

Lapwing

Admissions policy for specialist education provision

Lapwing Education receives referrals from a range of educational establishments such as mainstream schools, special schools, Pupil Referral Units, Further Education colleges, and various departments of different local authorities within the region. Lapwing has no affiliation to and therefore shows no preference to any referring body.

Lapwing occasionally receives referrals directly from parents/carers for privately paid provision.

Lapwing delivers specialist therapeutic education in the form of bespoke learning programmes to females and males aged 4-25 years old of all backgrounds and ethnicities. Lapwing does not have any religious affiliation.

Every fully completed referral that is received is considered in the same way by the Senior Leadership Team in terms of appropriateness:

- The child or young person's needs (these could be related to cognitive learning; social, emotional and mental health; behavioural; physical; sensory or other identified additional need) should signal that a bespoke education programme is appropriate.
- The child or young person's current situation, recent educational past or care status should signal that a bespoke education programme is appropriate.
- The Senior Leadership Team will assess whether Lapwing can meet (in terms of their education offer) the identified needs of the individual student being referred.
- The Senior Leadership Team will assess whether Lapwing has capacity (in terms of available sessions) to be able to work with the student immediately and, if not, whether they will be able to in the future (and therefore should be placed on the waiting list).

Places are offered as and when fully completed referrals are received, considered and deemed to be appropriate. The Senior Leadership Team consider referrals on a weekly basis during term time and will respond to referrers within 5 working days of receipt of referral during term time.

An initial visit to meet a student along with their parents/carers will follow any initial communication from Lapwing that they intend to offer a provision. Lapwing will only confirm the offer of a place formally by email (through creation of a bespoke programme proposal or equivalent local authority form that is sent to the funder) after this initial meeting has occurred. The proposal will include the start date, timetable of sessions, programme content, programme objectives and expected outcomes, and a breakdown of the programme costs. Lapwing will commence working with a student once the proposal has been approved by the funder by email.

Waiting list

Due to demand, sometimes there is a waiting list for Lapwing provision and referrals on the waiting list are typically processed by the date of receipt of referral. However, Lapwing reserves the right to offer a place to any student on the waiting list in advance of other referrals that have been received earlier. This will only occur as a result of the following considerations, which mainly relate to Lapwing's ability to meet the needs of individual students:

- Geographical location of referred student and geographical location of available staff member(s)
- Number of sessions and specific weekdays requested for the referred student and the number of sessions Lapwing has available (and specific days these are available)

Lapwing

- Expected content of the required programme and the skillset of available staff member(s)

In addition to the above, if a student is a child in care, is deemed to be in crisis or there are explicit and clearly justifiable reasons why a referral should take priority then Lapwing reserve the right to exercise their judgement in prioritising certain referrals.

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