

Admissions Policy

XP GATESHEAD

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Introductory Statement

XP GATESHEAD is a secondary mainstream 11-16 academy in Gateshead and is a member of the XP SCHOOL TRUST. Our proposed school site is the former Thomas Hepburn building in the east of the borough.

Our practice is shared with the XP schools based in Doncaster (www.xptrust.org) and as such, offers an academically rigorous curriculum with deep, visceral learning experiences. There is a relentless focus on quality of work and character growth. As a result, our school culture is value-driven where students, staff and parents are expected to be courageous, respectful, committed to craftsmanship and quality, compassionate and to always show integrity.

We provide an authentically tough and rewarding education for everyone, so we do not segregate children by any measure, such as social class or academic ability and have a non-selective admissions policy. We do not select any students by gender, ability or any other selective criteria, including the distance a student lives from our school, or parental interview by panel. Our admissions policy reflects these aspirations.

Our class sizes are the specific size of 25 to enable us to deliver our unique curriculum based on Expeditionary Learning practices including pastoral 'crews' of 12 or 13 students.

The specific size of our school is published on our website, our admissions policy and is widely publicised in marketing literature issued by the school.

We hold high expectations for all our stakeholders. Students are expected to be on a pathway to be able to go to university if they so wish, staff pursue a high level of continual professional development, and parents are expected to attend and be involved in Celebrations of Learning, Student-led Conferences and Passage Presentations.

XP GATESHEAD is not a vocational school, and does not prepare students for specific trades. We believe our school presents a great offer of education to all children. It is not tailored for or aimed at any one particular group of children or type of child with specific ways of learning.

XP GATESHEAD will open with Year 7 entry in September 2021. Each year we will admit 50 students into Year 7 so that our school grows to 250 students in total when we have Years 7 through to Year 11 in August 2025.

Our class sizes and crews are deliberately sized to ensure that we are able to deliver our highly personalised curriculum and assessment strategies.

XP SCHOOL TRUST is committed to straightforward, open, fair and transparent admissions arrangement. The school acts fully in accordance with the School Admissions Code (as revised December 2014), the School Admissions Appeals Code and admissions law as they apply to academies.

Admission number

The school has an admission number of 50 for entry in year 7.

The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Application process

The school will process applications outside the normal local authority process for coordinating school offers. This means you will need to complete your LA common application form for your other choices of school in addition to a separate application for this school.

You should apply for XP Gateshead through the school website, xpgateshead.org

The closing date for applications is Thursday 20th May at 12pm midday.

Offers will be made on Friday 21st May 2021. If we have not entered into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State opening the school by that date, they will be conditional offers and will be confirmed once we have a signed funding agreement.

Oversubscription criteria

Where the school receives more applications than it has places available, the criteria listed below will apply, after the admission of children with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) which names XP GATESHEAD, the oversubscription criteria will be:

1. Children who are Looked After Children and all previously Looked After Children
A 'looked after child' 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 including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders). A 'child arrangements order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by Section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

2. Children of staff where they have been appointed to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
3. Children with a sibling who is attending or has attended XP GATESHEAD. Sibling is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, step brothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.
4. Children living within the designated catchment area of the school identified by random allocation. This process will be independently verified by the Local Authority.
5. Children living outside the designated catchment area of the school identified by random allocation. This process will be independently verified by the Local Authority.

We intend our school to benefit Gateshead and its surrounding area so the designated catchment area of XP GATESHEAD will reflect this. The catchment area is defined as the postcode areas:

- DH3 1 _ _
- DH 3 2 _ _
- NE8
- NE9
- NE10
- NE11
- NE16
- NE17
- NE 21
- NE 39
- NE 40
- NE41 8J _
- NE42 5N _

Tie-break

Our admissions policy and process in the event of a tie-break is the fairest we can legally have. In the event of two or more applications within criteria 2-5 that cannot otherwise be separated, the school will use random allocation as a tie-break. This process will be independently verified by the Local Authority.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of the normal year group is being requested.

When such a request is made, the academy trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the headteacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

Late applications

All applications received by the school after the deadline will be considered late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applications, the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list.

Waiting Lists

The school will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the eligible timespan of the school placement. This will be maintained by the Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position 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. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

Appellants should contact the Local Authority within 20 school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful to lodge an appeal, for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on the [Local Authority's website](#).

XP GATESHEAD will use the independent appeals service provided by the Local Authority. Independent Appeals Panels are appointed in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.