

# Hamilton School Statement of Provision

## Introductory statement

Hamilton School is a special school in Reading which provides 64 places for children of both sexes in the age range 11-18 with Education, Health Care Plans (EHCP) for SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health) needs.

## Admissions to the School

Maiden Erlegh Trust, as the admissions authority of Hamilton School, must comply with its SEN duties, these are set out in legislation and in the SEND Code of Practice.

Where the local authority has carried out a statutory assessment and decided to issue an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), it will issue a draft plan to parents. Parents can request the local authority to name their preferred choice of school in their child's EHCP. However, the final decision on the school to be named rests with the local authority responsible for maintaining the plan.

Hamilton School must comply when named in a child's Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or statement, even if the child's special need is not a type of SEN for which the school is designated. This is a requirement of section 43 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

In order for us to be named on your child's EHC plan, the local authority must consult with us first. This means that they will serve a copy of the proposed plan to us so we have an opportunity to contribute to the process.

If we believe it is not appropriate for our school to be named on your child's EHC plan, we can seek to argue against being named for the following reasons:

- the school is not suitable for the child's age, ability and aptitude and the special educational needs set out in the statement or EHCP
- the child's attendance is not compatible with the efficient education of other children in the school, and
- the placement is not an efficient use of the school's resources.

Irrespective of our viewpoint while being consulted, the final decision of whether to name the school rests with the local authority. Hamilton School cannot apply any other criteria to tie break between children named to the school and admit one child but refuse another. Hamilton School cannot refuse to comply with a statement or EHCP once named.

The local authority may also place children without an EHCP of statement with us for a limited period of time in order to assess their needs. Such placements should not last for more than 20 weeks.

If Hamilton School is named in an EHCP, the local authority must fund the placement.

## Further information about the School

For further information on our school, and the process for obtaining a place here contact the Office Manager/Headteacher's PA on 0118 937 5524 or hamadmin@maidenerleghtrust.org.