**The Holgate Academy**

**Admissions Policy 2016 - 17**

**Admissions Numbers:**

Year 7: 240

Year 12: 61

**Year 7 Admissions Oversubscription Criteria**

Children with a Statement of Special Education need or Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP), where the Holgate Academy is named in the Plan will be admitted. In the event of oversubscription, all other applications will be considered in the following priority order:

**1. Looked After Children.**

Looked After Children and previously looked after children (as outlined in the School Admissions Code (2012) paragraph 1.7)

*A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions in accordance with section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to a school.*

*Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order). This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 and children who were adopted under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.*

*Child arrangements orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a ‘special guardianship order’ as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian (or special guardians).*

**2. Children who, at the time of admission, will have a sibling attending the Holgate Academy.**

*For Academy Admissions a sibling is considered to be; a brother or sister who share the same parents, a half-brother or half- sister or legally adopted child living at the same address as the child, a child looked after by the LA placed in a foster family as the child, stepchildren, stepchildren not related but living as a family unit*.

**3. Children who attend a “Holgate Family” Primary School at the closing date for applications.**

Beardall Fields Primary School

Broomhill Junior School

Edgewood Primary School

Hawthorne Primary School

Hillside Primary School

Holgate Primary School

Leen Mills Primary School

**4. Other children**

In the event of over-subscription within any criterion, preference will normally be given to children who live nearest to the school ‘as the crow flies’ from the front gate of the pupil’s registered home address to the reception office of the main school using the Local Authority software.

Please note that proof of address may be required in the form of utility bill, driving license, council tax payment schedule, benefit letters, solicitor’s letter confirming completion of house move or signed tenancy agreement.

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break in all criteria above to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between a child’s home and the Academy is equidistant in any individual case. This will be independently verified.

**Special Circumstances**

The following groups of children may be given special consideration in their application to the Academy:

Children whose particular medical needs, mobility support needs, special educational needs or other social circumstances are supported by written evidence from a doctor, social worker or other relevant professional at the time of application.

The Academy Admissions Board will, in consultation with the Principal, consider each case on its merits and determine the allocation of any such places. Cases agreed under ‘special circumstances’ will take precedence over all but the first of the numbered criteria.

**Admissions to year groups other than the intake year**

Admissions in year must be submitted to Nottinghamshire County Council. Applications for admission to other year groups will normally be considered in relation to the published admission limit which applied when the year group was first admitted to the Academy. If places are available within the year group, applications will be considered in accordance with the above admission criteria. If places are available, the child will be admitted to the Academy. Application forms and details about how to apply are available at <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/admissions/changingschool/>

**Admission of children outside the normal age group**

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of the normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception

rather than year 1. Children should only be educated out of the normal age group in very limited circumstances.

Nottinghamshire residents should submit a request in writing to Nottinghamshire County Council’s school admissions team as early as possible. Designated officers will make decisions based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent’s views; information about the child’s academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, the child’s medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The views of the head teacher of the school concerned will also be taken into account. When informing a parent of the decision on the year group to which the child should be admitted, the parent will be notified of the reasons for the decision.

Where it is agreed that a child will be admitted out of the normal age group and, as a consequence of that decision, the child will be admitted to a relevant age group (i.e. the age group to which pupils are normally admitted to the school) the local authority and admission authority must process the

application as part of the main admissions round on the basis of their determined admission arrangements only, including the application of oversubscription criteria where applicable. The parent has a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have

applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

**Transfer to junior and secondary school**

Where a child has been educated out of the normal age group it is the parent’s responsibility to again request admission out of the normal age group when they transfer to junior secondary school. It will be for the admission authority of the preferred school to decide whether to admit the child out of the normal age group. The admission authority must make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the child’s best interests, and will need to bear in mind the age group the child has been educated in up to that point.

**Post 16 Admissions Eligibility**

Note: conditionality is prohibited by the School Admissions Code, paragraph 1.9 g)

Both internal and external students wishing to enter The Post 16 Centre will be expected to have met the minimum academic entry requirements for the sixth form.

In addition to The Post 16 Centre’s minimum academic entry requirements students will need to satisfy minimum entrance requirements to the courses for which they are applying. If either internal or external applicants fail to meet the minimum course requirements they will be given the option of pursuing any alternative courses for which they do meet the minimum academic requirements.

**Oversubscription criteria – Post 16**

When The Post 16 Centre is undersubscribed all applicants will be admitted.

When the Academy is oversubscribed, after the admission of students with a Statement of Special Education need or Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP), where the school is named in the Statement. In the event of oversubscription, all other applications will be considered in the following priority order:

1. Looked After Children and previously looked after children (as outlined in the School Admissions Code (2012) paragraph 1.7)

*A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions in accordance with section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to a school.*

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2. In the event of over-subscription within any criterion, preference will normally be given to children who live nearest to the school ‘as the crow flies’ from the front gate of the pupil’s registered home address to the reception office of the main school.

*Please note that proof of address may be required in the form of utility bill, driving licence, council tax payment schedule, benefit letters, solicitor’s letter confirming completion of house move or signed tenancy agreement.*

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break for all categories above to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between a child’s home and the Academy is equidistant in any individual case. This will be independently verified.

**Waiting Lists**

In each year group The Holgate Academy will operate a waiting list where in any year the academy receives more applications for places than there are places available.

It will operate until the end of December in the admission year. Each admission authority must maintain a clear, fair and objective waiting list for at least the first term of the academic year of admission, each added child will require the list to be ranked again in line with the oversubscription criteria.

Children’s position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out above. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

**Appeals**

Following refusal of an application, applicants have the right to appeal to an independent appeals panel. This can be done through Nottinghamshire County Council in writing stating the grounds for appeal in the application. Details can be found on the Academy and Nottinghamshire County Council websites. Appeals should be lodged within 20 school days of the date of notification of refusal.

**Fair Access Protocol**

The Holgate Academy participates in Nottinghamshire County Council’s Fair Access Protocol (School Admissions Code 3.9 refers).

**Admissions Process**

The Admission process is co-ordinated through the Nottinghamshire County Council application process. Parent/Carers are required to complete the Nottinghamshire County Council’s application for placement form by 31st October 2015. Late application can also be made via this process.

**Signed** ………………………………………….. Chair of Governors

**Date** ………………………………………...