

# **Admissions Policy**

Rainbow Trees Pathway
Reviewed: December 2025
Next Review: December 2026

#### 1. Purpose of Policy

This policy sets out the admissions process for all services offered by **Rainbow Trees Pathway**, including:

- Alternative education provision
- Social care support
- Therapeutic small group work, including Brick Clubs and enrichment sessions

Our aim is to ensure that all referrals are handled transparently, fairly, and in a way that prioritises the safety, wellbeing, and development of the individuals we support.

#### 2. Scope

This policy applies to all children, young people, and adults referred to Rainbow Trees Pathway. Referrals may come from:

- Schools and education providers (Alternative Provision)
- Local Authorities (Social Care or EOTAS)
- Parents/carers (Self-referral)
- Health professionals or third-party organisations

### 3. Eligibility Criteria

#### 3.1 General Criteria

We accept referrals for individuals who:

- We don't have an age limit
- Have identified needs including SEND, SEMH, autism, anxiety, trauma, or learning difficulties
- Would benefit from a non-traditional, nurturing, and flexible environment

## 3.2 We Are Not Currently Able to Accept:

- Individuals requiring physical restraint as part of their regular care
- Individuals with significant medical needs requiring onsite nursing (unless otherwise agreed)
- Individuals who present a risk to others or themselves that we cannot safely manage



Each placement is subject to a risk assessment and staffing availability.

#### 4. Admission Procedure

### **Step 1: Referral Received**

A referral form or enquiry must be submitted by the referring party (school, LA, parent/carer). It must include:

- Key contact details
- Reason for referral
- Summary of needs
- Preferred start date and times
- Current education/social care status

### Step 2: Initial Review

Our team will assess the referral for:

- Suitability
- Availability
- Level of support required
- Risk factors
- Staffing requirements

### **Step 3: Meeting or Phone Consultation**

We will arrange an initial phone call or in-person meeting with:

- The parent/carer or referrer
- (Where appropriate) the young person or adult

This helps us to understand individual needs and agree whether Rainbow Trees Pathway is a good fit.

### **Step 4: Documentation Completed**

If the placement is agreed, the following paperwork must be completed before the start date:

## ➤ Student/Service User Contract, including:

- Contact details for two parents/carers or safe person
- Attendance days/times
- Risk assessment (medical, behavioural, environmental)
- Medical and allergy information
- Emergency contacts
- Review and reporting schedule
- Funding agreement (school/LA/parent)
- Permissions Forms for travel arrangements

## **Supporting Documents:**

- Registration form
- Pupil profile (strengths, challenges, interests)
- Behaviour or care plan (if applicable)
- PEEP (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan) if needed

## 5. Admissions for Small Group Activities (e.g. Brick Clubs)

Rainbow Trees Pathway offers structured group sessions, including:

- Brick Clubs (LEGO therapy)
- Creative arts and social skills groups
- Sensory sessions

Admission to these activities follows a short-form process but still requires:

- A completed registration form
- Medical/allergy information
- Emergency contacts

We aim to ensure groups are well-matched in terms of age, needs, and interests to promote inclusion and enjoyment.

### 6. Safeguarding and Stability Reviews

- All admissions are reviewed by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- A trial period may be agreed for certain placements
- We reserve the right to defer or withdraw a placement if the needs of the individual cannot be safely met



 All individual plans are reviewed within 6 weeks of admission, or sooner if concerns arise

#### 7. Enrolment documentation

- Parent/Carer Handbook
- Risk Assessment
- Information home visit
- Registration form
- PEEP if applicable
- Pupil Profile



## 7. Equality and Inclusion

Rainbow Trees Pathway is committed to:

- Promoting inclusive access to services
- Making reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010
- Respecting the rights and needs of disabled individuals, neurodivergent individuals, and those from diverse backgrounds

We work in partnership with families and professionals to overcome barriers wherever possible.

# 8. Data Protection and Confidentiality

All information collected during the admissions process is stored securely and handled in line with:

- UK GDPR
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Our internal Privacy Policy

## 9. Policy Review

This policy is reviewed **annually**, or earlier in the event of:

- Significant operational changes
- Legal or regulatory updates
- Serious incident requiring a change in practice



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| Date: [Insert Date]   | 01.12.2025       |

