

PENRICE ACADEMY

ADMISSION POLICY FOR ADMISSION SEPTEMBER 2019/20

Introduction

The Peninsula Learning Trust is the admitting authority for the Academy. Peninsula Learning Trust participates in the Local Authority co-ordinated Admissions Policy.

Penrice Academy is an 11-16 mixed Academy serving the needs of the young people of St Austell and the surrounding area.

The main principle of admission to Penrice Academy is to maintain the character of the Academy as a comprehensive school, providing for the needs of young people within the 11-16 age range, who live in St Austell and the surrounding areas, providing they can be accommodated within the agreed admission limits. We are an inclusive school and welcome all applications. Our uniform policy is intended to encourage a professional appearance and a pride in the Academy. We have tried to keep this to a reasonable cost while maintaining a high level of conformity.

Admission to our Academy is not dependent on any voluntary contribution and we have a full range of extra-curricular activities available for all students. We have an extensive programme of visits for which a charge is made, but we are always pleased to discuss any concerns you may have.

Students will be admitted to Year 7 without reference to ability or aptitude using the procedures detailed in this document, which includes arrangements and criteria that will be applied in the event of over-subscription.

The number intended to be admitted in September 2019 will be 270.

The Academy participates in the Local Authority Co-ordinated Scheme and applicants should adhere to all deadlines within that. All applications for places in Year 7 must be made on a common application form provided by the Local Authority.

This policy is written with full adherence to and in accordance with the Schools Admissions Code (October 2012). All statutory obligations defined within this code apply, including the operation of an equal preference scheme.

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Education, Health and Care Plan which name Penrice Academy will be admitted to the Academy providing that Penrice Academy is able to meet their needs.

Over-subscription

In the event of there being more than 270 applications for places, after the admission of students with SEN naming Penrice Academy, the following admission criteria will be used to allocate places:-

- 1 Children in Care are also referred to as 'looked after children' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after become subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 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.
- 2 Children with siblings who will still be attending Penrice Academy at the time of their admission. Siblings (brothers or sisters) are considered to be those children who live at the same address and either:-
 - have one or both natural parents in common
 - are related by a parent's marriage
 - are adopted or are fostered
- 3 Children of staff at the school
 - where the member of staff has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application to the Academy is made; and/or
 - the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- 4 Children on roll at a designated Primary School.

The designated Primary Schools are:-

Mount Charles
Sandy Hill
St Mewan
Pondhu
Charlestown
Mevagissey
Carclaze
Bishop Bronscombe
Luxulyan

- 5 Distance from school with those living closer having greater priority.

Tie-breaker

If any of the criteria outlined above leave more children with an equal claim than places available, the following tie-breaker will be used:

Where two or more children fulfil the same criterion, priority will be given to the child who lives nearer to Penrice Academy.

Home to school distances used for tie-breaking will be measured by straight-line measurement as determined by Capita One and supported by Cornwall Council's nominated Geographical Information System (currently DataMap). Measurements will be between your home address (the centre of the main building of the property) and the main gate of the school (as determined by Cornwall Council).

Distances used to determine nearest school with room (ie – where it is not possible to offer a place at a preferred school) and for establishing transport entitlements will be measured by the nearest available route as determined by Cornwall Council's nominated Geographic Information software (currently DataMap).

Admission outside the normal age group

Although most children will be admitted to the school with their own age group, from time to time parents seek places outside their normal age group for gifted and talented children or those who have experienced problems or missed part of the year, often due to ill health. While it would not normally be appropriate for a child to be placed in a year group that is not concurrent with their chronological age, the school will consider these requests carefully, and will make a decision based on the particular circumstances of each case.

Operation of Waiting Lists

Subject to any provision regarding waiting lists in the LA's co-ordinated admissions scheme, the Academy, in partnership with the Local Authority, will operate a waiting list for each year group.

A child's position on this waiting list will be determined by the Academy's published over-subscription criteria. However, children who are the subject of a direction by the Local Authority, who are subject to a successful admissions appeal or who are allocated to the school in accordance with the Fair Access Protocol, will take precedence over any child already on the waiting list.

Appeals

All applicants who are refused a place for their child at the Academy will be advised of their right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. All appeals will be administered by the LA on behalf of the Academy Trust.