



The Meadows Primary Academy

Sowing the Seeds of Success

Admissions Arrangements 2026-2027

Date	January 2026
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Written By	Helen Cunliffe

Introduction

At The Meadows Primary Academy we have an agreed admission number of 60 per year group, with a 52 place Nursery. For application forms for Years 1 to 6, parents are asked to contact the local authority via the admission website : [School admissions | Stoke-on-Trent](#)

The Admissions team at Stoke on Trent City Council should be contacted on 01782 236867/ 233232 or www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions for applications to Nursery and Reception. They can also offer general information and guidance about admissions.

Nursery Admissions

Nursery places (Sunflowers)

The Meadows Primary Academy offers 15-hour and 30 hours Nursery places.

For children offered a place that are entitled to 30 hours, this is guaranteed to be offered.

For children entitled to 15 hours the Meadows Primary Academy may fund a further 15 hours per week. This means it maybe possible for all children attending our Nursery to have a full-time place, should they be able to cope with the demands of 30 hours.

Our policy of providing an additional free 15 hours per week of Nursery education, will be subject to annual review by our Academy Council and will be conditional upon parents and carers making an application for the Government's 'Free Early Education Grant'. We will support all parents and carers through the grant application process on request.

Places to our Nursery are allocated by the Local Authority. Parents are asked to contact Admissions on 01782 236867/233232 or www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions for an admission form to Nursery or Reception.

Where the number of applications exceeds the number of Nursery places available the following criteria will be used to allocate places:

- a) Children cared for by a local authority and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).
- b) Children living in the catchment area of the school who have an older brother or sister attending at the time of admission (or at the linked junior school in the case of infant schools).
- c) Other children living within the catchment area of the school.
- d) Children living outside the catchment area of the school who have an elder brother or sister at the school at the time of admission (or at the linked junior school in the case of infant schools).
- e) Children who live nearest to the school as determined by a straight-line measurement from the child's home address point to the main entrance of the school.

*Nursery places will be given firstly to children living in the City of Stoke on Trent. Only when these children have a place will children living outside the City of Stoke on Trent be considered. Once the class is full, a waiting list based on the above criteria will be held until the end of September of that academic year.

Attendance at a particular nursery setting will not guarantee admission to a reception class at the same school.

Children aged 3+ (Seedling places)

For the children that apply to join our Seedling provision, we offer either 15 or 30 hour places depending on the funding you are entitled to.

Applications for Seedlings should be made directly to the school.



Attendance does not guarantee that a place will be available in Nursery and is separate from applications to Reception.

Primary Admissions

The pupil admission number (PAN) for The Meadows is the number of pupils that the school has agreed with the Trust that it will normally admit to the relevant year group at the school. This figure has been set and published in accordance with legal requirements and after consultation.

The admission numbers for the Academic Year 25/26 are stated in the table below. Admission Number

<u>Reception</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Year 1</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Year 2</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Year 3</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Year 4</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Year 5</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Year 6</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>420</u>

The Meadows Primary Academy follows the Local Authority's Admissions Arrangements. Where there are more applications for a community or voluntary controlled primary school than there are places available, the Council will use the following priorities, in order, to allocate places:

- a) Children cared for by a local authority and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).
- b) Children living in the catchment area of the school who have an older brother or sister attending at the time of admission (or at the linked junior school in the case of infant schools).
- c) Other children living within the catchment area of the school.
- d) Children living outside the catchment area of the school who have an elder brother or sister at the school at the time of admission (or at the linked junior school in the case of infant schools).
- e) Children who live nearest to the school as determined by a straight line measurement from the child's home address point to the main entrance of the school.

In Year Transfers from Another School

If you are applying for your child to change school part way through the year, please contact the School Office or an In Year Transfer Form. This form will need to be signed by your child's current Headteacher. If we have places available, you will be invited to have a tour of the school and discuss admission dates. If we do not have a place for your child, you can be added to our waiting list and approach another school for a place. The Local Authority will send you a letter confirming the refusal and explaining how you can appeal the decision.

Appeals

If you wish to appeal the refusal of a place, you should contact the Local Authority Admissions Team on 01782 234598 or via admissions@stoke.gov.uk. An appeal will be heard within 30 school days of you requesting one. You will be told about your appeal hearing approximately ten school days before the hearing, and sent a copy of the school's case approximately seven school days in advance of the hearing. If you want to submit further evidence, it must be received at least three clear working days before the hearing date. Evidence received after this date might not be considered at the hearing.



Compulsory school age

Your child will usually start full-time in a reception class in the September prior to their fifth birthday.

- September 2025 - children's dates of birth 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2021
- September 2026 - children's dates of birth 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Reception Class forms part of a child's entitlement to the "Early Years Foundation Stage". Children are not classed as compulsory school age until the term after their fifth birthday and therefore legally do not have to be in receipt of full time education until this time.

Deferred entry into Reception

Parents can request that their child attends school part-time until they reach compulsory school age, or that the date their child is admitted to school is deferred until later in the same academic year.

Where parents wish to apply for a deferral until later in the same academic year then they are encouraged to discuss their request with the headteacher of the requested or allocated school in line with guidance provided for parents by the Department for Education.

Summer-born children (dates of birth between 1 April and 31 August)

Parents of summer born children who choose not to send their child to school until they have reached compulsory school age have the right to apply for admission into Reception a year later. Guidance from the Department for Education suggests that it is good practice for a parent to submit an application for reception at the usual time and withdraw the application at a later date if the request is agreed by the relevant admissions authority that the child may be admitted to reception the following year.

Any such requests will be considered by the Local Authority in conjunction with the headteacher at the preferred school(s).

Please note: that a space cannot be kept available in the usual chronological age group for a whole academic year if you choose not to enrol your child at the normal age of entry. Any such applications need to be made to the relevant admitting authority supported by information that outlines why the child should be admitted into reception rather than year 1. Please see advice for parents from the Department for Education.

The Academy will give parents a copy of the current Admissions Policy at the time of registering an interest in a place at our school. It is the responsibility of prospective or interested parents to request updated copies of the admissions policy.

