

Lainesmead Primary School



Admissions to Nursery Policy 2016

Signatures

Headteacher

Eirian Painter

Chair of Governors

Sarah Newton

Lainesmead Primary School Admissions to Nursery Policy

Introduction

All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to free learning and care in an early years setting from the start of the term following their third birthday, for 38 weeks in a full year.

Nursery is a non-statutory phase of education, admission to a school nursery class is outside of the statutory framework for admissions.

- Swindon Borough Council is not the admissions authority for nursery classes.
- There is no Swindon Borough Council policy for nursery class admissions, and nursery classes are not encompassed by the Local Authority's Primary Admissions Policy.
- There is no statutory framework for appeals against an admission decision.
- The responsibility for agreeing and implementing an admissions policy for a school nursery class lies with the individual school.

Aims

"Learning Together, Caring Together, Achieving Together"

Lainesmead Primary school aims to engage children in a stimulating learning environment that will prepare them for their future as citizens in an ever changing and multi-cultural world.

This policy aims to:

- Ensure access and entitlement to the benefits of high quality child centred nursery education on a fair and equitable basis
- Establish an admissions policy governed by clearly defined criteria that may be articulated to parents and other professionals
- Ensure that, as far as possible, all children who gain a place will fully benefit from nursery education and so we will make the very best of our resources
- Provide high quality, child-centred, nursery education to children and families in our local community

Application Process

- Parents requiring a place for their child should complete the nursery school application form. Parents will be offered the opportunity to visit the school nursery, prior to submitting a completed application.
- Nursery school application forms will be available to any parent on request.
- Parents will be informed of the success of the application after the application deadline.
- Parents will be expected to confirm their acceptance of their child's place in writing within two weeks of the offer of a place.
- Once funded places have been accepted, spare places will be made available for parents to purchase in addition to their funded place.

Please note: Due to government legislation, admission to the school nursery does NOT guarantee admission to the primary school, nor does attendance in the nursery give priority to admission to the primary school.

Age of Admission

- Children will be admitted to the nursery class at the beginning of term 1, 3 or 5. It must be the term after their third birthday.
- Admission will be at the start of term to allow for an appropriate settling in process.

Criteria for admission to the School Nursery

The nursery class at Lainesmead Primary and Nursery School has 48 three-four year old places based on 2 sessions per day: 24 children in the morning and 24 children in the afternoon. The Governors of the school will offer children a place in the nursery class in the term following their third birthday if there is space available, according to the criteria in the following order of priority:

- Children in the care of a Local Authority (Looked After Children).
- Children with a particular compelling educational and/or social or medical need as referred by a professional (e.g. social worker, speech therapist, health visitor, doctor etc.)
- Children who have an elder sibling currently attending Lainesmead Primary School in the September of the year of their admission.
- Those children who will have an older sibling attending Lainesmead Primary School in the September of the year of their admission.
- The position of the child's home address in relation to the school.
- Within the above criteria, each application is always considered very carefully on its individual needs.

Priority will be given to parents who wish to use the full 15 hours funded provision in the school's nursery.

Appeals Process

There is no statutory right of appeal against a decision with regard to admission to a nursery class. Parents wishing to object to a decision concerning their application should in the first instance put their concerns to the Head Teacher.