Queensmill College Admissions Policy

Introduction

Queensmill College is located at 50 Ellerslie Road, Shepherd's Bush, London W12 7BW. Queensmill College is part of the Queensmill Trust.

Queensmill College specialises in providing highly quality personalised, person-centred programmes for young people aged 16-25 diagnosed with autism and with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This provision carefully identifies individual needs and focuses on inclusive practices and removing barriers to learning. All staff across the College settings are highly trained in autism and associated strategies to support the best learning outcomes.

The College provision hopes to expand its unique offer to more young people and this is dependent upon securing larger premises.

The College offers bespoke autism specific packages via two distinct pathways:

1. A small specialist unit located at 50 Ellerslie Road. This provision provides a highly structured, low-arousal environment for young adults whose autism is extremely complex and most have additional learning needs and complex health needs such as epilepsy. Students present with minimal or no verbal communication, significant sensory processing challenges, and require a high level of support for regulation, transition and social interaction.

2. A Project Search Supported Internship. This runs across three hospital sites within the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Trust- West Middlesex University Hospital, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, and Harbour Yard. The internship provision was designed to enable a pathway into employment for those who were unable to access many other internship projects due to the impact of their autism or learning needs. The programme is facilitated by staff with a high level of expertise in autism using the well-established, accountable, highly successful Project Search model.

Criteria

Queensmill College will work closely with the surrounding Borough SEN departments, to ensure that young people admitted to the College are within the College criteria.

These are:

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

2. Working at academic levels well below age-related expectations.

3. All decisions on placement will involve an assessment of consultation papers and a visit in person as required.

Admission Process

The process of admission is the following:

1. The Local Authority (LA) will send a consultation with the young person's papers to the College.

   The Head of College will assess whether or not the College can meet needs as judged from papers alone, or if the young person is already attending a Queensmill provision prior knowledge is also taken into consideration.

   The Head of College will reply to the statutory consultation confirming whether or not the College can meet the particular needs of the young person in question. This considers

   a. suitability

   b. whether the placement is in line with the efficient education of its existing pupils,

   If the Head of College states the College can meet needs from papers alone, this is reported to the LA's SEN Panel, who, if they wish, then pursue the place for this young person.

2. Should the LA ask Queensmill College to visit and observe the young person to verify whether they can meet their needs, this must be completed within the statutory timescales for consultation.

3. For Project Search internship placements an application form and Skills assessment day form part of the suitability assessment

4. Offers of a place are for existing College pathway provisions

Arrangements made to help transition into Queensmill College:

A transition plans is designed to help the young person with their move to Queensmill College. This is prepared in association with the young person, their parents, their previous placement, and other professionals involved. The plan could include transition visits, social stories, and photos books to familiarise them with the new setting.

Approved by:	Rachel Thompson	**Date:** December 2022
Last reviewed on:	November 2024	
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