

SWALE ACADEMIES TRUST

THE SITTINGBOURNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS POLICY September 2015 Admissions

The College's Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 7 is 210.

For Post 16 admissions, priority will be given to existing students transferring from Year 11. The PAN for external candidates will be 50, but this figure may be exceeded in the event that this, and the number of internal students transferring into Year 12, is less than the overall total figure for the year group, which is 175.

Students are admitted to the Post 16 Centre subject to the following:

- a) a formal application by student and parent and an academic guidance meeting to determine the courses to be studied;
- b) availability of a specific course or combination of courses;
- c) minimum entry requirements for specific courses:
 - i) for Level 2 courses: 5 GCSEs at grade A*-G
 - ii) for A/S and A2 levels: 5 GCSEs at grade C or above, including English Language and Mathematics and at least a grade C at GCSE in the same or a related subject
 - iii) Level 3 BTEC National Diplomas: 5+ A*-C with a Merit in the subject to be studied.

The College will consult on its admission arrangements and determine them in line with the requirements within the School Admissions Code. The EFA (Education Funding Agency) may consider objections on the Secretary of State's behalf. Therefore, when determining the College's admission arrangements, any objections should be submitted to the EFA. A determination of an objection by the EFA on behalf of the Secretary of State, or by the Secretary of State, will be binding upon the College. Apart from increasing its admission number with local agreement following consultation, an Academy cannot alter its admission arrangements without the approval of the Secretary of State.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

If the number of preferences for the College is more than the number of places available, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

- a) Looked After Children – a child under the age of 18 years for whom the local authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers

(Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) or who is the subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act. This applies equally to children who immediately after being looked after by the local authority became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. (As defined by Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or Section 14A of the Children Act 1989).

- b) Current Family Association – a brother or sister attending the College when the child starts. In this context, brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, step brothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters. (If siblings from multiple births – twins, triplets etc – apply for the College and the College would reach its PAN after admitting one or more, but before admitting all of those siblings, the College will offer a place to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the College above its PAN).
- c) Health and Special Access Reasons – Medical / Health and Special Access Reasons will be applied in accordance with College's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend the College. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents'/guardians' physical or mental health or social need means there is a demonstrable and significant need for their child to attend the College. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school.
- d) Nearness of children's homes to the College – the distance is measured between the child's permanent address and the College in a straight line, using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from a defined point within the child's home to a defined point within the College as specified by Ordnance Survey. The same address point on the College site is used for everybody. When applying the distance criterion, these straight line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the College. Further information on how distances are calculated, including what is defined as permanent or main residence, is available in the 'Admission to Secondary School in Kent' booklet provided by the Local Authority.

Supplementary Form Required: No

Waiting lists will be maintained up to January 2016 for admissions in the 2015/16 academic year.

Post 16 Admissions Arrangements – see oversubscription criteria above.

TRANSPORT

Please note, schools no longer have a designated area from which transport will be provided. In most instances KCC will only fund transport to the nearest school where this school is more than three miles from the child's home. Further information regarding transport eligibility is available from KCC.

Approved by Directors 2 April 2014