

SRS *Samuel Rhodes Special Educational Needs School*
Outstanding 2012 & 2017

Admissions Policy December 2018

Policy first agreed at Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meeting: June 2013

Date policy to be reviewed: December 2019

People involved in consultation process: 1: Senior Leadership Team
2: Governors
3: Islington Special Educational Needs (SEND) Department

Senior Leadership Team Lead: Head teacher

Display/availability: Policy file
Shared Drive (S:)
School Website

Monitoring and Evaluation: Senior Leadership Team

Signed:

Chair (or Vice-Chair of Governors) _____ Date _____

Head teacher (or Deputy Head teacher) _____ Date _____

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Samuel Rhodes Special School

About the school

Samuel Rhodes is a Special School providing education for children and young people aged 5-19 years of age with moderate learning difficulties.

- Samuel Rhodes Primary school is funded to provide 30 places for children aged 5-11. It is co-located with Montem Primary School a mainstream school.
- Samuel Rhodes secondary school is funded to provide 55 places for young people aged 12-16. It is co-located with City of London Highbury Grove Academy a mainstream secondary school.
- Samuel Rhodes 6th Form is funded to provide 30 places for young people aged 16 -19. It is co-located with City of London Highbury Grove Academy (COLHGA) a mainstream secondary school. (In September 2019 a purpose built COLHGA/SRS 6th form building will be opened in a separate building on the current secondary school site).
- Our curriculum is highly differentiated to meet individual pupils needs and is supported by a multi-professional team.

All our school sites offer the possibility of pupils being included for some of their education in the mainstream school if appropriate and agreed by families but this is dependent on agreement from the Head teacher of the mainstream school.

Samuel Rhodes School caters for children living closest to the school who meet the admissions criteria.

Criteria

A child or young person may be eligible to be offered a place at Samuel Rhodes school if they meet the following criteria:

- **Their primary need is Moderate Learning Difficulties** (They may also have other Special Educational Needs such as: Specific Learning Difficulties - ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dyspraxia, Speech, Language and Communication difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Condition, Medical conditions, Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties). **These should be secondary to their cognitive needs but may affect all areas of learning and is not exhaustive.**
- They have an Education Health and Care Plan and the agreement from their home Local Authority to name the school in the Plan.
- The placement is fully funded both for the educational element (Place and Top-up costs directly to the school) and the health element (Directly to Whittington Health).
- We have a vacancy at the appropriate site.

The placement will not be agreed if:-

- it (a place at this school) would be unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or SEN of the child or young person, or
- the attendance of the child or young person there would be incompatible with the efficient education of others, or the efficient use of resources
- *Efficient education means providing for each child or young person a suitable, appropriate education in terms of their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs they may have. Where a local authority is considering the appropriateness of an individual institution, 'others' is intended to mean the children and young people with whom the child or young person with an EHC plan will directly come into contact on a regular day-to-day basis.*

{SEND Code of Practice para 9.79}

Samuel Rhodes is resourced for and can meet the needs of pupils with the following cognitive levels in most areas of English, Maths and Personal Social Development.

Early Years Foundations Stage Framework: Age related expectations

At age 5, pupils will be working between ages 1 year 10 months - 3 years

At age 6, pupils will be working between ages 2 years 6months - 4 year 2months

National Curriculum Standards: Age related expectations

At age 7, pupils will be working between ages 3 - 5

At age 9, pupils will be working between ages 4 - 5

At age 11, pupils will be working between ages 6 - 8

At age 14, pupils will be working between ages 8 - 9

At age 16, pupils will be working between ages 10 - 13

From age 14 pupils will be able to engage in Entry Level 1 to Level 2 external qualification.

Admissions Procedures

Samuel Rhodes is a maintained Special School and all applications follow the admissions process and criteria that the School Governors have agreed with Islington Council.

1. Open Days

It is important that the school meets potential pupils and their families to help the school decide whether their needs could be met. Families would also want to walk round the school environment to see if it 'feels right' for their child. Potential pupils and their families are invited to make an initial visit to the school on one of our termly open days. Open days offer the chance to have a group tour of the school and see the school in action. Open days also provide an opportunity to ask questions. Details of our open days are available on the school website or by phoning the school. Places at our open days must be booked in advance by

ringing the school. Please note that the school is currently over-subscribed so there will not be an Open Day until vacancies occur.

2. Consultation for a place at the school

The SEND Code of Practice (which all schools and Local Authorities must follow), requires that children and young people can only be placed in a Special School if they have an Education, Health and Care Plan. Before deciding to name a school in an EHC Plan, a Local Authority must consult the governing body of the school. As Islington local authority maintains the school, they too must be consulted. The school will respond to all consultations with a letter saying if they can meet the needs of the pupil as described in the EHC Plan. Due to the high demand the allocation of places is considered at 'place planning' meetings between the School and Islington Council. These are held in the first half of each term so that we are able to compare relative need, rather than make ad-hoc individual decisions on 'first come; first served basis'. Islington Local Authority and the school will make a joint formal response to all consultation requests that have been discussed at the place planning meeting. Where a place is not offered the reasons for this will be made clear. Decisions to agree places at maintained special schools and specialist provision in Islington will be made by Islington Council, not the school. Placements for pupils not living in Islington must also be agreed by the Local Authority responsible for maintaining their EHC Plan.

For further information about the school please consult our website:

<http://www.samuelrhodes.islington.sch.uk/>