



DURANTS SCHOOL – POLICY DOCUMENT

Admissions Statement

April 2023

Reviewed & updated: April 2023 (Rachel Carli)

Next review date: April 2024

Who Is Durants For?

Durants is the designated secondary provision (11-19) in Enfield for pupils of secondary school age who have a diagnosis of autism. We do not have peer groups for pupils in Year 6 or below or young people who do not have autism. Durants School provides education for children and young people aged 11-19 who have a diagnosis of autism and an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The main school site has students at the severe end of the autistic spectrum with other co-morbid conditions and/or medical needs e.g. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Oppositional Defiance Disorder, Epilepsy. Many children and young people at the school have significant sensory sensitivities such as audio defensiveness and hypersensitivity to tactile contact and rigid behavioural patterns that may manifest as behaviours of concern that may pose a risk to themselves or others. Children and young people are able to manage their own personal care and self-help needs independently, except in cases of exceptional medical conditions. All students at the school are able to engage in subject-specific learning and will have been assessed using the pre-key stage standards at the end of Key Stage 2. The ability range at the school varies from Standard 1 on the pre-key stage standards to young people who are able to access entry level qualifications. Some students who have Durants School named on their EHCPs will attend the Durants Satellite at Winchmore School. The satellite is for children and young people who will be able to manage some of the academic and social demands of being part of a mainstream school. Winchmore School is a large and busy secondary school so all students in the satellite must have the ability to cope in busy/ loud environments and to navigate the building independently. These students have developed appropriate social skills that allow them to regulate their behaviour and operate within the mainstream behaviour policy and codes of conduct. Students will be selected by the school, in consultation with parents, to attend the satellite. These are usually students who are working at or above age-related expectations at the end of Key Stage 2. Some students who have achieved age related expectations in English and Maths for Year 5 may also be suitable for the satellite. Children and young people attending the satellite will be able to access the mainstream curriculum in an age appropriate class with and without support for at least 50% of their timetable. At the end of KS4, students in the satellite should be able to access some mainstream qualifications e.g. GCSEs and/or entry level qualifications.

The satellite also provides Post-16 education from 2021/22 (Year 12 only in 2021/22 and Years 12 and 13 from 2022/23). Students entering the Durants Satellite at Winchmore sixth form provision should have:

- A nationally recognised qualification in any subject at Entry Level 2 of the RQF or above (Entry Level certificates, GCSE, L1/ L2 qualifications). This may include accredited AQA unit awards at L1/L2 even if not leading to a formal qualification.
- Independent learning skills (e.g. able to use the internet to research, able to organise their time and work, access online learning resources/ read set texts etc)
- Able to regulate their emotions appropriately within a busy, dynamic environment
- Sensory needs do not act as a barrier to participation or engagement
- Ability to follow the host school's (Winchmore School) code of conduct and policies/procedures
- Independently move around a large secondary school environment.

Parents Views

All pupils who come to Durants will have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). For any pupil with an EHCP the views of a parent are paramount. Whilst we will encourage parents to visit the school and explain our provision, Durants will not attempt to influence a parents decision for their son or daughter to come to

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the school. We always respect the right of parents to choose the school that they best feel meets their child's needs.

Referrals

Pupils are referred to Durants by Enfield's Special Educational Needs Panel. This panel meets weekly and any pupils who meet our criteria will have their papers referred to Durants. Parents will then be asked to contact Durants to arrange a visit. Pupils from Russet House would normally transfer to Durants in Year 7 if their parents wished this to happen.

School Visits

Parents are always encouraged to visit Durants when considering to send their child to the school. They can visit several times if they wish but we will always need to meet the prospective pupil before we can say if we may be able to meet their needs or not. We will then advise the Local Authority whether we feel able to meet an individual child's needs or not.

Decisions on Placement

The decision on whether a pupil gets a place at Durants is not for the school to make. Once we have given our views on the suitability of Durants for a pupil the Local Authority will make a decision about whether to place them at Durants or not.

Useful contacts

SEN Service
PO Box 56, Civic Centre
Silver Street
Enfield, EN1 3XQ
sen@enfield.gov.uk

Civic Centre general telephone number: 020 8379 1000