



White Meadows Primary Academy

Admissions Policy for White Meadows Nursery

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to set clear, transparent and fair admission procedures for parents choosing to send their children to White Meadows Nursery.

The aim of the Nursery is to serve the children living in the local community and the families of the children who attend White Meadows Primary Academy.

Provision

Children are eligible for a nursery place the term after their 3rd birthday until they transfer to primary school.

We are able to offer a maximum of 78 places within our Nursery.

52 places are available for 15 hours government funded (Free Entitlement) each week during term time. This is made up of 2 full days and a morning session (Acorn 1) or 2 full days and an afternoon session (Acorn 2) allowing 26 children to attend each session. All day sessions run from 8.45am-3pm (including lunchtime session) and our half days sessions are either 8.45am-11.45pm (Acorn 1) or 12pm-3pm (Acorn 2).

We also offer 26 x 30 hour places in our Conker Class (Extended Free Entitlement), and these are available term time only.

Priority is given to families who will be accessing the full 15 Universal hours or 30 hours Extended hours*. We will only offer a place to families wanting to access less than the 15 hours if we do not fill our vacancies with children who require the full 15 hours. If an offer is made for less than 15 hours, it will only be on a term by term basis as priority will still be for children requiring the full 15 hours each term.

Parents are able to indicate their preferred sessions on the application form and we do our best to accommodate their preferences. However, places are subject to availability and the submission of an application form does not guarantee a place.

Applications for a place will be considered using the admissions criteria stated further on in the policy. Applications received before the deadline will be considered first. Late applications will be considered after 'on time' applications, should places still be available. The termly deadlines for applications are as follows: Children who are three before 31st August are eligible to start as part of our Autumn Cohort in September. The deadline for applications for this start date is the 1st February.

Any children who are three before 31st December are eligible for admission in the spring cohort and would be able to start in January. The deadline for applications for this start date is the 1st October.

These deadlines are set at an early date to enable parents to give sufficient notice to a Nursery or preschool that your child may already be attending.

In the event the Nursery is not full in September there may be places available in January and then again in April. We accept registration on our waiting list for children from the age of two years. This registration will ensure that we are able to contact you with up to date information.

Admissions Criteria

When allocating Nursery places the children are rated against the following admissions criteria. This is particularly important if the Nursery is oversubscribed and the allocation of places needs to be fair, consistent and transparent. The criteria are as follows with the children with the highest priority being listed under 1.

1. Looked after children and children who are previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.
2. Children with a sibling attending the school; Children who have a sibling in attendance at the academy and who will still be attending the academy at the applicants date of entry to the academy. Please note that children in Year 6 at the time of the application will not be considered to be a sibling for the purposes of this criteria.; (For admission purposes, a brother or sister is a child who lives at the same address and either have one or both natural parents in common; are related by a parent's marriage; are adopted or fostered by a common parent or are unrelated children who live at the same address, whose parents live as partners.)
3. Children of staff who have been employed by the school for at least two years.
4. Home-to-school distance – meaning that the remaining places are allocated in order of each child's proximity to the school.

In case of children with the same scores competing for a limited number of places the date of the receipt of their application form will be used as the deciding factor.

Parents and carers who are successful in gaining a place for their child at White Meadows Primary Academy will be notified by an official offer letter the term before their child will be eligible to start. A letter will be sent with details of the induction process, including information about taster sessions and start dates. They will be asked to formally accept the place and will then be invited in to meet the Nursery Teacher.

If all forms for completion are not returned to the school before the child's start date, the start date will be delayed until they are returned.

Although attendance at Nursery is not statutory, by accepting a place at White Meadows Primary Academy your agreement with the school is that your child will attend on a regular basis. If your child's attendance falls below 80% it will trigger an attendance process that may result in your child's place being withdrawn.

Parents/Carers should be clear that a place at White Meadows Nursery School does not influence the child's chance of obtaining a place at White Meadows Primary Academy.

Primary School admissions are administered by WSCC, not the school and applications for places need to be made in line with county policy.

*30 hour extended hours information is available on request from the school office.

Approved: January 2020

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