



Approved by:	Yaf Yafai & Nina Stone	Date: November 2020
Last reviewed on:	January 2025	
Next review due by:	January 2026	

Context and Rationale

Abigail's Place is an independent therapeutic school for children between the ages of five and sixteen. We specialise in providing bespoke therapeutic support for children who have experienced early childhood adversity, trauma and, or have unmet attachment needs.

We know that by the time parents or professionals are considering Abigail's Place for a child, that the child may have already had one, or several breakdowns in school placement, or that the school are increasingly finding that 'they cannot meet the child's need.' For this reason, it is vital that we ascertain we are the right setting for the child and that we can ensure we can meet their needs, reducing the risk of further failed placements and distress for the child.

Aims

The aims of this policy are:

- to set selection criteria and procedures that are fair to all applicants. No applicant will be treated less favourably during the application process or during assessment on the grounds of their skin colour, race, ethnic or national origin, gender, gender reassignment, religious faith or belief, sexual orientation, socio-economic group, pregnancy and maternity, disability or special educational needs.
- to identify the needs of potential students; ensuring that their academic, social, emotional and behavioural, strengths and difficulties can be met by the school thus ensuring success for them and the existing cohort.
- to comply with the School's obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

Admission to the School is at the Proprietors discretion.

Conditions for Admissions

It is a condition for admission that:-

- all applicants meet the selection criteria for admission
- any conditions of entry to the school are fulfilled
- the school can adequately cater for and meet the needs of any disability and/or special educational needs.

Selection

Pupils may enter the school at any age providing they meet the school's aims and selection criteria.

The selection criteria is vital in ensuring we are the best setting to meet the child's needs.

- Observation in the current setting and discussions with school staff
- Consideration of school reports, EHCP/PEP reviews
- A home visit (this allows us to see a balanced view of the child out of an educational setting)

Admissions Procedure

If the placement is to be funded by the Local Authority, we will accept the relevant paperwork and reports forwarded to us by the Local Authority and providing the child meets the school's aims and selection criteria we will respond accordingly.

If the placement is to be privately funded, we will follow the same procedure and let parents/ carers know directly if a placement can be offered.

