

Determined arrangements for the admission of pupils to the Thomas Aveling School for the Academic Year 2019

Following consultation with all other relevant School Admissions Authorities and the wider public, in respect of our 2019 Admission arrangements and having affected no changes, The Thomas Aveling School has adopted the following arrangements with respect to the admission of pupils to the school for the academic year 2019. These will be posted on the school website, together with details of the Access area:

The Governors are aware of their responsibility to consult on their admission arrangements. Following consultation with all other relevant School Admissions Authorities, The Thomas Aveling School proposes to adopt the following arrangements with respect for the admission of pupils to the school for the Academic Year 2019. These will be posted on the school website, together with details of the access area.

This policy aims to produce clear, objective and fair admissions arrangements and provide information and guidance to enable parental preferences to be met to the maximum extent possible.

The school will comply with all statutory provisions and will follow the guidance in the School Admissions Code set out under Section 84 of the Schools Standards Framework Act (SSFA) 1998 and the most recently updated guidance in the School Admissions Regulations for the appropriate next intake.

The Governors will recognise their statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent discrimination.

Children with disabilities will not be treated less fairly than other children.

The Thomas Aveling School is an 11-18 co-educational non-selective school that gained Academy status from 1st September 2011. We are a specialist Technology College but do not have any requirement for aptitude from prospective students. The Thomas Aveling School merged with The Fort Pitt Grammar School Academies Trust on 1st September 2015 but continues to maintain its own Admissions Policy.

The main principle of admission to The Thomas Aveling School is to maintain the character of the school as a co-educational non-selective school, providing for the needs of young persons within the 11-18 age range.

We have strong curriculum links with our neighbouring primary schools.

There is no guarantee of a place for any child meeting our over-subscription criteria.

Admission to the school is not dependent upon any 'voluntary' contribution. School visits and activities for which parental contribution is required are not compulsory. Further information regarding voluntary contributions is set out in the school's Charging & Remissions Policy.

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The Governing Body aims to ensure that no family feels unable to apply for admission on account of high uniform cost. School uniform details are available on the school website.

Home to school transport details can be obtained from the Local Authority and parents' attention is drawn to the Education Act 2006 which gives further information on eligibility for free home-to-school transport.

In respect of the normal admissions round, the school participates in the Local Authority co-ordinated scheme and all deadlines within that should be adhered to by applicants.

In conformity with the Code, the school will give the highest priority to Looked-After Children who are in the care of the Local Authority or provided with accommodation by the Authority.

The school will admit any pupil with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or EHCP where, following consultation with the Local Authority, it has been ascertained that the school can meet the child's individual educational needs and the school is named on the Statement.

Special educational needs children without Statements will be treated as fairly as other applicants.

It is the Governors' intention that extended activities with educational benefit and supported study after school will be available to pupils from all families, regardless of income.

Home Address: Proof of residence will be required by the co-ordinated scheme. The offer of a place may be withdrawn if proof of residency is not met.

Where a child lives part of the week with one parent and part with another member of the family, the 'home address' will be considered to be the residence where the child spends at least three nights of the school week each week.

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Procedure for admission into Year 7:

Detailed information and guidance will be published in the Local Authority's secondary admissions guide for parents. Applications should be made using the online admission system or Medway's common application form (CAF).

Pupils will be admitted without reference to ability of aptitude. The age of admission is 11 years. The Planned Admission Number (PAN) will be 190.

The Governors will establish and publish arrangements for appeals against non-admission, including an independent statutory Appeals Panel.

Over-subscription Criteria:

Where applications for admission received via the Medway Co-ordinated Admission Scheme exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit:

- a) Children in public care¹
¹ As defined in the Medway Co-ordinated Admission Scheme
- b) Current Family Association, ie an older sibling² who is on the roll of the school when the application is made, living in the same household, and who must still be attending at the point of entry
² 'Sibling' means an older brother or sister, step-brother or sister, foster brother or sister, or those who live as brother or sister in the same house. In all cases, children must reside in the same household
- c) Residence within an access area³
³As defined in the Medway Local Authority 'Admission to Secondary School' booklet and as published on the school website
- d) Nearness of children's homes⁴
⁴ The Governors of The Thomas Aveling School have adopted Medway Council's criteria for measuring the nearness of children's homes to the school when allocating places. Distance will be measured by the shortest available safe walking route between home and school, as measured by Medway Council's Geographical Information System and as defined in the Medway Local Authority 'Admission to Secondary School' booklet.

Please note for children of multiple birth:

In the event of a school being oversubscribed where the parent/carer for the final qualifying place(s) available is the parent/carer of twins, triplets or other multiple birth, the school will give multiple birth applications a higher priority for a place than other applications with the exception of children in public care. Parents/carers/carers must tick the appropriate box on the application to indicate the children are of multiple birth.

Tiebreaker:

In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

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Procedure for Admissions into Years 8-11, and Year 7 after the normal September admissions round:

All applications for admissions for pupils in Years 8-11, and for Year 7 received after the normal September admissions round, may be made either direct to the school or via the Local Authority, both of whom will share information with regard to the availability of places. Parents will be informed of their right to appeal against the refusal of a place. The Local Authority will, on request, provide parents with information about places available in all schools within its area.

All applications will be considered, and decisions made, by the Admissions Authority of the Thomas Aveling School. A vacancy will be deemed to have arisen if the number of children on roll in the Year Group is less than the published admission number (PAN) for that year. Any additional children admitted will be at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Procedure for Admissions into Year 12:

In addition to students applying for Sixth Form places from Year 11, up to 30 students may be admitted for the first time up to the Planned Admission Number of 180. Students will be admitted on the following basis:

- Advanced Level Courses: That the minimum entry requirements of 5 GCSE Grades A*-C (or the equivalent) is met. Offers of places will remain conditional until actual results are verified. Course entry requirements for specific Advanced courses are published in the Sixth Form Prospectus. Entry for Consortium courses may be subject to different criteria.

Over-subscription Criteria:

The over-subscription criteria for pupils in Year 7 will also be applied for Year 12.

Admissions are subject to a vacancy existing on the course for which the student is applying.

Waiting Lists:

No waiting lists will be held for Years 7-13. In respect of Rising Year 7, as set out in the co-ordinated scheme, the Local Authority will be responsible for holding a waiting list for parents who request their child's name to be added. This waiting list will operate until 31 December 2019 and will be ranked in the same order as the published over-subscription criteria.

Appeals:

If you are not offered a place at our school, you have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. Appeal papers will be forwarded on request to all those parents who named Thomas Aveling on their preference list but were unsuccessful in gaining a place. Please ensure that those are returned to the Clerk to the Appeal Panel at the school. The closing date on the appeal application form must be adhered to.

Late Applications:

Will be handled as detailed in the Medway Co-ordinated Admission Scheme.