



**Truro and Penwith  
Academy Trust**

These Admission Arrangements were set by Leading Edge Academies Partnership in January 2026 before joining TPAT on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026



# ADMISSIONS POLICY for FIVE ISLANDS ACADEMY 2027/28

Last statutory consultation for academic year	2022/23
Last reviewed by Executive Team	November 2025
Determined by Trust Board for 2027/28	January 2026
Next review date	Autumn term 2026

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## Introduction

The Leading Edge Academies Partnership (the 'Trust') is a team of school leaders that aim to be Leading Edge and pioneering in their approach to education and well-being. We are a growing family of like-minded schools that offer a values-based education to the communities we serve and welcome staff, pupils, parents/carers and volunteers from all different ethnic groups and backgrounds.

The term 'Trust Community' includes all staff, trustees, governors, pupils, parents/carers, volunteers and visitors.

We are a values-based Trust, which means all actions are guided by our three 'Es' as follows:

- **Excellence** – 'Outstanding quality'
- **Evolution** – 'Continuous change'
- **Equity** – 'Fairness and social justice'

This policy is based on the value of '**Equity**'

This policy is based on the value 'Equity', thereby ensuring all applicants are treated with fairness and sound justice.

## Policy Statement

Leading Edge Academies Partnership (the 'Trust') is the Admission Authority for Five Islands Academy.

As Five Islands Academy is the only school on the Isles of Scilly, admissions are more straightforward than other schools in the country. The Isles of Scilly Council has devolved its duties to implement a coordinated admissions scheme to the Trust and all applications for places are therefore made directly to the Academy.

This policy is based on the requirements of the [School Admissions Code 2021 and the School Admission Appeals Code 2022](#).

The Trust is required by its funding agreement to comply with these codes, and with the law relating to admissions as set out in the [School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#).

## Values Statement

Learning is the central activity of the Trust and informs every decision that takes place. All staff, pupils, trustees, governors, parents and community partners are encouraged to participate as lifelong learners. We aim to develop a community of learners that work to enhance the quality of life of all. We oppose beliefs that limit individuals realising their potential as we are committed to raising aspirations for all. All changes should be informed by research and considered by all groups it will involve. We endeavour to promote a healthy lifestyle both within the curriculum and beyond. We enable pupils to access a flexible curriculum developed to meet the needs of individuals.

## Aims

This policy aims to:

- Explain how to apply for a place at Five Islands Academy
- Set out the Trust's arrangements for responding to requests for admissions outside of the normal age group
- Confirm the Academy and Trust's commitment to working with the Isles of Scilly Council to meet the needs of all pupils

## Applying for a place

The normal year of admission into Five Islands Academy is the Reception year, but applications are also welcomed for all year groups from Reception to Year 11.

Applications for places in Reception or any other year group should be made directly to the Academy. An application pack can be requested by emailing [enquiries@fiveislands.org](mailto:enquiries@fiveislands.org) or calling the Academy on 01720 422268.

Applications for places in Reception should be submitted by the end of the Spring term preceding the new school year.

Applications for places in other year groups should be submitted by the end of the first half of the term before the expected admission date.

Five Islands Academy accepts children on roll for a minimum of one term unless there are exceptional circumstances.

## Allocation of places

All children resident on the Isles of Scilly who have met the age of admission (see below) and/or are of compulsory school age will be admitted to the Academy.

During the Summer term before admission all pupils are invited to visit their base to become familiar with the setting. Details of the transition process will be provided by each base. There may also be additional informal opportunities as appropriate.

## Age of admission

All children are entitled to start full-time in the September following their fourth birthday. For the school year which runs from 1 September 2027 to 31 August 2028, this will be children born between 01 September 2022 and 31 August 2023.

### Deferred or part-time entry

Parents/carers may choose to defer their child's entry into the Reception year until later in the academic year or for their child to attend part-time, bearing in mind that by law children have to be in full-time education by the start of the term following their fifth birthday – when they reach 'compulsory school age'. Parents choosing part-time or deferred entry must contact the Headteacher as soon as possible after the place has been allocated.

### Delayed entry

Children born between 1 April and the 31 August are not of compulsory school age until the September after their fifth birthday, when they would normally enter Year 1. Parents/carers who wish to delay their child's start at school until they are of compulsory school age may request that their child is admitted outside of their normal age group in order to start in Reception rather than Year 1. This is known as 'delayed entry'. The decision about which year group a child should be admitted into in the case of delayed entry will be made by the admissions authority (the Trust) – see section below on 'Admission of children outside their normal age group'.

Parents/carers wishing to delay their child's entry to Reception should contact the Headteacher as soon as possible.

## Admission of children outside their normal age group

Although most children will be admitted to the school with their own age group, from time to time parents may seek a place for their child outside their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems or missed part of the year, such as due to ill health.

Such requests will be considered by the Trust on a case-by-case basis and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking into account parents' views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may have naturally fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

Parents will always be informed of the reasons for any decision on the year group to which a child should be admitted.

It is important to note that the decision on what age group a child should be admitted to is separate to any decision on whether a place will be available or can be offered in that age group. Parents/carers will still be required to submit an admissions application for the relevant year group, which will be considered on the basis of the admission arrangements laid out in this policy, including the oversubscription criteria. Applications will not be treated as a lower priority if parents have made a request for a child to be admitted outside the normal age group.

Parents/carers whose child is refused a place at a school for which they have applied have the right of appeal to an independent admission appeal panel. However, they do not have a right of appeal if they have been offered a place and it is not in their preferred year group.

Parents/carers who wish to request that their child is placed outside of their normal age group should contact the Headteacher as soon as possible.

## **Fair Access Protocol**

The Trust and Five Islands Academy are committed to the inclusion of all pupils and work closely with the Isles of Scilly Council to ensure that every pupil receives appropriate educational provision.

Whilst in the vast majority of cases applicants will be admitted to the Academy without delay, the Academy may refer applications which meet the criteria below to the Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol, in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2021:

- Children from the criminal justice system
- Children in alternative provision or who have been permanently excluded but are deemed suitable for mainstream education
- Children who the school considers to have challenging behaviour and are eligible for referral to the Fair Access Protocol under paragraph 3.10 of the School Admissions Code 2021 (see section on 'Challenging Behaviour' below)

Through the Fair Access Protocol the Academy and Trust will work with the Isles of Scilly Council to ensure that appropriate educational provision can be made for the child in question and ensure necessary arrangements and resources are in place to successfully and safely integrate the child into school.

The Fair Access Protocol can be found on the Isles of Scilly Council website.

## **Challenging behaviour**

We will not refuse to admit a child on behavioural grounds in the normal admissions round or at any point in the normal year of entry. We may refuse admission in certain cases where the specific criteria listed in the School Admissions Code (paragraph 3.8) apply, ie where section 87 of the [School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#) is engaged. This refers to children who have been permanently excluded from two or more schools, with the most recent exclusion being within the previous two years.

In accordance with paragraph 3.10 of the School Admissions Code 2021, we may refuse admission for an in-year applicant for a year group that is not the normal point of entry only in such a case that we have good reason to believe that the child may display challenging behaviour that may prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources. In this case, we will refer these pupils to the Fair Access Protocol. We will not refuse admission on these grounds to looked after children, previously looked after children and children with EHC plans listing the school.

## **Monitoring arrangements**

Whenever changes to admission arrangements are proposed (except where the change is an increase to the agreed admission number), the Trust will publicly consult on these changes in line with the requirements of the School Admissions Code. If there are no proposed changes, the Trust will publicly consult on the schools' admission arrangements at least once every 7 years.

## Notes and definitions

### Normal Admissions Round

The normal admissions round is the period during which parents can apply for state-funded school places at the school's normal point of entry, using the common application form provided by their home local authority.

### Compulsory school age

A child reaches **compulsory school age** on the prescribed day following his or her fifth birthday (or on his or her fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.