



The Propeller Academy Trust
Fitzwaryn and Kingfisher Schools
Admissions Policy

Fitzwaryn School

The planned number of places at Fitzwaryn School is 80 in the age range 3 – 19 including a sixth form and an Integrated Nursery provision.

Kingfisher School

The planned number of places at Kingfisher School is 77 in the age range 2 – 19 including a sixth form.

The categories of SEN for The Propeller Academy Trust may include but are not limited to MLD, SLD and PMLD.

The schools within the Academy Trust may not admit a child to the school unless a statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education and Health Care Plan is maintained for that child (or the predecessor maintained school of the same name) is named in the child's statement or EHCP.

Where the Academy Trust considers that there is a need to increase the planned number of places, the Academy trust must seek the approval of the Secretary of State.

The Propeller Academy Trust may admit a child without a statement if:

- (i) He is admitted for the purposes of an assessment of his educational needs and his admission to the Academy is with the agreement of the local authority, the Academy and the child's parent
- (ii) He remains admitted following an assessment under section 323 of the Education Act 1996
- (iii) He is admitted following a change in circumstances with the agreement of the LA, the Academy and his parents

If a child without a statement has been admitted to the Academy for the purposes of an assessment, the Academy may allow the child to remain at the Academy:

- (i) Until the expiry of ten school days after the local authority serve a notice under section 325 of the education Act 1996 that they do not propose to make a statement or EHCP, or
- (ii) Until a statement or EHCP is made.

Where the LA intend to name either Fitzwaryn or Kingfisher schools in a statement or EHCP and have served a copy of the proposed statement of EHCP on the Academy, the Academy must respond within 15 days.

The Academy must consent to being named, except where admitting a child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education for other children and where no reasonable steps may be made to secure compatibility. In deciding whether a child's inclusion would be incompatible with the efficient education of other children the Academy must have regard to the relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State to maintained schools.

If the Academy determines that admitting the child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education, it must, within 15 days of receipt of the LA's notice, notify the LA in writing that it does not agree that the Academy should be named in the pupil's statement. Such notice must include matters the Academy relies upon in support of its contention that: (a) admitting the child would be incompatible with efficiently educating other children; and (b) the Academy cannot take reasonable steps to secure this compatibility.

Where the LA maintains a statement for a child under section 324 of the Education Act 1996 and either Fitzwaryn or Kingfisher's names are specified in the statement, the Academy must admit that child to the Academy even if they consider that the Academy should have not been named in the child's statement.

Where the Academy considers that the Academy should not have been named in a child's statement, they may ask the Secretary of State to determine that the LA has acted unreasonably in naming the Academy and to make an order directing the LA to amend the child's statement by removing the name of the Academy. Where the Secretary of State makes an order to this effect, the Academy will cease to be under an obligation to admit the child from the date of the Secretary of State's order or from such date as the Secretary of State specifies. In specifying a date, the Secretary of State must take into account both the welfare of the child in question and the degree of difficulty caused to the Academy by the child's continued admission.

Where the Secretary of State determines that the LA has acted unreasonably in naming either Fitzwaryn or Kingfisher School in a child's statement the Academy must continue to admit the child until the Academy ceases to be named in the statement.

If a parent or guardian of a child in respect of whom a statement is maintained by the local authority appeals to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) either against the naming of an Academy in the child's SEN statement or asking the Tribunal to name an Academy, the Academy agrees to be bound by the decision of the tribunal on any such appeal even if the decision is different to that of the Secretary of State.

Where the Academy, the Secretary of State or the First-Tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) have determined that it should be named, the Academy shall admit the child to the Academy notwithstanding any provision of Annex 1 of the Supplemental Agreement of the individual Academy.

Admission indicators for the Propeller Academy Trust

The pupil has a statement of SEN or in exceptional cases, is currently undergoing a statutory assessment of their needs.

Either: The pupil has persistent, complex and long-term learning needs.

Evidence should include:

a) P scale/National Curriculum formative functional assessments in line with currently available national data. Attainment levels for pupils are expected to remain at or below Level 2 of the National Curriculum for much of their school careers.

b) Standardised development assessments are scored below the first percentile.

OR The pupil falls outside the range defined above, but also has significant needs (meets the criteria for statutory assessment) in one or more of the following areas:

A) Communication and interaction

B) Sensory and/or physical

C) Behaviour, emotional and social development (not being primary need but resulting from condition e.g. autism/sensory needs.

3. Additional indicators may include:

a) A predicted high level of dependency throughout his/her life

b) Severely under-functioning in most aspects of school and social life

c) A need for multi-agency input from both Health and Social Services with access to after school and respite care.

4. The child would benefit from a highly differentiated curriculum in smaller classes which is not available in mainstream despite additional TA hours and intensive support. Typically the child's needs will have already been supported through a high level of additional resources (at least 15 hours 1:1 or equivalent intensive support).

5. The parent expresses a preference for special school placement which is agreed by Moderation Panel

Or

The parent prefers a placement in mainstream school, but evidence exists that no reasonable steps could be taken by the LA or school to overcome the 'incompatibility

The Directors of the Propeller Academy Trust

July 2015

This document is to be read in conjunction with:

The Supplemental Funding agreement for Fitzwaryn School

The Supplemental Funding agreement for Kingfisher School