



## **NURSERY ADMISSIONS POLICY**

At St Oswald's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school and nursery. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the nursery. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the nursery; children of all backgrounds, faiths and religions are warmly accepted.

Children are admitted to our Nursery from the term after they turn 3 years old. The child must turn 3 on or before:

31<sup>st</sup> August for admittance in the Autumn term of that academic year,

31<sup>st</sup> December for admittance in the Spring term of that academic year,

31<sup>st</sup> March for admittance in the Summer term of that academic year.

### **Provision**

All eligible children will be admitted for at least 15 funded hours per week (5x3h sessions, Monday to Friday), free of charge to parents. Children may attend Morning sessions from 8.45-11.45am daily, **or** Afternoon sessions 12.25-3.25pm daily.

Children of working parents will be admitted for a total of 30 hours per week (10x3 hour sessions, Monday to Friday) as long as a valid funding code is provided.

Our Nursery currently has a capacity of 26 places for each morning and each afternoon session.

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

- 1) Children who are entitled to 30h of Nursery provision will be allocated places first, according to the following criteria:
  - i. Catholic children (as evidenced by a baptism certificate)
  - ii. Siblings of children currently attending St Oswald's Catholic Primary School and children of current members of staff.
  - iii. Children currently living within St Oswald's Parish or The Sacred Heart Parish

This School and Nursery serves the parishes of St Oswald's, South Shields and The Sacred Heart, Boldon. A map of the parish boundaries is available



here: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/schools-commission/admissions-and-appeals/>

iv. Any other children

2) Children who are entitled to 15 hours of provision will be allocated any remaining places according to the following criteria:

- i) Catholic children (as evidenced by a baptism certificate)
- ii) Siblings of children currently attending St Oswald's Catholic Primary School and children of current members of staff.
- iii) Children currently living within St Oswald's Parish or The Sacred Heart Parish

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iv) Any other children

### **Tie Breaker**

Where there are places available for some, but not all applicants within a particular criterion priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured as a straight line, from the Ordnance Survey coordinates for the parental home residence (including flats) to the school main entrance, using South Tyneside Council's Geographic Information System (GIS).

### **In Year Admissions**

We admit children to our Nursery three times per academic year; at the start of each term. Mid-term admissions may be possible depending on subscription levels and funding availability.

### **Application Procedures**

To apply for a place at our Nursery, please fill in a Nursery Application form. This is available from the school office or electronically via email. We hold all applications on file until shortly before the term the child would be due to start, at which point all applicants will be contacted directly.

**Agreed by Governors:**

**Date for Review: Autumn 2026**