

ADMISSION POLICY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2020/21

1. Rainhill High School has converted from a Trust School to become an Academy, and lead school, within Stephenson Multi Academy Trust.
2. The Governing Body of the school is responsible for determining the policy relating to the admission of pupils to the school. It is guided in that responsibility by the requirements of the law.
3. The ethos of the school: to foster collaboration to benefit children and young people by expanding the opportunities open to them in education, training and employment; to promote a culture of innovation, combining traditional values with a 21st century approach to the curriculum; to contribute to community cohesion through the provision of quality extended services.
4. Having consulted with the Local Authority and others in accordance with the requirements of the law, the Governing Body has published its admissions limit at 300 pupils for the school year commencing September 2020.
5. Applications for a place in year 7 in September 2020 should be made on the applicant's home local authority common application form. Copies of St Helens Secondary Education Information for Parents Booklet and application forms will be available at all St Helens primary schools and the Admissions Section of the Local Authority from September 2019 onwards. The Booklet may also be viewed and applications made on-line via the Council's web-site from September 2019.

The closing date for applications is 31 October 2019.

Decision email/letters will be sent to parents on 2 March 2020.

6. The Governing Body has delegated responsibility for determining admissions to St Helens Local Authority, which will consider all applications made in accordance with the oversubscription criteria, without reference to the ability or aptitude of the child.

Late Applications

Applications submitted after the closing date will only be considered alongside those who applied on time when they are received before the allocation procedures begin. However, as this date cannot be predicted, parents have no guarantee that any application received after the closing date will be included.

How places were allocated in September 2018

All preferences were resolved through the Local Authority's Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme and 331 applicants were left with Rainhill as their higher ranked preference. After allocating 1 place to a pupil with an EHCP, where Rainhill High was named, the remaining 299 places were allocated according to the published oversubscription criteria as follows:

Oversubscription Criteria

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the oversubscription criteria set out below. After the admission of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans, where Rainhill High School is named on the Plan, the criteria will be applied in the following order:

1. looked after children and children who were previously looked after but then became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. (This includes children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted;2)
2. children from the following associated primary schools;
 - Eccleston Lane Ends Primary
 - Longton Lane Community Primary
 - Nutgrove Methodist Aided Primary
 - Oakdene Primary
 - St Ann's CE Primary
3. children who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of likely admission. The brother or sister must be on the school roll in Years 7 – 11. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters, adopted and foster brothers and sisters or a child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, who is living at the same address and is part of the same family unit;
4. other children.
 1. A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a local authority in England, or is being provided with accommodation by a local authority in England in the exercise of their social services functions.
 2. A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

Tie Break

In the event of any over-subscription in the number of applications made under any of the categories above the Governing Body will offer places first to children whose family home is nearest the school. The measurement shall be done by the Local Authority in a straight line using a Geographical Information System (GIS) based on Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data and the National Grid co-ordinates for the family home and the school. Where the tie break does not distinguish between applicants e.g children living in the same block of flats random allocation will be used. This will be done by drawing lots and supervised by someone independent of the school.

Special Conditions for Twins (etc.)

Where the final place in a year group is offered to one of twins (or triplets etc) the Local Authority will not apply the tie break as it will admit the other twin etc too, even if that means going above the admission number.

Definition of Home Address

This is the confirmed address (before allocation procedures begin) where the child and parent, or person with parental responsibility, normally live. The Governing Body will use the address of the parent who is in receipt of Child Benefit for this. If parents are separated and the child spends time at each parent's address, the address which receives Child Benefit will normally be used, but the Governing Body reserves the right to request other proofs as fit the individual circumstances. It may be necessary to carry out checks to confirm that addresses given are genuine. Parents may, therefore, be asked to produce documentary evidence of their child's home address e.g. Council Tax or utility bills. Any subsequent change to a child's home address must be notified to the Admissions Section of the Local Authority.

False Information

Where the Governing Body discovers that a child has been awarded a place as a result of any false information, it will withdraw the offer and the child will lose the place.

Waiting List

During the normal admissions round, if a place is refused because the School is oversubscribed your child's name will automatically be placed on the waiting list. The waiting list will be kept in priority order according to the oversubscription criteria and not on the date on which applications were received. If a place becomes available within the admission number, the child whose name is at the top of the list will be offered a place. Children who are the subject of a direction by the local authority to admit or who are allocated to a school in accordance with the Authority's Fair Access Protocol will take precedence over those on the waiting list. The waiting list will close at the end of the autumn term for the September 2020 year 7 intake.

In-Year Fair Access Protocol

The Governing Body has a duty to comply with the Local Authority's In -Year Fair Access Protocol and therefore admit up to +2 managed transfers per year group, even if the year group concerned is full.

All schools must participate in their Local Authority's protocol. For that reason, admission appeal panels will not view the fact that Rainhill High School is obliged to admit over its admission number as an indication that it can do so for all in year transfers without causing prejudice to the efficient provision of education or efficient use of resources.

In Year Transfers

Applications for a place in Year 7 after the waiting list has closed or Years 8 –11 should be made on the Local Authority's in year common application form. The application will then be processed in accordance with St Helens in year co-ordinated admissions scheme. Parents will normally receive a written response to their application within ten school days.

Appeal Procedure

Where parents are unsuccessful in applying for a place at Rainhill High School, the decision letter will give reasons why the application was refused and notification of the right of appeal, including details of how, and to whom, to make an appeal and where to obtain further information.

SIXTH FORM ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Applications for admission into year 12 will be administered by the school.

Rainhill High has capacity for 250 pupils in the sixth form. Applicants from outside the school, will be accepted if a place is available and the applicant meets the same criteria as those applying internally. The school will be able to admit up to 20 external applicants in total in Year 12. However, it may exceed this number if demand for available courses can be met.

Both internal and external pupils wishing to enter the sixth form will normally be expected to have met the minimum academic entry requirements for the sixth form. If either internal or external applicants fail to meet the minimum course requirements they will be given the option of pursuing alternative courses for which they do meet the minimum academic requirements.

Entry Requirements

Basic Entry:-

As a minimum students need to secure 5 grade 4's at GCSE (or equivalent) including English Language GCSE at Grade 4.

To study A-level:-

As a minimum students need to secure 2 grade 6's and 3 grade 5's at GCSE including grade 5 in GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics.

To study Applied General or Technical Awards:-

As a minimum students need to secure 5 grade 4's at GCSE or equivalent including a grade 4 in GCSE English Language.

Please note:-

Each course is to have their own distinctive entry requirements which provide a further layer of refinement in terms of student placement.

Students who are studying Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Computer Science, Psychology and Economics are strongly encouraged to take L3 Core Mathematics if they are not already studying Mathematics at A-level due to the increased mathematical content of these courses.

Process of Application

Prospectuses and application forms are published during the autumn term prior to admission, and are available to all who request them by contacting the school.

The Sixth Form Open Evening will be held for 2019 entrance in the 2018 autumn term. Application forms must be received by the closing date publicised in the school's prospectus.

When the sixth form is undersubscribed all applicants meeting the minimum academic entry requirements will be admitted.

Post 16 oversubscription criteria

When there are more external applicants that satisfy any academic entry requirements than the number of post – 16 places available (either on a particular course or for the sixth form as a whole) and after the admission of pupils with Statements of Special Educational Needs where Rainhill High is named on the statement, the criteria will be applied in order in which they are set out below:

- (1) *looked after children and previously looked after children;
- (2) children who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of likely admission. The brother or sister must be on the school roll in Years 7 – 11. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters, adopted and foster brothers and sisters or a child of the parent/

carer's partner, and in every case, who is living at the same address and is part of the same family unit;
(3) other children.

Tie-break

The measurement shall be done by the Local Authority, on behalf of the school, in a straight line using a Geographical Information System (GIS) based on Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data and the National Grid co-ordinates for the family home and the school. Home address shall be defined as the address of the primary carer of the child, who is in receipt of child benefit.

Where the tie break does not distinguish between applicants e.g children living in the same block of flats random allocation will be used. This will be done by drawing lots and supervised by someone independent of the school.

Special Conditions for Twins (etc.)

Where the final place in a year group is offered to one of twins (or triplets etc) the tie break will not apply as the other twin etc will be admitted, even if that means going above the admission number.

Appeal Procedure

Any student refused admission to the sixth form has the right of appeal to an independent appeals panel. The school's decision letter will give reasons why the application was refused, including details of how, and to whom, to make an appeal and where to obtain further information.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health.

A decision is made on the basis of the circumstances of each case.

The process is as follows:

Stage 1 – request

Parents make a formal request to the Local Authority's School Admissions Team in writing with any supporting evidence they wish to be considered.

A request for early entry into Year 7 should be made before 31 October in the previous academic year in order to give sufficient time for the case to be considered prior to the offer of school places on 1 March.

A request for in year admission outside of the normal age group should be made on the Local Authority's In Year Transfer Application Form.

Stage 2 – decision

Requests will be referred to the school to be considered and a decision made.

Stage 3 – outcome

Request agreed:

If the request is agreed the application will be considered for the relevant year group and ranked alongside any other applications. There is no guarantee that a place will be offered. Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Request refused:

There is no statutory right of appeal against the refusal of a request for admission outside the normal age group. However, if the parents are dissatisfied they have the right to complain under the school's complaints procedure.

LFC ACADEMY EDUCATION CENTRE

The LFC Academy Education Centre is funded and resourced by Liverpool Football Club for Liverpool FC Academy players. Therefore, admissions to the Centre are outside the school's admission policy and arrangements and are not included in the 300 Published Admission Number set by the Governing Body.