



Okehampton College

Exceptional Social or Medical need for Admission

Supplementary Information Form 2020-2021

To be completed only where a parent is seeking admissions priority on the grounds of exceptional need

Parents who wish an exceptional social or medical need considered with their application (oversubscription criterion 2 in our admissions policy) must submit independent professional evidence which explains clearly why it is essential for the child to attend this school and no other school.

For normal round entry into Year 7 in September 2020 the evidence should be submitted by the closing date for applications of the **31st of October 2019**. Evidence submitted after the closing date may mean that the application is considered a late application.

For an in-year admission, into any year group, the evidence should be submitted with the application.

Parents must also complete a Devon Common Application Form¹

Please read the college's admissions policy, including definitions, before completing this form. School policies can be found at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy> or on the [college's website](#). Not all Devon schools prioritise applications with exceptional social or medical need.

Part A – to be completed by the parent	
Full name of child	
Date of Birth	
School being applied for	Okehampton College
Does the school give priority for social or medical need?	Yes
Please place tick the box below if you believe there is an exceptional social or medical need for your child to attend this school	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion 2 Priority will next be given to children based on their exceptional medical or social needs or those of their parents

Extract from the school's admissions policy:

Exceptional need for admission to our school

We give higher priority for children where there is an exceptional need to attend this school and not another school. The need must be specific to this school: a child may have very challenging circumstances that require additional support but if that support could be provided at another school there would be no exceptional need to attend this school. The exceptional need could be due to a parent's circumstances.

Exceptional needs could include:

¹ Available from [Devon Admissions](#)

- A serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence
- Significant caring responsibilities, which can be supported by a social care officer
- Where one, or both, parents or the child has a disability that may make travel to another school more difficult, which can be supported by medical evidence

These examples are not exhaustive or exclusive. Neither should it be assumed that a similar set of circumstances would impact all children or families in the same way.

If there are medical reasons that make it essential for a child to attend this school then the parent must provide supporting information from a doctor, together with any other relevant information. This must make a compelling case as to why the child or parent's needs can only be met at this school: a medical condition in itself will not automatically result in the offer of a place here. It isn't essential that the doctor name our school and we would not expect a doctor to have sufficient specific knowledge of the school, but the evidence should explain exactly what the child's needs are and what specialist support is required.

For social or educational reasons parents must provide independent evidence from a relevant professional which supports the family's case. This supporting evidence must set out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. It isn't essential for the professional supporting the family to have an in-depth knowledge of our school but the evidence must explain exactly what the needs are and what specialist support and/or facilities the child requires.

Exceptional need for admission to Okehampton College will not be accepted on the grounds that:

- A child may be separated from a friendship group
- Parents wish to avoid a child from the current or previous school
- Child-care arrangements before or after school would have to be changed
- Transport arrangements would have to be changed
- There is a medical condition, such as asthma, which does not require specialised treatment
- The child has a particular interest or ability in a subject or activity

Evidence from a relevant professional, independent of the family, will be required in every case and should be made available in time for us to rank the application using the school's oversubscription criteria. This should provide a reasoned and unequivocal opinion establishing why the child would suffer significant detriment by not being admitted to this school. Evidence should be from a GP, consultant or other healthcare worker, or social care officer who is working with the child.

Without satisfactory supporting evidence we will not prioritise an application as demonstrating exceptional need. We may seek our own advice as to whether we are the only school that could meet a child's needs.

Parents can indicate on Devon's common application forms that they believe there is an exceptional need for admission to Okehampton College. It is not expected that a parent would seek this priority at a school that was not named as the first preference. The onus is on parents to submit their supporting evidence and to provide further evidence if requested to do so.

Parents who apply using a common application form from another LA, and which does not have a tick-box for exceptional need, should add a note in the reasons for their preference that they are requesting exceptional need priority and will be providing the supporting evidence.

If we accept that exceptional need has been demonstrated the application will be prioritised under our oversubscription criteria 2. This does not guarantee that a place will be available.

Where we don't agree that the need is exceptional the application will be prioritised according to the other oversubscription criteria.

Nature of the supporting evidence you are submitting, provided by a relevant professional	
Is the evidence attached?	Yes / No
Name and organisation of the professional/professionals providing supporting evidence	
<p>Privacy and Data Protection</p> <p>Your personal data is being used by the college and Devon County Council's Admissions Service for the purposes of an application for admission to school. We undertake to ensure that your personal data will only be used in accordance with our privacy notice, available at https://new.devon.gov.uk/privacy/privacy-notices/.</p> <p>Please confirm that you consent to the college and the council using your personal data as outlined in our privacy notice by signing below.</p> <p>You have the right to withdraw this consent at any time. Should you wish to withdraw consent please contact the Devon Admissions Team (email admissions@devon.gov.uk or telephone 0345 155 1019).</p> <p>If you wish to exercise any of your rights under the General Data Protection Regulations please contact Devon County Council's data Protection Officer (email accesstoinformationsecure@devon.gcsx.gov.uk or telephone 01392 383000)</p> <p>For more information about data protection please contact the school or visit https://new.devon.gov.uk/accesstoinformation/data-protection</p>	
<p>Declaration</p> <p>I confirm that I have submitted a local authority common application form</p>	
Parent's Name	
Parent's Signature	
Date	

Please return this form to:

The School Admissions Team, Room L60, County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QG or Okehampton College, Mill Road, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 1PW

(a scanned copy can be emailed to admissions@devon.gov.uk or admissions@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk)