

Admissions Policy



Introduction

The local Education Authority is the admissions authority for Acorns Primary School and is classed as the statutory educational provider.

The code of Practice on admissions issued in the recent past by the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE) suggests that LEA's should set up Admission Forums, to include admission authorities, parents and other stakeholders.

All forms of nursery provision are classed as non statutory however in deciding admissions for SEN nursery provision the LEA is not bound by the statutory provisions affecting admissions to mainstream school. The LEA does however have regard to guidance issued by the DfEE such as the Code of Practice on admissions.

In drawing up admissions policies the LEA is required to consult the schools affected and other admissions authorities in the area.

Current Situation

The current protocol for deciding which pupils get places in the reception classes is not done on a first come first served basis but in the following way.

Children will be admitted to the reception class during the school year in which they will reach the age of five. It is recommended that the initial period of attendance will be part-time

The date of admission for each child will be decided on an individual basis. Because it is difficult to be sure that every child can be sufficiently mature at the age of three to be able to fully adapt to a situation where they are in a class of up to 8 others, our intention will be to admit children throughout the year, either in small groups or on an individual basis to allow initial individual assessment and induction.

- School has a "proportional number" of places in EY1 made up from part time and full time places. This number is not fixed on a yearly basis because the intake cohort's needs will vary. If the number of children seeking admission is within this number of places then every child gets a place as of right.
- If the number of children seeking a place exceeds the number of places available then a priority order for admission is established

Category 1 Children with a Statement of Special Education Needs that identifies as the first priority Either
Significant
Profound
Severe
or Global” delay in development.

Category 2 Children with a statement of Special Education Needs that identifies “moderate – severe” delays in development with an older brother or sister in school.

Category 3 Children with an identified additional and supplementary difficulty such as autism or complex medical conditions potentially requiring additional resources.

Looked after children with any one of the above 3 categories would become a priority

(See flow chart in Appendix 1)

Any children not given a place after category 2 admissions have been agreed are placed on a waiting list. The order of the waiting list is decided on the same basis as for admissions. At this stage.

- School will apply for additional resources from the County Moderation Panel to support the inclusion. Parents will be informed of this request and subsequently informed of the decision.
- Parents can seek a place at another school or, if they consider that they have a good case for admission, they could appeal to the Independent Appeal Committee.

Admissions to year groups other than reception are also dealt with according to this policy.

Appendix 1

