

Admissions Process for the Pears Special Resource Provision (PSRP) for Pupils with an autistic spectrum condition

Background

The resourced provision provides an education for children with autistic spectrum conditions in a safe, secure Jewish environment. The PSRP is for a maximum of 7 children each year. Eventually the resource will reach 35 pupils by 2014. The resource provides for children of all faiths and none.

School Ethos

JCoSS is a Jewish voluntary-aided school with 180 students in each year plus 7 in the resourced provision. JCoSS is an inclusive Jewish school in which the full range of practices and beliefs within the Jewish community are learnt, taught and celebrated. Families of students in the resourced provision respect the ethos of a Jewish school where, in the mainstream provision, students study Hebrew and Jewish Education. The Jewish year, Jewish lifecycles and Jewish spirituality are an intrinsic part of the JCoSS experience.

As is common with most voluntary-aided schools, parents are requested to make a voluntary contribution to cover security and the Jewish ethos, neither of which is funded by local or national government.

Process for admission

The local authority (LA), London Borough of Barnet, is the admitting authority to the resourced provision as, following consultation, the authority has the duty to decide whether to name a school or school specific provision on a statement of special educational needs (Education Act 1996). In the event of another LA requesting a place at JCoSS this request will be considered as part of the process below and Barnet local authority will advise the authority. This process will be implemented by the Children's Service usually on an annual basis in the second half of the Autumn Term unless casual vacancies arise. All parents who express a preference for the resourced provision and meet the criteria below will be considered.

In order to be considered for admission a student will :

1. have a diagnosis of an autistic spectrum condition from a medically qualified clinician which is accepted as the primary special educational need and included in a Statement of special educational need;
2. have cognitive or attainment levels similar to peers in the mainstream so needs can be met through reasonable differentiation, modification and adaptation to enable high levels of inclusion into the mainstream classes;
3. have demonstrated ability to benefit from access to appropriate peer models of social and communicative behaviour;
4. during key stage 2, have demonstrated the ability to learn strategies to modify their behaviour in response to specific interventions and contexts;
5. be within reasonable independent or supported travel distance (up to 60 minutes is recommended as noted by AA's online Route Planner) and be able to make a reasonable home to school transition and start to the school day.

To aid appropriate placement decision making, applicants will be assessed against the above criteria to ensure both the efficient education of the student placed and other students in the school and the efficient use of the Local Authority resources.

Parents express an interest by form or letter to the local authority¹ for the JCoSS resourced provision by the deadline in October set by the local authority. The LA will provide all available paperwork to JCoSS within 14 days of the request.

The PSRP is proudly supported by



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