

# Admissions Policy - RBAir



## **Legislation / guidance that informs this document**

- The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations (2012)

## **Statement of intent**

Red Balloon of the Air aims to ensure that all actual and potential commissioners understand which students it is appropriate for them to refer.

## **All schools are required to have criteria for admission**

Red Balloon Air (RBAir) aims to provide for young people who either self exclude from school (mainstream or other) following experience of bullying or other traumatic event(s) or find continued attendance at school damaging to their mental health.

RBAir provides for students studying at KS3 and KS4. On occasion we may admit a student who is chronologically outside those key stages, but whose needs are best met by studying at either of these levels (eg a year 12 student who has missed a significant amount of their secondary education and needs to gain accreditation at GCSE level).

Admission may be sought either by parents or by a commissioning agent, the latter most frequently being school or local authority.

Our expectations are that any young person referred to RBAir will:

- want to attend,
- have a commitment to learning,
- acknowledge the needs and rights of other members of the community and their own responsibilities in ensuring those rights are met.

It is essential that all potential referrers grasp fully the requirements of the final criterion. RBAir seeks to offer an environment within which students can study successfully and within which they feel physically and emotionally safe

at all times. Students have to be able to work together in a supportive manner. All students must contribute positively, or, at the very least, not actively damage the learning or personal development of their peers. In the virtual world that requirement remains absolute regardless of whether students are accessing specific RBAir time or using social media and it applies to all communication whether virtual or actual.

We believe it to be **essential** that attendance is a genuine choice on the part of both the student and their parent(s)/carer(s).

It is also **essential** that students have access to online learning (this requires internet access and appropriate hardware), and that they have the requisite personal skills necessary to engage with this learning.

Updated by Bob Sproson, Director of Education, together with RBAir senior managers September 2019 (for annual review).