

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Statement of intent

It is our intention to make the Preschools accessible to children of between 2 and 5 years and their families from all sections of the local community.

Aim

We aim to ensure that all sections of our community have access to the Preschools through open, fair and clearly communicated procedures.

Methods

In order to achieve this aim, we operate the following admissions policy:

- We ensure that the existence of the Preschools are widely advertised through both written and spoken form, in places accessible to all sections of the community, including our website, local notice boards, social media and Hampshire County Council's Services for Young Children's website.
- We describe the Preschools and their practices in terms that make it clear, welcoming all family members/carers, including childminders.
- We describe the Preschools and their practices in terms of how unique child and his/her family, having regard to their needs arising from their gender, special educational needs, abilities, disabilities, social background, religion, and ethnicity or from English being a newly acquired additional language, ensuring they take part in the daily life of the Preschool.
- We arrange our waiting list according to age.
- After discussion with the parents/carers during settling in, we will accept children from between one session a week to every day (although we would usually recommend at least two sessions a week to allow the child to settle more quickly).
- We endeavour to be as flexible as possible about attendance patterns and hours of sessions, to accommodate all children and suit the needs of individual children and their families.
- We welcome all parents, other relations, carers and child minders into the preschool.
- We welcome everyone from all cultural, ethnic, religious and social groups, regardless of any disabilities.
- We strive to gain awareness of ethnic backgrounds of children to ensure no accidental discrimination is taking place.
- We are able to offer children aged over 3 years, the Government grant which entitles them up to 15 hours free childcare per week, as well as the 2 Year Old Grant and Early Years Pupil Premium including additional 15 hours funding to eligible families.
- We regularly consult with parents/carers to ensure we continue to meet the needs of the local community.
- We reserve the right to consider applications for Priority Admission over our normal admissions. Priority Admissions follow a recommendation from an appropriate professional (for example a GP, Health Visitor, Social Worker or Speech Therapist) that entry to the Preschool would be of real benefit to the child concerned.