



## Admissions Policy

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# *Changing Lives School*

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# *Changing Lives School*

## **1. Aims**

This document sets out the admission arrangements for SMS Changing Lives School for the year 2021/2022.

The admission arrangements in this policy were determined on 01/09/2020

This policy aims to:

- Explain how parents can apply for a place for their child at the school
- Set out the school's arrangements for allocating places to the pupils who apply

All students attending SMS changing Lives have individual needs that have proved too complex to be addressed within a mainstream setting.

The school will provide effective support and a suitably differentiated curriculum, enabling them to progress and succeed to the best of their ability.

The school admits students with social, emotional and mental health difficulties, with either a statement of special educational needs or Education Health Care Plan which notes the nature of these difficulties. Our students' challenges are often the cause or the result of other special educational needs.

Following on from consultation regarding gaining an admissions place at SMS Changing Lives, the Head teacher alongside the Senior Leadership Team will;

- consider all needs of a young person
- establish the programme of learning best suited to meet the needs of the student
- communicate with external professionals
- Provide an induction period with feedback to all relevant parties
- In the event need cannot be met a Needs Feedback document can be provided



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## **2.The Referral Process**

Referrals made to SMS Changing Lives will normally be made by the local authorities.

A range of detailed information concerning each student should accompany these referrals

Where this is not the case, the school will seek access to such information as possible including information regarding the individual's Education, Health and Social background.

The Head teacher will liaise with Senior Leadership Team to assess whether or not the school can meet the students' needs and if so, arrange for a visit to the school.

SMS Changing Lives Staff will ensure pupils are offered an integration package that starts as soon as possible once a place has been offered.

### **Criteria during the referral consultation period**

The student will:

- be aged between 11-18
- have a statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health Care Plan or be going through the assessment period
- have needs that can be met within the school offer
- have needs/provision that are compatible with those of the existing cohort of students
- express a commitment to the placement
- agree to follow the rules of SMS Changing Lives
- agree to comply with policies at SMS Changing Lives

During the consultation process to look into admission at SMS Changing Lives we will consult with parents and carers regarding the following;

- Information about the child's academic, social and emotional development
- Where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional
- Whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group



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## **3.Our Offer**

At SMS Changing Lives we will provide the same high standard of education to all students who attend in respect of the following learning pathways.

- **Alternative Provision** – Core and Vocational Curriculum
- **Full Time Education** –Core and Vocational Curriculum
- **Engagement Programme** – Social Action and re-engagement
- **Therapeutic Centre @ Greek Street** - Core and Vocational Curriculum in a smaller setting with a focus on nurture

The Senior Leadership Team at SMS Changing Lives will implement procedures to ensure the needs of the student are communicated and shared with all staff.

Individual Education Plans will highlight SEND needs and strategies to provide a high standard of Teaching and Learning.

Pupil Support Pathways will provide teachers with the necessary information when a student is in crisis and needs a tailored management plan.

Students' progress is constantly monitored and formally assessed each half term and this information is shared with parents/carers.

Students are given relevant baseline assessments on arrival at school, in particular in Math, English – Reading and Spelling and their progress is monitored and tracked until they leave school. Assessment is currently reported in terms of Currently Working At Grades and Predicted Grades ; GCSE grades, Entry Level and Vocational Qualifications.

## **Focus Questions**

### **Q) Will transport be provided to students ?**

A) Students will be required to make their own way to SMS Changing Lives however we do work with authorities to share good practise and risk assess the needs of each individual student. This would be an additional cost.

### **Q) Will students be provided with lunch ?**



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A) All students will be provided with a healthy lunch alongside snacks at break and toast at Breakfast Club.

### **3.The facilities**

At SMS Changing Lives we offer state of the art facilities in order to support our students with their complex needs.

- Inclusion Room
- Construction Workbase
- 2 x Indoor 3G Astro Pitch
- Learning Resource Centre
- ICT Studios
- Hair and Beauty Room
- Female Student Fitness Suite
- Whole School Gym
- Music and Media Studio with recording booth
- Professional Boxing Gym

In addition to our facilities the Proprietor and Senior Leadership Team ensure that our school promotes the social and emotional needs of all our students with a SEND Team.

### **The Send Team consists of**

- **SENDCo-** The SENDCo is responsible for managing the SEN Team and ensuring that special educational needs are not a barrier to learning at SMS.
- **Specialist Behaviour for Learning Managers** – The Behaviour for Learning Managers will support classrooms and whole school activities to reduce crisis incidents and liaise with the Senior Leaders to provide the highest level of Pastoral Care.
- **Specialist Engagement Officers** – Our school engagement officers will provide mentoring and inclusion activities through core and vocational subject to our students who are not attending on site provision.
- **Family Liaison Officer** – Our Family liaison officer will provide outreach support to families and liaise with authorities to monitor attendance and any safeguarding concerns.
- **Transitions Officer** – Our Transitions Officer will provided intervention based career session in preparation for Post 16.



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## **4. Progress and Development**

The monitoring of student progress and development is a pivotal part of SMS Changing Lives School Offer.

Students' progress is constantly monitored and formally assessed each half term and this information is shared with parents/carers.

Students are given relevant baseline assessments on arrival at school, in particular in Math, English, Reading and Spelling ; their progress is monitored and tracked until they leave school.

Assessment is currently reported in terms of Currently Working at Grades and Predicted Grades.

Qualifications currently on offer at SMS Changing Lives School:

- GCSE English, Math & Science
- Functional Skills English & Maths
- NCFE
- ASDAN
- Level 1 & Level 2 Vocational Awards

## **5. Post 16**

Post 16 provision is only available to existing students, already on our school role or accessing our Alternative Provision facilities but who are not yet 'college ready' by the end of year 11.

This may be due to gaps in their learning as a result of being out of school for sustained periods, or as a result of emotional vulnerability or immaturity.

In these cases we are able to offer an extra 1 or 2 year placement which aims to support transition into further education or training for students who would otherwise be at high risk of becoming NEET.

KS5 students have separate classes for core subjects and access enhanced transition classes and mentoring sessions .



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## **6 Links to Other Policies**

SMS Changing Lives will follow all guidance provided by The Department for Education and adhere to the Independent Schools Standards.

The following policies will also work alongside admission at SMS Changing Lives;

- Attendance Policy
- Behaviors Policy
- SEND Policy
- Child protection and Safeguarding Policy

## **7. Working With outside agencies**

At SMS Changing Lives we pride ourselves on working with community projects and outside professionals.

When working with outside visitors we ensure all the relevant documents are evidence.

Our 2020 links include;

- The Garden House Farm Marple
- Hyde Road Tyres
- Stockport Homes Community Rooms
- National Trust Properties
- North West Drama

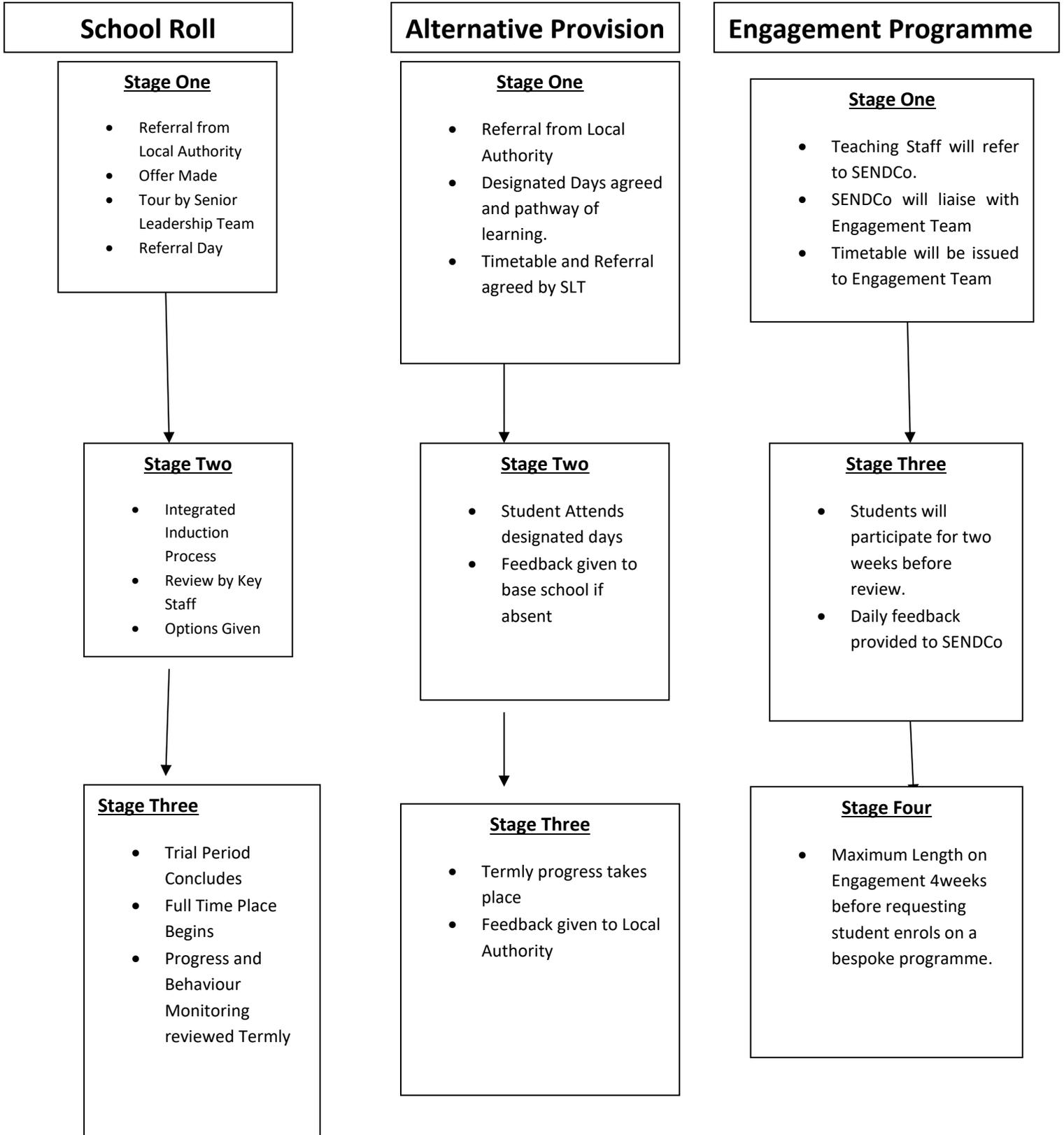
## **8. Accessing SMS Changing Lives as an Alternative Provision**

Our Alternative Provision students remain permanently on roll with their current school (base school) who retain overall responsibility for their attendance and academic progress and qualifications.

For students who attend 3 days per week with us or more, our offer of education will not differ in standard at SMS Changing Lives but will focus more on our Vocational Pathways and therapeutic interventions. We do not offer qualifications in core subjects for students attending less than 3 days per week.



## Appendix – Admissions Pathway





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## **Appendix 2- Tiers of Banding**

Level 1	Access to small class groups with high staff ratio of specialised staff. Recognised qualifications available in a range of vocational subjects as well as PSHE Functional skills and GCSE Maths and English and Science available.	£38,000
Level 2	Access to small class groups with high staff ratio of specialised staff and additional 1:1 support in core subjects. May require additional longer term therapeutic work or support through CP TAC LAC etc. May have a diagnoses of ASC and require additional intervention in terms of social and communication skills. Recognised qualifications available in a range of vocational subjects as well as PSHE ,Science. And Functional skills and GCSE Maths and English	£45,000 - £50,000
Level 3	Bespoke programme based off site. Access to full time 1:1 support and individual interventions as appropriate. Recognised qualifications available in a range of vocational subjects as well as PSHE ,Science. And Functional skills and GCSE Maths and English	£55,000 - £58,000



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## Appendix 3 Key Staff

