CHRISTOPHER NIEPER Education Trust

Developing leaders & Achievers of the *future*

David Nieper ACADEMY

Policy:	**Admissions Policy for September 2027**
School:	David Nieper Academy

Policy Lead/Owner or Originator	**Headteacher**
Approval level	**Academy Governing Board**
Date of approval	**Spring 2026**
Next review date	**Autumn 2026**

Version Control	
Version 1	**Approved by Governors March 2026**

Signed: *Governor or Trustee Lead*	**Academy Governing Board**
Date:	**Spring 2026**

As an academy, David Nieper Academy is its own Admissions Authority. The academy participates in the Derbyshire County Council admissions system and the scheme is administered by the Council on behalf of the academy.

This policy has been written in accordance with the Schools Admissions Code (2021).

The published Admission Number (PAN) for David Nieper Academy is 140 pupils for year group 7. The PAN is the maximum number of places that the academy offers before its over-subscription criteria is used.

Pupils will be admitted at the age of 11 without reference to ability, aptitude, or religious faith according to the criteria for admissions, in order of priority, detailed below.

Pupils who have a statement or an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school will be admitted if the Headteacher believes the child's needs can be met by the academy.

Following consultation our admissions arrangements have now been determined for the 2027/2028 year as:

Oversubscription Admission Criteria

1. Looked after children and children who were looked after but ceased to be because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

2. Children living in the normal area served by the academy at the time of application and admission who have siblings attending the academy at the time of application and admission.

3. Children living in the normal area served by the academy at the time of application and admission.

4. Children not living in the normal area served by the academy but who have siblings attending the academy at the time of application and admission.

5. Children not living in the normal area served by the academy but who attend a Trust school at the time of application and admission.

6. Other children whose parents have requested a place.

For criteria 2, 3, 4 5 and 6, in the instance of children satisfying the same criteria, those children living nearest the academy (measured by a straight-line distance from home to the academy) will be given preference.

Derbyshire County Council has a Geographic Information System (GIS) to measure the nearest available route. This is measured in a straight line. The measurement is taken from the postal address file, normally the house front door. For schools the grid reference is taken from the nearest gate or entrance to the school.

***Living in the normal area** is defined as the child having settled residence in a property which is the child's only or main residence. Documentary evidence, including proof of residence at the property concerned, may be required e.g. council tax/utility bills, sale/rental

agreements. The County Council reserves the right to withdraw any offer of a school place which has been obtained as a result of misleading or fraudulent information.

Please note a place cannot be guaranteed for any child, even those living in a school's normal/local area.

** **The term sibling includes:**
(a) a half-brother and/or a half-sister
(b) a legally adopted child being regarded as a brother or sister
(c) a step-brother and/or step-sister residing in the same family unit

Process of Entry into Year 7

Application forms are distributed by Derbyshire County Council and should be returned to them by 31st October in the year prior to admission by one of the following methods:

- Apply online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions. If you have any issues with your online application, please ring the Admissions & Transport Team at Derbyshire County Council on 01629 537479

- Apply by telephone on 01629 533190 to the Derbyshire Call Centre. The centre is open between 8am and 8pm on Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 4.00pm on Saturdays.

Make sure your application is with Derbyshire County Council by midnight on the 31st October.

Appeals

Any parent whose child is not offered a school place for which they have expressed a preference, has the right to an independent appeal. The right of an independent appeal applies to all preferences expressed. Parents who intend to make an appeal must submit a Notice of Appeal to the Authority within 20 school days of receiving the offer letter. Normally appeal hearings will be held within 40 school days of the closing date for receiving the notice of appeal.

Appeal forms may be obtained from the Admissions and Transport Team or online at https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/appeals/appeals.aspx. Guidance is also available on this webpage for parents.

Any completed forms should also be returned to the Admissions and Transport Team as Derbyshire County Council organise the hearing of appeals for the academy. Appeals are heard as soon as reasonably possible after the refusal of a place, normally within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged.

Fair Access

A place may be available under the Fair Access protocol if a pupil who meets criteria 3 above has been refused a place because one is not available in their year group. This protocol will come into force if the nearest secondary school to the pupil's home which has a place available is more than 8 miles away.

Waiting List

The Authority will establish a waiting list for all schools where the number of applications for those schools has exceeded the places available in the relevant year group. Names of children will automatically be placed on the waiting list for a school where they have not been offered a place where that school is ranked above that at which a place has been offered to the parent. Parents will have the right to request their child's name placed on the waiting list for a school where they have not been offered a place which is ranked lower than that at which they have received a single offer of a school place. A vacancy arises in Year 7 only when the number of allocations to a particular school fall below the admission number (or a higher admission limit where one has been set). Any vacancy which arises in Year 7 following allocation of places will be filled from the waiting list. The waiting list will be established on the offer day and be maintained up to 31 December in the admission year. The waiting list is determined according to the Academy's agreed priority of admission oversubscription criteria. Following the offer day should an application be received for a school where the pupil has a higher priority, as determined by the admissions criteria for a place at the school, they will be placed on the waiting list above those with a lower priority. Parents who intend to appeal against the decision not to offer a place at a preferred school(s) should do so irrespective of having their child's name placed on the waiting list. For those parents who proceed to an independent appeal, no consideration is given to a child's position on the waiting list.

In Year Admissions

Admissions mid-year for any year group, and for Year 7 after the end of the Autumn term, will be dealt with in accordance with this policy and the criteria above. An application form may be obtained online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Admissions of Children Outside their Normal Age Group

The Schools Admissions Code states that parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example if the child is gifted and talented, or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Where a parent requests such a place, David Nieper Academy will decide whether to admit the child considering the circumstances of the individual case and the best interests of the child. This will include taking account of the parents' views, social and emotional development and medical history of the child, the views of a medical professional (where relevant), and any prior education of the child.

Decisions of admission out of normal age group will be at the discretion of the Headteacher.