

# One Degree Academy: Admissions Policy

DRAFT: Updated 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016



The One Degree Academy is an all-through school in Enfield that will deliver a high quality education to all our students. It is a non-denominational, non-selective school for local children. It will have 60 reception places available in 2016 and 90 in 2017. On the opening of its secondary provision it will also adopt a PAN of 90 in year 7.

The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils each year if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission numbers for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the free school to all those who have applied.

The admissions arrangements for The One Degree Academy are in line with the existing Admissions Code, The School Admission Appeals Code, and admissions law as it applies to maintained schools and academies.

Prior to opening in 2016, One Degree Academy will operate its own admissions arrangements outside of Enfield Local Authority co-ordinated admissions.

For 2016 only:

- Applications can be made via our website and submitted online. Paper copies are available on request by telephoning the school (07974961732) and contain a postal address of where they should be sent.
- The closing date for applications this year will be: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Applications will still be accepted after this, but will be considered as late.
- Offers will be made in writing on or before the 18<sup>th</sup> April.

In subsequent years admissions to the school will be part of the Enfield co-ordinated admission arrangements. Details are available here: [http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/705/school\\_admissions](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/705/school_admissions)

## Oversubscription criteria and procedures

The school will admit pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan which names the school. If you want the LA to issue a plan for your child which names this school or your child has such a plan, you do not apply for a place at One Degree Academy under this policy. Instead, you must contact your local authority who will advise you on the procedure to follow.

In the event that the school is over-subscribed, the governing body will prioritise applications according to the following criteria:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, child arrangements order, or special guardianship order<sup>1</sup>.
2. Children who have a sibling on the roll of the school at the time of application.<sup>2</sup>
3. Children of staff who are recruited to fill a post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Children for whom it is their nearest mainstream state school. The admissions officer or clerk will determine this and distance based on straight-line distance measurement<sup>3</sup>.
5. Children eligible for pupil and service premiums, or registered as eligible for FSM<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

<sup>2</sup> A sibling is defined as a sister/brother, half-sister/brother, or a child of the parent/carer or partner, who lives in the same house, for the majority of the week as the child for whom the application is being made.

<sup>3</sup> The distance will be measured in a straight line between the front door of the registered home address and the school's nodal location point of Silver Street Station. A computerised mapping system will be used to ensure accuracy. An example being: <http://www.freemaptools.com/how-far-is-it-between.html>. In cases where blocks of flats are concerned, places will be allocated randomly. Travelling distances will not be taken into account.

<sup>4</sup> The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. Your child will be eligible if they are registered as eligible for free school meals, have been registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years, or are a looked after

## 6. Other children.

### **Tie-breaks**

If the school becomes oversubscribed in any of the rules 2-6 above we will first apply the next rule to decide who is admitted. If children cannot be separated by this process, we will allocate the place to the child who lives closest to the nodal point for the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line between the front door of the registered home address and the school's nodal location point of Silver Street Station. A computerised mapping system will be used to ensure accuracy

If pupils live exactly the same distance from the nodal point, we will use random allocation, verified by someone independent of the school, to determine who is admitted.

Where there is a need for a tiebreaker in the case of two different addresses measuring the same distance from the school, the tie break will be random allocation and verified independently.

### **Twins, triplets etc**

If a twin or multiple birth child is allocated the final place available, the school will also offer places to the other twin/multiple birth children.

### **Deferred entry for infants**

Parents offered a place in reception for their child have a right to defer the date their child is admitted, or to take the place up part-time, until the child reaches compulsory school age. Places cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made.

Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their 5th birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 August, 31 December and 31 March. Parents must mark this on their application form and notify the Academy of the intended date of entry for their child.

### **Admissions outside of their normal age group**

Parents may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal age range, for instance where the child is gifted or talented or where a child has suffered from particular social or medical issues impacting his or her schooling. All such requests will be considered on their merits and either agreed or refused, on that basis. If a request is refused, the child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

With the application, parents should request that the child is admitted to another year group (state which one), and the reasons for that request.

Parents will submit any evidence in support of their case with the application, for instance from a medical practitioner, headteacher etc. Some of the evidence a parent might submit could include:

- whether the child is 'summer born' and is seeking admission to a year group other than reception (or is seeking admission to reception rather than year 1);

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child. Services premium is for: children whose parent(s) are serving in the regular UK armed forces, children of ex regular UK armed forces personnel who were serving in the last 3 years, children where at least one parent died while serving in the UK armed forces and the child is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS).

You are eligible to be registered for free school meals if you receive either: Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, income-related employment and support Allowance, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190), Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit, Universal Credit.

- information about the child’s academic, social and emotional development;
- where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

The school will consider each case on its merits, taking into account the individual circumstances of the request and the child’s best interests. We will also ensure the parent is aware of whether the request for admission out of age group has been agreed before final offers are made, and the reason for any refusal.

Requests for admission out of the normal year group will be considered alongside other applications made at the same time. An application from a child who would ‘normally’ be a year 1 child for a reception place will be considered alongside applications for reception.

### **Late applications**

All applications received by the school after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the school’s waiting list.

### **Waiting List**

The One Degree Academy will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of that school year. Where upon it will be necessary for parents to reapply in the following school year.

The Academy Trust will maintain the list, and it will be open to any parent to ask for their child’s name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application. The position of the children on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The list will be reordered in accordance with the admission criteria whenever anyone joins or leaves the list.

### **Appeals**

Parents/Carers will have the right to appeal against any decision not to offer a place at the One Degree Academy.

If you wish to appeal, you should do this by emailing the Clerk to the Governors at [info@onedegreeacademy.org](mailto:info@onedegreeacademy.org) who will then put the appropriate arrangements in place.

Parents/Carers must appeal within 20 school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful. Appeals relating to admission at primary or secondary transfer for on-time applications (i.e. those relating to decisions sent on the national offer date) will be heard by 6th July or the next working day, if 6th July falls on a weekend. Appeals for late applications will, where possible be heard as above; however, if this is not feasible, they will be heard within 30 school days of the appeals being lodged. The One Degree Academy’s independent appeals panel will be properly trained to act in accordance with the School Admissions Appeals Code.

Children can be placed on the waiting list following a refusal to admit whether or not the parents submit an appeal.

### **In Year Admissions**

The School will manage in year admissions and apply the above over subscription criteria. Parents will be able to submit in year applications directly to the school. In addition, the School will remain part of Enfield Council’s In-Year admissions scheme and will apply the above over subscription criteria to any applications received in this way during the year.

## **Fair Access**

The school will participate in Enfield Council's Fair Access protocol, which ensures that vulnerable groups of children can quickly access school places, and will admit children under this protocol, where places become available, before children on the waiting list.