# ADMISSIONS POLICY

### Introduction

### The Boxing Academy is an Alternative Provision School based in Hackney, East London, which caters for children of both genders aged 12 – 16 who are in danger of exclusion, or who have already been permanently excluded, from mainstream school. Using the positive effects of sport, especially boxing, we help some of the most disadvantaged and hard to reach young people in London engage with education, training or employment and play a positive role in their communities.

### The Boxing Academy follows a normal school year combining academic, vocational and life skills qualifications with sports such as boxing, athletics, table tennis, badminton and football.

### Criteria

### Students arrive at The Boxing Academy through many different routes. The admissions process in an alternative provision context has to be flexible to accommodate the varying circumstances within which young people who have struggled with mainstream education find themselves. Some students are referred by agencies and local authorities and may become fully registered to The Boxing Academy, however the majority of students are referred directly by other schools and academies and are dual registered. Pupils will undergo an assessment process for reintegration whilst at The Boxing Academy and will either be reintegrated successfully, or will remain with BA for a longer period of time and be receiving some services such as tuition or careers advice provided by the parent school.

### The Boxing Academy will provide education for students under one of the following criteria:

1. Who are showing a level of disengagement from mainstream provision which

 is placing them at risk of low attainment or permanent exclusion

1. Who have been permanently excluded from mainstream provision OR
2. Who do not have a school place
	1. Successful referrals to the Boxing Academy are most likely where the following conditions are met:
* That full time mainstream provision is not deemed appropriate
* That there is a clear need for the structure, regime, routine and consistency of the Boxing Academy
* That full background details are made available from the placing authority
* That support available to the young person from other agencies prior to placement continues
1. **Admission numbers**
	1. The Boxing Academy has capacity for 48 students in the age range 12-16.
	2. The entry point for students is during an induction period anytime in KS3 or Year 10 of KS4. The Boxing Academy does not normally admit students after the autumn term of Year 11.
	3. The aim of the Boxing Academy is to facilitate the re-engagement of its students into mainstream education. This might occur during the KS4 period or afterwards, post-16.
2. **Commissioners**
	1. To acquire a place at The Boxing Academy, students in KS3 and KS4 have to be referred by an educational establishment or local authority (commissioners).
	2. Referrals for individual support will only be accepted using the official Boxing Academy referral form and must be with the full consent of parents or carers.
	3. The Boxing Academy cannot accept applications direct from parents.
	4. SEN referrals must be confirmed at an annual review by the local authority that holds the EHCP.
	5. The Boxing Academy charges a top-up fee of £13,000 per pupil, per academic year.
	6. The Boxing Academy charges a top-up fee of at least £36,000 per pupil, per academic year, for EHCP pupils.
3. **Referral Process**
	1. The Boxing Academy’s Principal (or nominated representative) will maintain direct and regular contact with all commissioners. Referrals can be made through Fair Access Panel or other similar formal referral routes already in place in any Local Authorities in North and East London, or other areas that wish to be considered. In addition, individual schools and academies can make direct referrals. Both LAs and schools should use the referral form.
	2. Commissioners should identify the areas that are causing concern and complete the referral form with contact details, parental information, details on FSM, high needs assessment, reasons for referral of student, attendance at previous school, previous interventions, external agency involvement, previous areas of study and current levels and risk assessment.

### Oversubscription criteria

* 1. The School will support a maximum of 48 full-time students aged 12-16 at any one time. If at any time referrals exceed the number of places available, and after the admission of any student with an education health and care plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:
1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.
2. Other children.

6.2 If a tie-break is necessary to determine who is admitted, the place will be decided by consideration of distance of the child’s home (front door) from the school (front gate), followed by random allocations.

1. **Definitions: Looked After Child & Previously Looked After Child**
	1. 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 (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989.
	2. A previously Looked After Child is a child who is no longer a looked after child because, immediately after being looked-after he or she became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order.

### Appeals

* 1. Commissioners have the right of appeal against the refusal of a place at the Academy. Commissioners wishing to appeal must follow the procedure contained within the Academy’s complaints procedure which is available on the school website or by request.
	2. The Commissioner of any child who is refused a place at the Academy has a right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. The panel consists of three people who are independent of the Academy Body and the Local Authority. The panel will consider the circumstances of the case put before them and reach a decision on whether the appeal should be upheld. If it is, the school will admit the student.
	3. Further objections will be referred to the ESFA but the decision of the Independent Appeals Panel will stand unless the ESFA find that proper process has not been followed. At that point the ESFA decision will be binding on the school.