

## Admission to Nursery

A child is entitled to 15 hours a week, 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.

The key dates are 1st January, 1st April and 1st September. Our offer is that we take children from as soon after their 3rd birthday as possible.

We offer up to 5 mornings (8.30-11.30 a.m.) or up to 5 afternoons (12.30-3.30 p.m.) per week, term time only.

### Procedures

The Thames View Nursery unit can accommodate a maximum of 60 children, at any one session. The patterns of attendance available are either a morning session 8.30-11.30 a.m. or an afternoon session 12.30-3.30 p.m.

Parents wishing to send their children to our Nursery must complete an application form and send or bring it to the school.

The governors will consider applications in accordance with the admission criteria. They will let parents know by letter of their decision where possible at least half a term before admission; ordinarily this will be by the end of October, February and May. If a child is offered a place, parents must confirm your acceptance to the school within two weeks otherwise the school may have to refuse places for other children unnecessarily. Parents must let the school know if they wish to split their 15 hours between two settings.

The final decision on when a child is admitted, the number of hours a child is able to attend and his or her pattern of attendance, rests with the Head Teacher.

### Admission Criteria

The governors will consider all applications in accordance with the following criteria, set out in priority order. Length of time on any waiting list will not be taken into account.

Categories B & C contain examples of both special educational and social need.

- A. A child who is 'looked after' by the Children's Services Department (in accordance with Section 22 of the Children's Act 1989)
- B. Children for whom there is a recommendation for nursery education by a health professional, social worker, educational psychologist,

outreach worker or education welfare officer on the basis of the child's special educational needs. Examples of special educational needs, in no order of priority, might include:

- emotional and behavioural problems
- hearing difficulties
- lack of personal interaction and stimulation
- physical disabilities
- speech and language problems
- visual difficulties

C. Children with social needs, based on information gained by the Head Teacher as part of the application procedure.

Examples of social needs, in no order of priority, might include:

- children who were multiple births (twins, triplets)
- a child with a confined play space
- a child from a one parent family
- a child in a large family (four or more children)
- a child with parents under 20 years of age
- a child in sole care of grandparents
- a child who has two or more siblings under four years of age
- a child on the child protection register
- a child of parents with disabilities
- a child with English as an additional language

D. Children with a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) with disabilities (as in A) that require a significant amount of additional support.

E. Children who have a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) on the school roll who will still be attending Thames View Primary School the following academic year.

F. Other children.

### Oversubscription

If the nursery is oversubscribed within any of the above categories A-F, children in the year before they may start school will be given priority. Then preference will be given to children who live closest to the school.