



North East
Learning Trust

Admissions Policy

Rye Hills Academy

2026/27

Introduction

The North East Learning Trust is the Admissions Authority responsible for applying this policy for Rye Hills Academy.

The Trust will consider all admission applications sent to them by the Local Authority (LA) and will apply the policy fairly and consistently to every application received.

Published Admission Number (PAN)

The PAN is the number of places we intend to make available for our normal intake. Once the PAN has been set for an Academy, we will not refuse any applications submitted during the normal admission round for Year 7 where the PAN has not been exceeded.

The PAN applies to the year of entry (Year 7) and is 150 for September 2026.

The application process for admissions into Year 7 is co-ordinated by Redcar & Cleveland Local Authority (LA), which acts on behalf of the Trust to offer Year 7 places at The Academy.

At the appropriate time, parents / carers will receive information from Redcar & Cleveland Admissions on how to make an application and relevant dates. The closing date for applications for places in Year 7 for September 2026 is 31 October 2025 and offer letters will be issued by the LA on 2 March 2026 – the national school places offers' day. Applications can also be made on-line.

An Independent Choice Advice service will be available to assist families with their applications.

For details, please contact the Redcar & Cleveland Admissions Team on 01642 837740/837730 or log onto www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/admissions All parents/ carers are strongly advised to read the Redcar & Cleveland Local Authority Guide for Parents/Carers 2026/2027.

The timetable for secondary school admission arrangements for Year 7 2026/2027 is available from Redcar & Cleveland Admissions Office.

Over-Subscription Criteria

1. Children who are 'looked after' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order*.

A looked after child is a child who is, at the time of making an application to a school, (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions. (See definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

2. Children who appear to the admission authority of the school to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

3. Medical reasons

Children with very exceptional medical factors directly related to school placement. Supporting evidence from a professional (such as a doctor known to your child) must be included with your application. The evidence MUST explain why the school you wish your child to attend is the only school that can meet the child's medical needs and what difficulties would be caused if they had to attend an alternative school.

4. Sibling links

Children who have a sibling already attending the school (in Years 7-11) and who is expected to be on roll at the time of admission. Sibling is defined as children who live as brother or sister in the same house permanently, including natural brothers or sisters, half-brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters and children of the parent/carer's partner.

5. Children of staff employed at the Academy

Children of staff employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made and/or the member of staff has been recruited to fill a post where there is a demonstrable skill shortage, and/or the member of staff has relocated.

6. Distance

Those children who have applied for a place at the nearest school to their home address measured by the shortest walking route. This will be based on the child's

address. Where the last place to be allocated would mean that a multiple birth sibling group i.e., twins, triplets, or other multiple birth sibling groups, would be split, the sibling group will be given priority over other children. Otherwise, if only one final place can be offered, and two applicants live equidistant from the Academy, the LA's system of random allocation will apply.

The distance from home to the Academy will be measured by computer on a straight-line basis using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the Academy.

7. All other applicants

Tiebreaker

Where an Academy is oversubscribed within any of the categories above the following tiebreakers will be applied:

- a) For those children who have applied for a place at the school nearest to their home address, priority will be given to those living closest to the nearest school measured by the shortest walking route.
- b) For other children, priority will be given to those children who live nearest to the school applied for.

In the unlikely event of the Academy being oversubscribed within categories 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 tiebreaker (b) will apply.

Notification of places

The formal offer of a place will be issued by Redcar and Cleveland LA who will write to parents/carers on **2 March 2026**.

Children in Receipt of a Local Authority Education Health Care Plan (Statement)

Any child who has a current EHCP/Statement of Special Needs naming Rye Hills Academy as the designated secondary school in Year 7 will be automatically admitted, unless the Academy has previously demonstrated (if necessary, to an independent tribunal) that to admit the child would not be in their best interests, unreasonable in terms of its impact on the Academy, or detrimental to health and safety.

Requests to Admit Children out of their Normal Age Group

All applications for children requesting admission outside their normal age group will be processed as outlined in the Redcar & Cleveland Admissions and Co-ordinated Scheme 2026/2027.

Late Applications

Applications received by the closing date take priority over late applications, however, applications which are received for very good reason after the closing date because of very exceptional circumstances may be accepted and treated as an on-time application provided they are received before the allocation procedures begin.

Parents/carers must provide clear evidence for the Admissions Authority to consider as to why they could not apply during the preference period. The determination of the Admissions Authority will be final.

Where families have moved to a new address after places have been allocated, preferences will only be agreed if places remain available at Rye Hills Academy. If Rye Hills Academy is full, a place will be offered by the Local Authority at the school closest to the home address with places available. Parents/carers whose child has been refused a school place for which they have applied will be offered the right to appeal against the decision.

Waiting lists/appeals

The Trust will maintain the waiting list. Positions on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant, they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Unsuccessful applicants may also contact School Admissions, North East Learning Trust by telephone 0191 5634190 Option 1 or email schooladmissions@nelt.co.uk to be advised of their right to an Independent Appeal Panel and/or request to be included on the waiting list.

The waiting list will be maintained until 31 December 2026.

Withdrawing an offer of a place

The Trust reserves the right to withdraw an offer of a place if:

- It was made in error.
- Parent/carer fails to respond to the offer of a place within the agreed deadline.
- It is established that the offer of a place was obtained through fraudulent or misleading application.

In-year admission to Rye Hills Academy

The Trust are responsible for managing in-year admissions, further information can be found in the Trust's In-Year Admission Policy.