



ADMISSIONS POLICY

Policy/Procedure creator: Senior Management Team

Policy/Procedure created/reviewed: 01/02/2022

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| Centre Name | MEPA Academy |
| Centre Number | 61710 |
| Date policy first created | 01/09/2021 |
| Current policy reviewed by | Kate Williams |
| Current policy approved by | Mandy Ellen |
| Date of next review | 10/09/2022 |

Key staff involved in the policy

| Role | Name |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Exams officer | Kate Williams |
| ALS lead/SENCo | Claire Ross |
| Senior leader(s) | Mandy Ellen and Emma Finch |
| Head of centre | Mandy Ellen |
| Other staff (if applicable) | Not Applicable |

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that access arrangements process at MEPA Academy is managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.





ADMISSIONS POLICY

Admissions Policy Statement

MEPA Academy accepts pupils with a wide range of abilities. We aim to allow pupils to realise their potential and thus to pursue their respective levels of excellence, in whatever subject they are working in. The difference in levels of ability is evident in the majority of classes. However, the positive environment for teaching and learning in each class should allow all pupils to achieve a high degree of progress. Members of staff are accustomed to teaching classes of mixed ability, and this is the practice for the majority of lessons.

The decision as to whether or not to admit a pupil to MEPA is a complex one. We are looking for pupils who are 'all-rounders', ideally with highly developed skills in both the academic and vocational arenas. Such pupils tend to respond particularly well to the holistic approach offered by our arts-based education, with its delicate and complementary balance between the vocational subjects and the more traditional academic disciplines. As a result, pupils with clear talents in both of these spheres tend to achieve at their optimum level in our environment.

After a pupil has auditioned for a place at MEPA, a team of staff collates all the marks for the different audition tasks and decides whether or not the individual would enjoy and benefit from an education at MEPA. Offers are made based on these discussions and the school may decide to ask for a reference from the pupil's current school.

Pupils with learning difficulties or statements of special needs

Our SEND Department works with SEN pupils on a one-to-one basis when necessary. They also provide advice to staff as to the most successful ways of working with the specific learning difficulties of individual pupils.

If your daughter or son has a physical or visual impairment, it is important to contact the School prior to an audition. In such cases, we consider whether or not we can accommodate the level of disability at the school.

Prospective pupils already holding an Educational Healthcare Plan (EHC) should inform us before they accept an audition. There are some forms of special educational need that we do not have the expertise to accommodate and, in such cases, a meeting with parents is necessary so that we are better able to reach an informed decision (see the school's SEND Policy).

Admission process for prospective pupils

Pupils/parents need to complete the Registration Form that can be located on our website. Pupils will then be asked to audition on one of our audition days. There are three or four such days per year, and they remain the principal method by which we select pupils for our main points of entry to the school. On the audition day, day school pupils are required to bring along photo identification.

Pupils attend for a significant part of the day and they are tested in a number of key areas. These include:

An interview together with her/his parent(s) / carers. The purpose of the interview is for the school to find out more about the pupil, their interests and why they want to attend the school. Parents also have the opportunity to ask questions in order to ensure that they have all the information they need to make a decision about the school.

There will be an examination in Math's and English, this will be an indication of the levels the pupils are working at. Please inform us in advance if your daughter/son has any specific learning difficulties, as we can consider these when we are marking the Math's and English papers.



It is important that prospective pupils and their parents/carers have looked carefully at the curriculum offer and made themselves aware of the routine of the school day. Such research should allow each parent the best opportunity to find the course that is right for their son or daughter.

Audition requirements

- A short dance of no more than two minutes (accompaniment on CD, ipod, phone or laptop acceptable).
- A two-minute monologue from a play (ensure that the character is of an appropriate playing age for the candidate and bring a copy of the text).
- A short song to either backing track or sheet music may be selected from a list provided
or
- If the candidate so wishes, they may perform a short instrumental recital
- Candidates will also take part in a selection of vocational classes

At the end of the audition process, each candidate is assessed for his/her suitability for the school. This information is then considered alongside the reference from his/her current school and the candidate's most recent school report.

Other points to note

- The fee for an audition day audition is currently £25.
- Parents / Carers are required to sign a contract before a pupil starts the school. This outlines our conditions, amongst which is the requirement that a term's notice must be given before a pupil leaves the school.

Late Entries

MEPA Academy will accept late entries throughout the term, but all entries must follow the same Admissions Process as stated above.

To enquiry about a late entry please email info@mepaacadmey.com or call 01622 756644

Review of Admissions Policy

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| Policy written: | July 2021 |
| Policy reviewed: | January 2022 |



Next review date:

September 2022

