



Student Admission Policy and Procedure

Policy Number	EDE/POL/002	Issue Date	01/09/2025
Issue Number	005	Author	Nicola Kelly
School	Great Oaks College	Approver	James Madine
Headteacher	Sharon Cliff	Executive Headteacher/ Regional Director	Kate Martin

1. Introduction

Great Oaks College is registered with the Department for Education to support the educational needs of Key Stage 2, 3, 4, and 5 students who face significant barriers to learning.

Admission to Great Oaks College is a significant event for students, many of whom may have experienced multiple school placements. We recognise that the process can be daunting and aim to provide a sensitive, structured approach to reduce anxiety and support a smooth transition.

This policy outlines the admission process and ensures that every reasonable effort is made to confirm that the student's assessed needs can be met by Great Oaks College

2. Aim and Scope

The policy provides a clear, informed, supportive, and fair framework for admitting students to Great Oaks College. It applies to all prospective students and those involved in the admission process.

3. Definitions and Abbreviations

- **EHCP:** Education, Health and Care Plan – a statutory document detailing a student's education, health, and care needs.
- **(P)CLA:** (Student) Child Looked After – a child currently or previously in local authority care.

4. Referral Pathway

Students are typically referred by Local Education Authorities, Social Services, or Health Authorities. Parents/carers or other interested parties seeking admission information will be directed to their local authority.

5. Visits and Assessment

- **Visits:** Prospective students and their families are encouraged to visit Great Oaks College meet senior staff and tour the facilities.



- **Observation and Assessment:** The Headteacher will request all relevant documentation, including EHCPs, psychological reports, previous school records, and risk assessments. A comprehensive assessment will determine suitability.

6. Pre-arrival Planning

- A student-centred planning meeting, convened by the Headteacher, will include all significant people in the student's life to share information about routines, preferences, and risks.
- Links may be established with the student's current placement to support transition.
- Prospective students may visit the school to familiarise themselves with the environment.
- Information will be provided in an accessible format appropriate to the student's needs.
- All referral information is confidential and handled in accordance with GDPR; non-admitted referrals will be securely destroyed after 28 days.

7. Risk Assessment

- An initial risk assessment will be conducted prior to admission to ensure safety for students and staff.
- This assessment is a living document, regularly reviewed and shared with relevant staff.

8. Student Passport

- This is a one-page profile that will be created by the school SENDCo. / Assistant SENDCo. To detail the student's strengths, support needs and strategies that can help. This is circulated to all staff, so that they have an awareness of the child and what will be effective to support them in accessing learning

9. Admission Process

- Keys Group schools maintain an admissions register—also referred to as the school roll—for all students admitted to the school. The register includes the names of all students of compulsory and non-compulsory school age who are receiving education at the school. Students must be added to the admissions register before or at the beginning of the first session on their agreed starting day. The school is responsible for notifying the local authority within five days of adding a student to the register, unless the student is joining at the start of the school's most junior year. This process ensures compliance with statutory requirements and supports safeguarding, attendance monitoring, and educational planning.



- On arrival, students will be warmly welcomed by an allocated staff member.
- Initial days will focus on meeting individual needs and supporting adjustment at the student's pace.
- The admission will be recorded on The Link and ARBOR systems, including requests for previous school files via CPOMS.
- A student chronology will document:
 - School tour
 - Staff and peer introductions
 - Fire and safety procedures
 - Timetable explanation
 - Behaviour policy overview
 - Attendance policy overview

10. Post-Admission Procedures (Within First 4 Weeks)

- Photograph: A portrait photo will be taken for identification and records.
- ARBOR: Complete and update all student details and emergency contacts.
- Baseline Assessments: Complete and record in the school assessment tracker.
- Individual Plans: [e.g. Develop Individual Education Plans (IEP) and Behaviour Plans (IBP).]
- Pastoral Meetings: Conduct individual meetings to review progress and assign key workers.
- Important Dates: Record key review dates, including EHCP annual reviews, PEP meetings, and other relevant appointments.
- Fee Notifications: Notify any fee variations through The Link.

11. Responsibilities

All staff and the Headteacher are responsible for implementing this policy and ensuring a supportive admission process.

12. Training

The Headteacher will ensure all staff receive induction on this policy as part of their onboarding.

13. Equality and Inclusion



Great Oaks College is committed to providing equal access to education for all students, regardless of background or need. Accessibility, reasonable adjustments, and curriculum adaptations are integral from admission onwards, in line with the Independent School Standards, Equality Act 2010, and SEND Code of Practice (2015).

All staff must demonstrate sensitivity and competence regarding diversity in race, faith, age, gender, disability, and sexual orientation. Concerns about disadvantage should be raised with line management for appropriate action.



Appendices – Procedures and Localisation of Policy

Appendix A – New Student Admission Checklist

Step	Action Item	Completed (Y/N)	Notes
1	Referral received and logged on The Link		
2	Relevant documentation requested (EHCP, reports)		
3	Visit arranged with parents/carers and student		
4	Observation and assessment completed		
5	Decision on suitability made and communicated		
6	Pre-arrival planning meeting held		
7	Initial risk assessment completed and shared		
8	Admission date agreed and recorded		
9	Referral information securely stored/destroyed as appropriate		
10	Student file requested from previous school via CPOMS		
11	Student entered onto ARBOR with emergency contacts		
12	Baseline assessments completed and recorded		
13	Individual Education Plan and Behaviour Plan created		
14	Key worker allocated and pastoral meeting scheduled		
15	Important dates logged (reviews, meetings)		
16	Fee rates updated on The Link if applicable		



Step	Action Item	Completed (Y/N)	Notes
17	Student added to the Admissions Register		



Appendix B – Referral Information Request Form

To: [Previous School/Agency Name]

Date: _

From: Great Oaks College Admissions Team

Dear [Name],

Please provide the following documentation and information for the student named below to support their admission assessment:

- Latest Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- Psychological and specialist reports
- Behaviour support plans and risk assessments
- Attendance records
- Relevant medical information
- Any other pertinent information to support placement suitability

Student Name: _

Date of Birth: _

Previous School/Placement:

Please send the information securely via CPOMS or encrypted email by [deadline].

Thank you for your cooperation.

Admissions Officer: _

Contact Details: _



Appendix C – Student Induction Plan Template

Student Name: _

Admission Date:

Key Staff Member:

Induction Activity	Date Completed	Notes/Comments
Welcome and tour of school		
Introduction to teaching staff		
Introduction to peers		
Fire and safety briefing		
Explanation of timetable		
Review of behaviour policy/code of conduct		
Review of attendance policy		
Provision of school/student handbook		
Initial pastoral meeting		

Additional Support Needs Identified:

Key Worker Assigned:

Staff Signature: _ **Date:**



Appendix D – Example Baseline Assessment Summary Sheet

Student Name: _

Date of Admission:

Assessment Area	Date Completed	Summary of Findings	Next Steps/Interventions
Literacy			
Numeracy			
Social and Emotional			
Behaviour			
Physical/Sensory Needs			
Other (specify)			

Completed by: _ **Date:**



Appendix E – Individual Education Plan (IEP) Template

Student Name: _

Date: _

Key Worker: _

Target Area	Specific Target	Support/Strategies	Review Date	Progress Notes
Academic				
Behaviour				
Social/Emotional				
Other (specify)				

Next Review Date: _

Signatures:

Student: _

Parent/Carer: _

Key Worker:



Appendix F – Key Worker Allocation and Pastoral Meeting Record

Student Name: _

Date of Pastoral Meeting: _

Key Worker: _

Discussion Points	Actions Agreed	Responsible Person(s)	Review Date
Progress since admission			
Any concerns or barriers to engagement			
Support needed			
Next steps			

Signatures:

Key Worker: _ Date:

Parent/Carer: _ Date:



Appendix G – Important Dates and Review Schedule

Date	Event/Review Type	Notes/Actions Required	Responsible Staff
	EHCP Annual Review		
	PEP Meeting		
	Behaviour Plan Review		
	Pastoral Meeting		
	Other (specify)		