

## **Admission Criteria**

### **Philosophy**

The Ribble Autism School believes that all children with special educational needs, whose parents or Local Authority wish it, should have a right to be considered as appropriate for assessment for admission.

### **Principles**

The school will assess a pupil against the admission criteria for The Ribble Autism School.

#### **Step 1**

- A description of the child's special educational need will match the admission criteria and the pupil will be of school age at point of proposed admission (4-11 years).

If this is the case:

#### **Step 2**

- Senior managers from The Ribble Autism School will meet the child's parents/carers and teachers and will review in detail any additional paperwork associated with the education and care of the child.

If the outcome of this review indicates that The Ribble Autism School could be a suitable placement then:

#### **Step 3**

- An offer of an assessment is made to visit the pupil.

If the outcomes of this assessment place are positive, then:

#### **Step 4**

- The pupil will be offered a place at The Ribble Autism School.

Decisions about the school's suitability for the child are made by drawing on the conclusions of a range of reports and information as well as on the assessment carried out by the school.

If a child is offered a place at the school they may remain until the end of the academic year in which they are nineteen, or they may leave at an earlier point depending on their Local Authority policy and arrangements.

The Ribble Autism School provides emergency and respite residential placements in the case of a child who is already attending the school on a day place basis. This provision is, however, dependent on the number of children residential at the time of need.

The Ribble Autism School criteria for admission are a combination of pupil specific, family, and school environment factors:

Pupil will have:

- A diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder or evidence of behaviours which are in accordance with such a diagnosis
- A learning difficulty within the moderate to severe range
- Appropriate family commitment to supporting and maintaining programmes at home
- The Ribble Autism School can meet the needs of children with autism and associated complexities. The school accepts that children will have challenging behaviour as a result of difficulties with communication and social understanding. A vital element of the admission process is to ensure that the needs of the child referred can be met and that their admission does not have a detrimental effect on the well-being and safety of others.

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