

2011-12 Admission Arrangements for Nursery Classes in Community First and Primary Schools

Children who have reached their third birthday on or before 31 August of the year they are to be admitted are entitled to 15 hours of nursery provision per week. These are usually taken in 5 daily sessions of three hours.

Applications for places in nursery classes in September 2011 should be made directly to the school before the end of the spring term preceding admission (15 April 2011). **Offers of a place** will be made by the school as soon as possible after this date.

Attendance at a nursery class does not guarantee a place in a reception class at the same school or at the associated primary or first school.

2011-12 Admission Policy for Nursery Classes

Children with statements of special educational needs where the statement names a specific school will be offered a place.

If there are fewer applications than places available then every child will be offered a place. **If there are more applications than places available**, then the following over-subscription rules are applied and places are offered to children who are ranked highest.

1. Children in the care of a local authority (looked-after children).

The following criteria are not in priority order. Governing Bodies are free to exercise discretion in the light of individual circumstances.

2. Children with a brother or sister (a sibling) in the nursery class or nursery school or in the primary or first school associated with the nursery, in September.
3. Distance from home address to nursery measured in a straight line using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer or a suitable alternative geographical information system.
4. Special reasons such as
 - a. Family breakdown
 - b. Three or more children under 5 years old in one household
 - c. Children who are at an educational disadvantage because their use of the English language is minimal or non-existent
 - d. Home accommodation unsuitable for young children
 - e. Failure to thrive socially, medically or psychologically
 - f. Physical, sensory or learning difficulties

If special reasons are to be considered, detailed information about the child's circumstance will be required.

Schools that have had to refuse a parent's application because there are more applications than places available will keep a **waiting list** of the names of applicants. If a place becomes available it will be offered to the applicant on the waiting list who ranks highest in accordance with the published admission rules. **There is no appeal procedure** for parents refused a place in a nursery class or nursery school.