

Community School Nursery Education Admission Policy 2011

We provide and allocate nursery places at our community schools using the Local Authority (LA) Nursery Education Admissions policy.

All children are entitled to 15 hours of free provision provided over 38 weeks. This may be provided in a nursery class in school or in the private voluntary independent sector or in any maintained nursery class. Parents should establish the type and flexibility of provision available at their chosen provider before they apply for a place, as this will vary between providers.

This policy is as follows.

- All children, subject to the availability of places, will normally start school nursery no earlier than the start of term following their third birthday i.e. at the start of term in September 2011, January 2012 or after the Easter break 2012 of the 2011/12 academic year. However we may need to delay your child's start beyond the relevant term in the circumstances where the school have induction procedures to follow to enable your child to be successfully integrated with others and get used to school life this is decided in consultation with the Head Teacher.

Oversubscription Criterion

If there is not enough places available for all applicants, we will first give priority to children who are living in Gateshead. Among these children we will give priority to parents that have put the school as their first choice on their application form.

Priority will then be given to those children above who will become four years of age during the 2011/12 academic year and would only have the opportunity to benefit from three terms of nursery education. The allocation of places within this group of children will then be based on priorities 1 to 6 listed below.

If there are not enough applicants within this older group of children above to fill all the places then we will next consider those younger children who will only reach the age of three during the academic year 2011/12, priority will then be given to these children who will become three during the Autumn term, then the Spring term and then the Summer term. Within each term the allocation of places is based on the priorities 1 to 6 listed below. Places can only be offered to these younger children if we can confirm that a place is not needed for a child who will become four years of age during the 2011/12 year.

We will then give priority in the following order:

1. Looked After Children (children in public care and as deemed under Section 22 of the Children Act 1989).
2. Children who live in the school's catchment area.
3. Children who live in Gateshead and who will have a brother or sister at the school, or at the feeder junior school during the coming academic year.
4. Children who have exceptional medical or social grounds. (See point 1 below).
5. Other children who live in Gateshead.

- 6 Children who live outside Gateshead, but only if places are otherwise likely to remain available during the academic year.

Point 1

We can consider exceptional individual applications, particularly in cases involving medical or social needs. If you wish to apply on medical or social grounds you must provide written evidence from relevant registered health professionals i.e. a doctor or social worker. The evidence must demonstrate why the chosen school is more appropriate and what difficulties would be caused if they were to travel to and attend alternative schools. We will not consider such applications if the relevant professional evidence is not provided. This evidence will be assessed by the LA admission panel. No assumption should be made that submission of the relevant evidence will, in itself, be sufficient to allocate a place.

Tie Breaker

If within any of the above priorities there are more applicants than places available then priority will be given to those children based on the distance they live from the school measured as the crow flies i.e. in a straight line from the centre of the home residence to the main entrance of the school. Children living nearest the school will have priority.

Address

For the purposes of deciding whether a child lives in the catchment area of a school we will use the parent or legal guardian's address or the address of a relevant adult who has parental responsibility, as defined under the 1989 Childrens Act, for the child.

Waiting list

If places then become available we will consider all the applications on a waiting list. The waiting list will be maintained by the Head Teacher from the start of the academic year and be kept for the rest of the academic year. All applicants on the waiting list will be placed according to the admission criteria and priorities set out above. The length of time a child has been on the waiting list cannot be taken into account if places become available. If you apply late, you child's name may be added to the list by using the priority order described above.

Bensham Grove Nursery School

Bensham Grove Nursery uses a different admission policy and parents seeking admission to this school should not use this policy to assess the likelihood of admission to this school.

Closing Date

To apply for a place in a nursery class for September 2011 or subsequent terms in the 2011/12 academic year, you must complete and return your application form to the Head Teacher of your chosen first preference school by **Friday 10 December 2010**.

Need more information?

If you need more information about provision at a Community School Nursery you can contact the School Admission Team at Gateshead Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead, NE81HH or telephone 0191 433 2775 4332757 or 4332756.

If you need more information about the provision offered by private voluntary independent providers you can contact the Family Information Services on 433 8515 for more advice.

Bensham Grove Community Nursery School Admission Policy 2011-2012

The Governing Body allocates places at the school using the Local Authority (LA) admissions policy as follows:

- We aim to provide a quality service by offering either five morning sessions or five afternoon sessions for week. However, you may choose for your child to attend fewer sessions. The flexibility of these funded sessions will be determined by the Governing body and Head Teacher in consultation with the LA.

All children, subject to the availability of places, will normally start nursery school no earlier than the start of term following their third birthday.

- The governing body will use this policy to decide who to offer the places to in consultation with the LA and Head Teacher.

Oversubscription Criteria

Applications will considered in the following order:

If there are not enough places available for all applicants in the nursery we will first give priority to children who are living in Gateshead unless other wise stated in the 7 priorities below. Among these children we will offer places to parents have put the school as their first choice on their application form.

Priority will then be given to those children above who will become four years of age during the 2011/12 academic year and would only have the opportunity to benefit from three terms of nursery education. The allocation of places within this group of children will then be based on priorities 1 to 7 listed below

If there are not enough applicants within this older group of children above to fill all the places then we will next consider those younger children who will only reach the age of three during the academic year 2011/12, priority will then be given to these children who will become three during the Autumn term, then the Spring term and then the Summer term. Within each term the allocation of places is based on the priorities 1 to 7 listed below. Places can only be offered to these younger children if we can confirm that a place is not needed for a child who will become four years of age during the 2011/12 year.

We will then give priority in the following order:

- 1 Children in public care and deemed under Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
- 2 Children who live in Gateshead and who will have a brother or sister at the nursery.
- 3 Children who live outside Gateshead and who will have a brother or sister at the nursery.
- 4 Other children who live in the catchment area of Bensham.
- 5 Other children with medical or social grounds see point 1 below.

- 6 Other children who live in Gateshead.
- 7 Children who live outside Gateshead.

Point 1-The Governing Body has the right to consider individual applications, particularly in cases involving medical or social grounds. This kind of application must be supported in writing by relevant professional agencies i.e. a doctor or a social worker. The evidence must demonstrate why the school is more appropriate and what difficulties would be caused if they were to travel to and attend an alternative nursery. Children In Public Care have particular social needs, which the Governing Body will have regard for.

Tie Breaker

If within the above criteria there are more applicants than places available priority will be given to those children based on the distance they live from the school, measured "as the crow flies" i.e. in a straight line from the centre of the home residence to the school's main entrance. Children living nearest the school will have priority. We measure distance using a geographical information system (GIS).

Address

For the purposes of deciding whether a child lives in the catchment area of the school the Governing Body will use the parent/legal guardian's address or the address of a relevant adult who has parental responsibility, as defined under the 1989 Children's Act, for the child.

Waiting list

The Governing body will keep an up-to-date waiting list. If places become available, the school's Governing Body will consider all the applications on the waiting list based on the priority order set out above. If an application is late then a child's name may be added to the list by using the priority order described above.

Closing Date

To apply for a place in a nursery class for September 2011 or subsequent terms in the 2011/12 academic year, you must complete and return your application form to the Head Teacher by **Friday 10 December 2010**