a statement of special educational needs or Educational, Health and Care Plan or at an Annual Review.
2.4 The school receive consultation papers from the LA.
2.5 The school reviews all documentation and considers whether the student’s needs can be met and whether the school has the space, staffing and resources to accommodate the student within its existing operational organisation.
2.6 Parents/carers, prospective students, their teachers and supporting professionals are advised to and welcomed to visit the school by prior appointment.
2.7 Children and young people can be admitted to Barrs Court between the ages of 11-19 depending on availability of spaces.
2.8 We believe it is important that all prospective families are able to have knowledge of and evaluate all the options available to children who have an EHC Plan or Statement of Special Educational Needs. We welcome informal visits by families without obligation or without waiting for the LA to name Barrs Court School.
2.9 Once a place at Barrs Court has been formally offered a transition programme to Barrs Court will be planned for the child or young person on an individual basis and may include taster sessions or a phased entry into school life if that is requested.
2.10 Before a pupil commences at Barrs Court School, the parent(s) or carer(s) are required to visit briefly to furnish essential medical details and complete the necessary consent forms to enable their child to participate fully in school activities.
2.11 If appropriate Barrs Court staff will visit the student’s school and family as necessary to acquire information that would support the student’s transition to their new school.

3. Consideration of Additional Criteria
3.1 The school is funded for a set number of planned places. If the composition of admissions looks likely to exceed the number of planned places, or:

- class sizes will become too large and unmanageable;
- health and safety procedures are likely to be breached;
- the financial resources to provide specialised equipment or additional support become totally inadequate.

3.2 The Governing Body, in consultation with the Headteacher and LA, will decide which students should be admitted. The Governing Body will make its views known immediately to the LA who ultimately have the responsibility to provide an appropriate education for all children and young people.

4. Review of the Policy
4.1 The school’s arrangements for admissions will be annually reviewed by the Headteacher. The policy will be approved by the Full Governing Body.

Signed:

Mrs. Julie Cohn (Chair of Governors)

Lisa Appleton (Headteacher)

March 2019

Date for review: March 2020