

Appendix 1

Enhanced Provision for pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)

Criteria for response to a proposed Education and Healthcare Plan (EHCP), in which the focused provision for pupils with MLD at the Nottingham Girls' Academy is named as a specific setting or in response to a proposed EHCP, in which the Nottingham Girls' Academy is named as a specific setting and the Academy assess that their needs can only be met through placement in the enhanced provision for pupils with MLD. This provision is designed for girls who have moderate learning difficulties (MLD), whose learning is well below age related expectations at the end of Key Stage 2 - working at Year 1 or Year 2 level. Some of these pupils will have additional needs, such as Autism.

The provision replaces an internal provision set up by the Nottingham Girls Academy who meet this criterion and, prior to September 2025, have been supported through our two 'Alternative Curriculum' groups: one group at Key Stage 3, and one group at Key Stage 4.

In September 2026, the enhanced provision will have capacity for 22 pupils: 14 in Key Stage 3 and 8 in Key Stage 4. Places will be filled by:

- pupils already placed in the provision before the end of the academic year 2025-26 (including up to four (4) places commissioned by Nottingham City's Focus Provision Forum).
- three (3) additional places (to a total of 7) commissioned by Nottingham City's Focus Provision Forum.

[NOTE: this is intended to increase by a further three (3) commissioned places - to a total of ten (10) - in September 2027.]

All admissions will be through Nottingham City's Focus Provision Forum and will be considered in light of a pupil's individual needs. Most pupils will have an EHCP but this is not a limiting factor and the Focus Provision Forum can identify non EHCP pupils as prospective pupils. When considering the suitability of the focused provision to meet a pupil's needs, the following criteria will be considered. Usually, a pupil will need to meet all of criteria 1-4 and at least one of criteria 5 -10:

1. Aged between 11 and 15 on 1 September in the academic year of admission.
2. Attainment is well below expected levels in all or most areas of the curriculum, despite appropriate interventions.
3. Needs will not be met by Quality First Teaching and the flexibilities of the National Curriculum.
4. Has much greater difficulty than their peers in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills and in understanding concepts.
5. Has an EHCP.
6. Has associated speech and language delay.
7. Has low self-esteem or social, emotional or mental health needs (such as anxiety, depression, or friendship difficulties) which impact on learning or access to the curriculum.
8. Has low levels of concentration.
9. Has under-developed social skills.
10. Has a diagnosis of ASD or is on a neuro-development pathway.