

Admissions Policy - Transitional Learning Programme

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Record of changes

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Admissions Criteria and Process

The Outdoors Group Ltd – Transitional Learning Programme (TLP) accepts referrals for alternative provision placements from schools and local authorities. Our referral form includes information about personal data, information about current behaviours that the learner's display, safeguarding information, and parental permission to make the referral.

Once this referral is received, our Head of Transitional Learning Programme will review the referral to determine initial suitability of the learner to our provision. If the learner is deemed suitable, they will be invited to a one hour site visit to which parents, carers, and professionals are welcomed to attend. Following the site visit, a report will be filled out by our assigned staff member and sent to the Head of Transitional Learning Programme for a placement to be offered to the referrer if suitable.

Suitability requirements are largely based on current behaviours around safety due to our increased presentation of risk within the forest school environment. As part of our ethos, we try to meet learners where they are to provide understanding of risk and risk mitigation. They must have a base level of understanding around keeping themselves and others safe. Additionally, we aim to provide our service to learners who are transitioning or have the opportunity to transition to an educational setting within the foreseeable future or to learners who are regularly attending their main educational setting alongside our alternative provision.

If a learner is unsuitable for our provision, the referrer will be informed of this and the reasons behind this decision. This is a collaborative process which is open to conversation.

Start Dates and Waiting Lists

Start dates will be issued to the referrer and then the parent/carer once a placement has been agreed. Before the initial start date for our learners, we will exchange relevant paperwork with the referrer and ensure we have received and delivered necessary paperwork before the learner begins, even if this results in a delay in provision beginning.

We often have a waiting list associated with our provision which is kept in chronological order, however, placements may be offered out of this chronological order depending on which sites and which staff places become available first.