

Admissions to Nursery

Our nursery usually operates on a part time basis with 26 places each for the morning and afternoon sessions for pupils whose fourth birthday falls between 1 September of the year of admission and the following 31 August. Should there be vacant places, the Governing Body may offer some part time places to children in the term after which they turned three following, the Calderdale Early Years Admissions Policy.

Parents seeking a place in our nursery are asked to register their interest with the school office. All parents registered as interested will be contacted in the spring term and places will be offered after Easter. Children will start at staggered intervals in September, to enable them to settle in quickly in small groups.

Admissions to School

Admissions to the school are administered by Calderdale Local Authority, in accordance with the policy. The published admission limit is 45 children for the reception year at our school.

- Admissions to Reception – children are presently admitted to school at the beginning of the school year (September 1 to August 31) in which their fifth birthday falls. Parents seeking a place at the school should register their interest with the school office. Places are offered by the local authority, usually around Easter. Your child will be invited to visit and spend time in his/her new class on ‘Transition Day’, usually a Friday in July.
- Admissions to other age groups – parents seeking a place are asked to contact the school in the first instance to enquire about availability of places. If appropriate, arrangements will be made for parents and pupils to visit school and agree a suitable start date. Care is taken in settling in new pupils, to ensure the transition between schools is managed effectively.
- The school is committed to equal opportunities. Admissions for pupils with disabilities are arranged in full consultation with parents, carers and external agencies to ensure the child’s needs can be fully met. Where the child is in receipt of a Statement of Special Educational Needs and the Authority has named our school as necessary to meet the child’s needs, the child would be in the first priority category for admission.

Calderdale Oversubscription Criteria for Community Primary Schools

Places will be allocated in community and voluntary controlled primary schools in the following order of priority:

1. Pupils who are in public care (‘Looked After’ children)
2. Pupils who have a brother or sister (including step/half brothers and sisters) permanently resident in the same household and currently attending the school or its associated junior school (excluding pupils in their final year).

Parents/guardian should be aware that a sibling link cannot be claimed where a sibling in receipt of a Statement of Special Educational Needs is attending a resourced unit within a mainstream primary school.

3. Other Children

Notes

- (i) If there is oversubscription within any category, then pupils will be admitted in the order of proximity of the pupil’s permanent home to the school.

Distance will be calculated using a straight line measurement from the pupil’s permanent home to the closest designated school gate.

Distance will be calculated using the Local Authority's GIS system (Geographical Information System). To ensure consistency applies, all measurements will be carried out by the Local Authority's GIS system and no other method of measuring distance will be considered.

Each property has a coordinate taken from Ordnance Survey ADDRESS-POINT data. This is the point which distance measurements will be taken from.

(ii) In voluntary controlled schools, no account is taken of church membership or affiliation.

Nursery Education

Where a school receives more applications than places available then children should be admitted in the following order:

1. Children under Special Educational Needs statutory assessment or with a statement of Special Educational Needs (which names the school);
2. Children in Public Care (Looked After Children);
3. Children in need, as defined by the Children Act 1989 section 2 as children who, unless services where appropriate are provided are unlikely to achieve or maintain or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining a reasonable standard of health or development or a child/children whose health or development are likely to be significantly impaired or further impaired, or a child/children who is/are disabled. Applications under this criterion would need to be supported by an appropriate professional stating that attendance at a particular school is essential;
4. Children who live within the nursery's catchment area (a 1 mile radius), who have siblings attending the school at the time of admission;
5. Other children who live in the school's catchment area;
6. Children who live outside the school's catchment area but have siblings in attendance at the school;
7. Other children by age order (admitting eldest first);
8. Children who live outside the Authority;

Notes

(i) Siblings are defined as children with brothers or sisters (including step-brothers or sisters) living at the same address, in attendance at the same school or a school on the same site, on the date of admission. Schools must advise parents that it is their responsibility to inform them immediately of any change of circumstances that may affect their application: for example, a change of address.

(ii) Where any category is oversubscribed then children within that category should be admitted in an age order basis (eldest first).

Entitlement to a Nursery Place

The Local Authority guarantees a place for all eligible 3 and 4 year olds within Calderdale.

From September 2010 the introduction of the 15 hours entitlement brings with it a requirement for flexibility. For example the free entitlement could be available flexibly over a minimum of 3 days per week at a maximum of 2 settings.

It is important to note that admission to a nursery class does not guarantee an automatic place in the same school. A child's attendance at a Local Authority nursery is not taken into consideration in the allocation of places in the reception year. Parents of children in nursery classes must complete a Schools' 'Common Application Form' in order to request a full-time place in school.

School will ask parents to sign a statement to say they understand that admission to a nursery class does not guarantee automatic place in school. We are also asked to inform you that an offer of a donation of money or in kind to procure a school place is illegal and to ask a school to consider this is to ask them to become involved in fraudulent activity.

The home address for each child is the permanent address of the parents/carers and their child. That is taken to be the address of the parent/carer who receives child benefit for the child, and is assumed to be the address where the child spends the majority of the time, even if he or she lives at a different address for some days of the week.