



**Acer  
Academy**

Part of **KINGS ACADEMY TRUST**

**Acer Academy**

**Admissions Policy**

## **Acer Academy - Admission Arrangements**

Acer Academy is a special school which provides 65 day places for 11-16 year old students in an environment where pupils will have identified needs around Autistic Spectrum Conditions/Social Emotional Mental Health. They can access a specialised and holistic education that will also provide a therapeutic environment. The carefully planned environment and engaging, personalised curriculum on offer is designed to meet the needs of students with complex needs. All pupils must have an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school.

At Acer Academy we offer a carefully thought through curriculum, with the curriculum focus developing as the students move through the Key Stages e.g. with more focus on developing independence and life skills through simulated and real life experiences as they move to KS4. Effective and strong links will be forged with the local community.

### **Transition from Year 6 to Year 7**

In the process of considering naming Acer Academy in a plan, the LA must consult with the school and the school will consider the appropriateness of the placement for the child and would also ensure that naming a child for Acer Academy would be in their best interests, that Acer Academy can indeed provide the right educational environment to meet individual student needs. EHC Plans inform admissions (taking in to account both prior levels of attainment and additional needs). Meetings with parents, visits to children in their current schools and discussions with current school staff and other professionals all provide valuable information to support appropriate placement. The final decision on the school to be named rests with the local authority responsible for maintaining the statement.

We can only accept referrals from Local Authorities (LA). Whilst parents are welcome to visit the school and can be provided with information about the school, the school cannot proceed to the admissions stage without local authority support. Parents wishing their children to benefit from our provision should ask their local authority to name our school in their child's EHCP.

Once it has been agreed that the school can provide the right educational experience for an individual, a transition programme is put in place in the Summer Term to allow a number of supported visits to Acer Academy, over a period of weeks, and where possible supported by staff from the current school. Transition is supported by printed and digital resources, summer school transition visits and personalised materials to allow familiarisation with the school before arrival and admission.

### **Joining Acer Academy School in Years 8 – 11**

Occasionally, students join Acer Academy in years 8 – 11. In the same way that we consider admissions for students from Year 6 into Year 7, each potential student's needs are carefully considered to ensure that Acer Academy can meet these needs and is able to provide them with the right educational environment in which they are able to thrive and work towards the outcomes outlined in their Education and Health Care Plan. Each student's EHC Plan informs admission and our consultation process

takes into account the levels at which the student is currently working and the additional needs which are outlined in the EHC Plan. In addition, we meet with each student's parents, undertake visits to students in their current settings and discuss each individual's needs and aspirations with current school staff and other professionals. These discussions provide us with valuable information to ensure that a placement at Pioneer House is appropriate for each individual student.

Once it has been established that the school can provide the right educational experience for an individual, a transition programme is put in place to allow a number of supported visits to Acer Academy over a period of weeks, where possible supported by staff from the current school. In addition to transition visits, the process is supported by a wide range of resources, personalised for each individual which allow for familiarisation with the school before admission.

For further information on our school, and the process for obtaining a place here contact Salford Council Admissions. .

### **Tribunals**

Although parents can indicate to their local authority the school of preference to be named the authority may not agree with the placement identified. In such circumstances parents have the right of appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (SEN & Disability). The school will adhere to LA decisions.