



Kepier

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Kepier Learner Admissions Policy 2026

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Draft for Consultation

Introduction

The admissions policy is applied if the number of applications exceeds the number of places available at Kepier. The admissions authority acknowledges the rights of parents/carers to express a first choice preference for Kepier. However, parental preference cannot be considered where Kepier is over-subscribed in a particular year.

Eden Learning Trust intends to admit up to 230 pupils to Year 7 in total in September 2026

Criteria

Eden Learning Trust, as the admissions authority, will admit students to Kepier in accordance with the following criteria in the following order of priority. However, there is no guarantee of a place for children living in our priority admissions area (or attending the named feeder schools).

1. 'Child in Care' – a child who is looked after by a Local Authority, in accordance with Section 22 of the Children's Act 1989 or a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so, because of adoption (or become subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

2. Attendance in Key Stage 2 (age 7-10+) at a designated cluster junior or primary school namely:

- a. Bernard Gilpin
- b. Burnside
- c. Dubmire
- d. East Rainton
- e. Gillas Lane
- f. Newbottle
- g. Shiney Row

3. A sibling link – an older brother/sister or older child (including adoptive and step children) that share the same parent/carer and lives at the same address, who will be attending Kepier at the time of admission.

4. Exceptional medical or psychological reasons - you must include a medical or psychological report, prepared by a professional, to confirm information that you include in the section. This report should explain why **only** Kepier could meet your child's medical or psychological needs. Common childhood medical conditions such as asthma or giving a child's nervousness at starting a new school as a psychological reason for choosing a particular school are unlikely to be accepted as exceptional. If you intend to use this criterion when expressing a preference, please contact the School Admissions Team before completing the application form. Eligibility under this category will be considered by a meeting of the Eden Learning Trust.

5. Pupils for whom preferences are expressed on grounds other than those outlined above.

Within each of the above, places will be offered on the basis of distance from the centre of the home address to the main entrance of Kepier. Distance is measured by the shortest safest walking distance, using a geographical information system (GIS), with priority being given to those learners that live closest to Kepier.

Where a learner has a statement of special education need, naming a school, a place will be offered at that school (subject to confirmation by the SEN Unit).

At the first stage of allocations there will be no distinction between 1st , 2nd , 3rd, etc., preference applications. Therefore all applications will be considered equally against the admission criteria. If a learner then qualifies for a place at more than one school, the parent's highest ranked preference will be offered and any lower ranking offers will be disregarded.

In determining allocations, priority will be given to those applications where the parental preference is received by the published deadline date.

If information supplied by parents/carers is not correct, the offer of a place at Kepier can be withdrawn.

Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process are available on the Kepier website. Information is also available via communication with Mr Shaun Van-Lindon. Appeals will be coordinated via Sunderland City Council. Waiting lists will be held open until the end of the autumn term, or 31 December, whichever is sooner, in-line with Sunderland Local Authority protocols.

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