



# Admissions Policy 2021/2022

## Admissions Policy – Oasis Academy Sholing 2021-2022

### 1 Introduction

1.1 This document sets out the admission arrangements for Oasis Academy Sholing. Throughout this document referred to as “the Academy”. These arrangements are without prejudice to the provisions of Annex 3 to the Master Funding Agreement.

1.2 Any changes to the arrangements set out in this document must be approved in advance by the Secretary of State.

1.3 Oasis Academy Sholing is a non-selective school open to students of all religious faiths or those of no faith.

### 2 School Admissions Code/ School Admissions Appeal Code

2.1 The Academy will comply with all relevant provisions of the statutory codes of practice (the School Admissions Code of Practice and the School Admission Appeals Code of Practice) as they apply at any given time to maintained schools and with the law on admissions as it applies to maintained schools.

2.2 Reference in the codes to admission authorities shall be deemed to be references to Oasis Community Learning. References to “the Local Authority” (LA) shall be deemed to be references to the Southampton City Council. In particular, the Academy will take part in the Admissions Forum set up by

the LA and have regard to its advice; and will participate in the co-ordinated admission arrangements operated by the LA.

2.3 Notwithstanding these arrangements, the Secretary of State may direct the Academy to admit a named student to the Academy on application from an LA. Before doing so the Secretary of State will consult the Academy.

### **3 Admission arrangements approved by the Secretary of State**

The admission arrangements for the Academy for the year 2021/22 and, subject to any changes approved by the Secretary of State, for subsequent years are:

3.1 The Academy has an agreed admission number of 180 students in year 7. The Academy will accordingly admit at least 180 students in the relevant age group each year if sufficient applications are received.

3.2 The Academy may set a higher admission number as its Published Admission Number for any specific year. Before setting an admission number higher than its agreed admission number, the Academy will consult with the relevant parties. . Students will not be admitted above the Published Admission Number unless exceptional circumstances apply and such circumstances shall be reported to the Secretary of State.

3.3 If the Academy admits a total of 26 students in excess of its admission number in any 3 year period it will determine a higher admission number, after consulting with the relevant parties.

### **Admissions procedures**

#### **4 Application process**

Applications for places at the Academy will be made in accordance with the LA's co-ordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form (CAF) provided and administered by the LA.

Please access the application form by visiting the Southampton City Council website <https://www.southampton.gov.uk/schools-learning/find-school/apply-school/>

The process of allocating places will begin after 31st October 2020. If you apply online, you will be sent an email from Southampton City Local Authority on 1st March 2021.

#### **5 Consideration of applications**

5.1 The Academy will consider all applications for places. Where fewer than 180 applications are received, the Academy will offer places to all those who have applied.

#### **6 Procedures where the Academy is oversubscribed**

6.1 Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. After the admission of students with Statements of Special Educational Needs where the Academy is named on the Statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below, in priority order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children and immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. This includes those children who appear to Oasis Community Learning to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order).
2. Children for whom the Academy is appropriate on genuine social or medical grounds. Such applications will be decided by the Academy Council or nominated panel. (Such applications will only be considered under this criterion if they are supported by a written statement from a doctor or social worker. This must demonstrate that there is a very specific connection between the child's medical or social need and the school requested).

3. Siblings of students who will be members of Years 7 to 11 (on the “roll”) at the Academy on the date when the applicant would be admitted. The term “sibling” means a full, half, adopted or fostered brother or sister, or other child living permanently within the same household. The Academy reserves the right to ask for proof of relationship after an offer is made.
4. Admission of students on the basis of proximity to the Academy using straight line measurement from the main entrance of the Academy to the main entrance of the child’s home. Places are allocated on a geographical basis to children who live nearest to the Academy. The distance used to determine how close the child lives to the Academy will be the direct line measurement from the front door of the permanent home address to the main entrance to the Academy site. The child’s permanent home address is where he or she normally lives and sleeps and goes to school from. Proof of residence – such as a council tax bill or utility bill – can be requested at any time throughout the admissions process. If false or misleading information is used to gain entry to the Academy, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

If there are more applicants than there are places remaining within a particular category and where there is no difference in distance from home to school for two or more children, random allocation, carried out by a person or persons unconnected with the Academy, will be used to allocate the final available place(s) and to establish priority on the waiting list.

If false or misleading information is used to gain entry to the Academy, applicants may lose their priority for admission.

Parents/carers will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of the Academy. See point 8.1 for further details.

## **7 Operation of waiting lists**

7.1 The waiting list for Oasis Academy Sholing is held and maintained by Southampton City Local Authority.

For more information on the waiting list, please visit <https://www.southampton.gov.uk/schools-learning>.

## **8 Arrangements for appeals panels**

8.1 All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code. Appellants should contact <https://www.southampton.gov.uk/schools-learning> for information on how to appeal and for the timetable for appeals.

## **9 Arrangements for admitting students to other year groups, including to replace any students who have left the Academy**

9.1 Subject to any provisions in the LA’s co-ordinated admission arrangements relating to applications submitted for years other than the normal year of entry, the Academy must consider all such applications and, if the year group applied for has a place available, admit the child. As from September 2010 all in-year applications must be directed to the Local Authority under new coordinated in-year admission arrangements.

9.2 A designated number of 180 students applies to Year Groups 7 to 11. However, within the exceptional circumstance set out in paragraph 3.32 of the School Admissions Code, the Academy may, if it has a high proportion of challenging students on roll, refuse to admit a challenging child where there are places available on the grounds that admission would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources. If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria shall apply. Parents/carers whose application is turned down are entitled to appeal.

Looked after children and previously looked after children:

i. Looked after children are those who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority under section 22 of the Children Act 1989. [1989 Children's Act](#)

ii. In relation to school admissions legislation a 'looked after child' is a child in public care at the time of application to a school. Applicants can provide evidence demonstrating their child was previously in care to an institution acting as a Local Authority, or an organisation that supports the best interests of the community/child. In the case of previously looked after children, admission authorities may request a copy of the adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child, confirming that they were looked after immediately prior to that order being made, or such evidence that demonstrates a child was in state care outside of England prior to being adopted.