

Horizons Alternative Provision Academy Statement of Provision

Introductory statement

Horizons Alternative Provision Academy is an Alternative Provision Provider based in Reading and Bracknell with various pathways provided. Our primary provision based at Great Hollands Primary School and our secondary provision based at Horizons Alternative Provision Academy provide sixth day provision for students who have been permanently excluded from school and live within a specific catchment of Bracknell Forest Council and/or Reading Borough Council. We also provide:

- hospital teaching for inpatients of compulsory school age at Royal Berkshire Hospital
- offer Alternative Provision packages for schools seeking proactive, early intervention for students who need an alternative approach to education
- and have a Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) specialist unit for up to 12 primary aged students with SEMH needs.

Admissions to the School

There are three different pathways for admissions into Horizons Alternative Provision as outlined below:

- The Local authority has no power to direct a student to an academy provision
- Through referral from the main school for preventative, alternative provision placements where the student remains on roll with their home school and joins Cranbury College on dual roll subsidiary status to join an alternative provision pathway
- Via consultation from the Local Authority Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) team for places within our SEMH specialist provision

Other than our SEMH provision, Horizons Alternative Provision Academy is not a specialist setting and any students with Educational Health and Care Plans (EHCP) requiring a placement at one of the various pathways must be consulted upon before an agreement is reached. Students with an EHCP will only ever be placed at any of our provisions other than the SEMH unit on an interim measure in extraordinary circumstances.

If we believe it is not appropriate for a student to be placed at Horizons Alternative Provision Academy we can seek to argue against them joining our roll for the following reasons:

- The school is not suitable for the child's age, ability and aptitude of the setting.
- The child's attendance would not be compatible with the efficient education of other children in the school, and
- The child's attendance would not be incompatible with the efficient use of resources.

The final decision of whether a student should be placed on sole role at Horizons Alternative Provision Academy rests with the Local Authority responsible for the education of the student in question.

Horizons Launch (primary) and Horizons Elevate (secondary) alternative provision:

All placements at our primary site and secondary site aim to be short-term placements, and students should be re-integrated back into an appropriate setting within a timely manner. This is the case for

all students, including those who are Looked After Children (LAC) and agreement to place at Horizons Alternative Provision Academy is an agreement for the Virtual School and Local Authority to actively seek a permanent placement elsewhere. A professionals meeting to discuss the individual circumstances must be convened before a referral is made or an admission considered, this will ensure that a full understanding of the child and their complex needs are fully understood. There is also capacity for five students with EHCPs residing in Bracknell Forest Council to be placed within this provision in order to reassess their needs. Such placements should not last for more than one academic year. If it's named in the EHCP there can be no time limit placed on the placement; the LA would need to name other provision in Section I of the EHCP to bring the placement to an end

Horizons Connect

Our Horizons Connect provision at College Road is a special unit in Reading which provides 12 places for children of both sexes in the age range 5 – 11 with EHCPs for SEMH needs.

Maiden Erlegh Trust, as the admissions authority of Horizons Alternative Provision Academy, must comply with its SEN duties, these are set out in legislation and in the SEND Code of Practice. Where the local authority has carried out a statutory assessment and decided to issue an EHCP, it will issue a draft plan to parents. Parents can request the local authority to name their preferred choice of school in their child's EHCP. However, the final decision on the school to be named rests with the local authority responsible for maintaining the plan. Horizons Connect Alternative Provision must comply when named in a child's EHCP, even if the child's special need is not a type of SEN for which the school is designated. This is a requirement of Section 43 of the Children and Families Act 2014. In order for us to be named on a child's EHCP, the local authority must consult with us first. This means that they will serve a copy of the proposed plan to us, so we have an opportunity to contribute to the process.

Horizons Alternative Provision Pathways:

All placements within our alternative provision pathway are provided as an alternative provision and students are registered as dual subsidiary placements, remaining on the main roll of their home school, who is responsible for their safeguarding and attendance arrangements. Placements within our alternative provision can be on a short-term or longer-term basis and are reviewed every 6 weeks, unless stipulated differently in their arrangement plan, to ensure that they remain positive and purposeful. Full terms are set out clearly in our contract of provision that must be signed and returned before placement commences. Students accessing the tutoring provision through this pathway will be admitted to roll under Guest status.

Further information

An admissions panel is held regularly during term time to discuss all new admissions and referrals, and relevant parties are notified of outcomes shortly after.

If Horizons Alternative Provision Academy is named in an EHCP, the local authority must fund the placement.

Please note that Horizons Alternative Provision Academy does not accept parent-led referrals into the school.

For further information on our school, or to discuss an admission for a student, please contact the Operations and Compliance Manager on 0118 937 6847 or cc.admin@maidenerlegitrust.org

