



**The Education Village Academy Trust**  
Where learning has no limits

# **Haughton Academy**

## **Admissions Policy 2021-22**



## ***Where learning has no limits***

At The Education Village Academy Trust, all children, young people and adults are valued both as individuals and as part of the wider Trust community. We aim to provide a safe, happy and caring environment within which everyone can thrive.

### **Core values**

Our Trust's activities are informed by our core values, which mean that we:

1. recognise the **worth** of each **individual** by valuing the personal qualities they demonstrate in their learning, living and working
2. recognise the **experiences** of children and young people by valuing the **talents** and **skills** they bring into their schooling, and we commit to ensuring that schooling enhances these talents and skills
3. embrace **difference** and **harmony** by valuing **diversity**
4. display **integrity** and **authenticity** by valuing **openness, trust, fairness, honesty** and **respect** for all people
5. foster **ambition, high aspirations** and **independent** spirit by valuing each individual's abilities, aptitudes and desire to create, explore and grow
6. commit to **hard work** and **high standards** in provision, behaviours and outcomes
7. help, support and enable others by valuing **relationships** with all stakeholders, being **emotionally intelligent**, building **resilience** and being **forward-looking**
8. acknowledge the role of **networks** by valuing the ways in which people can live together, collaborate and make positive contributions as **citizens**
9. acknowledge the place of school in the **community**, including the broader **global** community, by valuing the essential nature of the relationship between schools and the social and economic environments in which they operate

**This document, and its associated procedures and protocols, are based on these key principles.**

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**Haughton Academy  
Salters Lane North  
Darlington  
DL1 2AN**

Tel: 01325 254000  
Admissions Officer: Mr J Lumb

The Board of Directors of The Education Village Academy Trust (EVAT) is the Admissions Authority for Haughton Academy. The Admissions Policy Criteria will be applied on an equal preference basis and works in association with the Co-ordinated Scheme for Darlington Authority.

**Admission number**

For Haughton Academy the admission number is 180 pupils in the relevant year group if sufficient applications are received. The usual admission date is 1<sup>st</sup> September each year.

**Process of application**

Applications for places at the Academy will be made in accordance with the co-ordinated admission arrangements of Local Authorities and will be made on the Secondary School Application forms provided and administered by the Local Authority. Prospective pupils and their parents/carers are encouraged to visit the Academy before making an application.

**Consideration of applications**

Where fewer than the admission number are received, the Academy will offer places to all those who have applied.

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the oversubscription criteria set out below. After the admission of students with a statement 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:

- a) Children in Public Care (Looked after Children) or who have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (See Note 1 below);
- b) Students whose siblings (see Note 2 below) currently attend the school and who will continue to do so on the date of admission;

- c) Students who live nearest the Academy measured from the front door of the home address to the main school gate, by the shortest walking route judged to be safe (lighting at regular intervals and paved/ tarmacked). This will be based on the child's permanent home address (See Note 3 below). To remain consistent, the Academy will measure distance using the Geographical Information System adopted by the Borough Council to measure all distances.
- d) Children with very exceptional medical factors directly related to placement at one of the Academies. Applications under this criterion should be supported by written evidence from a doctor (see Note 4 below).

### **Tie Break**

In the event of a tie-break in any oversubscription criteria, distance will be the deciding factor, which may involve an officer walking the route using a pedometer.

### **Multiple Births**

For multiple births where only 1 place remains at Haughton Academy, then the Academy will use its discretion in deciding whether to offer a place(s) that will exceed its admissions number (180).

## **Admissions Oversubscription Criteria**

### **Note 1: Definition of Children in Public Care or previously in state care outside of England**

Children who are currently in public care (looked after children) including adopted children who were previously in care. A 'looked after' child is a child who is looked after by a LA in accordance with Section 22 of the Children's Act 1989(b) at the time when application for admission to the Academy is made and whom the LA can confirm will still be looked after at the time of admission. 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.

### **Note 2: Definition of 'sibling'**

Siblings (brothers or sisters) are considered to be those children who live at the same address and either:

- have one or both natural parents in common;
- are related by a parent's marriage,
- are adopted or fostered, or;
- their parents are married/co-habiting and children live together in the same household;
- they are children of the same household

### **Note 3: Home Address**

The home address is used for applying the admissions criteria. This means that when you state your school preferences you must give the home address of the child at the time of application, where they mainly reside Monday to Friday. You must not give the address of childminders or other family members who may share in the care of your child.

For parents who may have more than one property, reference should only be made to the property in which they and the child(ren) mainly reside. If the main address has changed temporarily, for example where a parent resides with extended family during a period of sickness or takes up temporary accommodation due to building works/renovation, then the home address remains that at which the parent was resident before the period of temporary residence began. However, if you have sold your property (exchanged contracts) and have moved into temporary accommodation, you will be required to provide evidence of your situation and a decision will be made based upon the evidence provided.

Where there are shared care arrangements, the home address will be where the child lives for the majority of the week Monday to Friday or where a court has determined their home address should be.

#### Note 4: Children with medical factors directly relating to an Academy admission

If you state a preference for an EVAT Academy and indicate your reason for doing so is 'medical', then you are required to send a supporting letter from a professional practitioner. The supporting evidence should set out the particular reasons why the Academy is the most suitable school and the difficulties it would cause if your child had to travel to another school. Permission from parents must be given to share this information.

#### **Waiting lists**

Subject to any provisions regarding waiting lists in the LA's co-ordinated admission scheme, the Academy will operate a waiting list. Where in any year the Academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until a month after the admission date. This will be maintained by the Academy and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

The position of children on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out in this policy. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

#### **Arrangements for appeals panels**

Parents will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of the Academy. The Appeal Panel will be independent of the Academy. Guidance about the appeals process is available from Mrs J French at the Education Village Academy Trust (Tel. 254000), who will answer any enquiries parents/carers may have about the process. Appeals must be made in writing, and letters addressed in the first instance to the Chair of the Directors Board of the Trust at the following address:

The Education Village  
Salters Lane South  
Darlington  
DL1 2AN

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

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 will consider all such applications and, if the year group applied for has a place available, admit the child. If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria shall apply. Parents whose application is turned down are entitled to appeal.

### **Policy for In-Year Applications**

Families who move into the area who require a place(s) at a Darlington school must contact the Schools Admissions Section at the Town Hall. Parent/carers will be sent an In-year Application Form (IYAF) and directed to the Council's website for a copy of the Guide for Parents. Should a place be available at the school requested by a parent, a meeting with the Principal (or his/her representative) must take place before a start date is agreed. The In-year application form should be accompanied by a copy of the birth certificate and/or passport. The Schools Admissions Team in agreement with the parent/carers and the Principal of the Academy, will arrange this meeting. Should however a parent/carer request a place at a school that has no places available, then they will be informed about the appeals process and the availability of alternative school places.