# Olive Academies Independent School
# OA-North View

# Admissions Policy

| Document control table | |
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| Title | Admissions Policy |
| Approved by | OAISB |
| Updated and approved | September 2026 |
| Date of next review | February 2027 |
| Updates/revisions included: | This policy has been aligned with the Thurrock Council Service Level Agreement and further aligned to the Independent School standards.<br>This policy applies to Olive Academies Independent School OA-North View and should be implemented consistently throughout the school. Proposed amendments should be referred to the Head of School/Executive Headteacher and OAISB for consideration |

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## 1. Introduction

This admissions policy is aligned with the following:

- Service Level Agreement with Thurrock Council (April 2026)
- The ISS Part 6 Provision of Information 32(1)(a) and (b) for prospective parents,

This policy sets out the arrangements for admissions to OA North View, an independent specialist school for pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. The policy reflects the school's commissioning arrangements with Thurrock Council and is published in accordance with Part 6 of The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (as amended), which requires certain information to be made available to prospective parents.

OA North View provides education for pupils aged 11–16 who have SEMH (social, emotional and mental health) needs, have experienced longstanding and complex barriers to learning and have an EHCP or are being assessed by the local authority (Thurrock Council). The school's aim is to re-engage young people in education through access to a fully inclusive and personalised curriculum, delivered by highly qualified staff in a safe and nurturing environment.

## 2. Admissions Overview

OA North View has a service level agreement (SLA) with Thurrock Council to provide high-quality, inclusive, specialist provision for children and young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs within an independent school context.

Admissions to OA North View are made through Thurrock Council, we do not accept direct applications from parents or carers. All placements are commissioned by Thurrock Council based on pupil needs and the suitability of our provision and they coordinate referrals, consultations and placement decisions through the agreed Education Health Care Plan consultation processes. OA North View participates in admissions discussions with Thurrock Council and provides timely, evidence-based consultation responses. The school will consider whether it can meet a pupil's needs, whether the placement is compatible with the efficient education of existing pupils, the safety and wellbeing of all pupils and staff, and whether appropriate staffing, resources and accommodation are available.

Where a pupil is admitted, the school and Thurrock council will agree a start date, transition plan, family communication and any immediate support required for a successful transition.

## 3. Eligibility Criteria

In order to be considered for admission a pupil's profile should align with the designation and provision's purpose which is to provide specialist education for pupils with SEMH focusing on social, emotional and mental health needs, regulation, safety, curriculum access and successful transition to the next phase of education or employment.

Admission will normally be considered where a pupil's identified needs align with the school's specialist SEMH designation and where the school is satisfied that it can reasonably meet those needs. This includes the following criteria:

- Aged between 11 and 16 years.

- Have SEMH needs requiring specialist provision and intervention.
- Have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school, or are undergoing statutory assessment or consultation by the local authority in relation to an EHCP placement.

OA North View is committed to equality of opportunity and does not unlawfully discriminate on the grounds of protected characteristics. Reasonable adjustments will be considered in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

## 4. Information for prospective parents

Information for parents and carers about the school is available on the school's website:
The information available includes the following:

- the school's policy on and arrangements for admissions
- educational and welfare provision for pupils with an EHCP and pupils for whom English is an additional language (EAL)
- the curriculum policy
- arrangements for behaviour, exclusions, anti-bullying, health and safety, and first aid
- the school's academic performance during the preceding school year, including the results of any public examinations
- details of the complaint's procedure and the number of complaints registered under the formal procedure during the preceding school year
- a copy of any Ofsted inspection report

## 5. Safeguarding

OA North View is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils. All admissions are reviewed by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to ensure the safety and suitability of placement. We comply fully with the statutory guidance outlined in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE), the most recent version.

Admissions and transition arrangements will take account of safeguarding, welfare, attendance, behavioural and medical information to ensure appropriate planning and support for each pupil.

## 6. Appeals

If your child is not offered a place at OA North View, you have the right to appeal the decision. For a child who has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), appeals must be directed to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), not through the standard school admissions

appeal route. Queries relating to placement decisions should initially be directed to the local authority SEND team.

## 7. Review of Policy

This policy is reviewed annually by the Head of School and Olive Academies Independent Schools Board (OAISB) to ensure compliance with statutory guidance and alignment with the local authority's (Thurrock Council) commissioning requirements.