Exceptional social and medical need application guidance

Priority b)

Children who have exceptional social or medical need, supported by a written recommendation from an independent medical professional such as the child's paediatrician / consultant or an independent professional from Children's Services. The recommendation must explain why the Academy is the *only* suitable school to meet the child's needs and why *no other school* could provide the appropriate support for the child.

How to apply

Exceptional need applications must be made on the exceptional need supplementary form.

The form can be completed online or downloaded from the Admissions page of the academy's website or requested via the contact details below.

The form should be accompanied by the recommendation stated in the criterion (above). The recommendation must be:

- Written by a person who is independent i.e. not a relative or friend.
- Explain why the child's needs can *only* be met by the Academy that is being applied for.
- Explain why *no other school* can provide the appropriate support for the child.

If families have any other documents to support their application, they should submit these in addition to the recommendation.

This application is required in addition to the submission of a completed local authority application form.

For applications:

- to start Year 7 in September 2027, the exceptional need application should be submitted by 31 October 2026
- to start in-year, it should be submitted at the same time the in-year application is made