

Lingfield Primary School

A Personal Best School



Nursery Admission Policy

Date Agreed by Governors	Summer 2025
Review Date	Summer 2028

Introduction

A child can be admitted into nursery at the start of the term following their third birthday. It should be noted that admission to the nursery does not guarantee admission to reception class; parents must follow normal procedures when applying for full-time education.

All 3 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of funded nursery education per week during term time, this can be extended to 30 hours per week for families that are eligible for extended funding. We offer 3 options. Parents can express a preference for a particular option, however places are offered based on the admission criteria below

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- All day Monday & Tuesday, Wednesday morning
- Wednesday afternoon, all day Thursday & Friday
- Full time 5 days

Admission Criteria

The local authority has delegated the admission of nursery children to the governors who will consider applications in age order with the oldest children being given priority

Admission criteria will only be applied when we are oversubscribed and therefore cannot admit all of the children whose parents are applying for a nursery place.

The governors will consider all applications in accordance with the following criteria set out in priority order. Length of time on any waiting list will not be taken into account.

Category A

In this category examples of both special educational and social needs are given. There is no priority within the category but governors will take into account the severity of the child's needs using the examples given when deciding places within this category. Children with multiple needs will be given priority.

Examples of special educational needs (in no specific order) might include children with:

- Children on the Child Protection Register, those deemed by social services as children at risk, or in local authority care
- Emotional and behavioral problems
- Hearing difficulties
- Lack of personal interaction and stimulation
- Physical difficulties
- Speech & language problems
- Visual difficulties
- Children who are referred by the education psychology service

Category B

In this category children with social needs may be admitted. Social need should be based on the information gained by the school as part of the application process. Children with multiple needs will be given priority.

Examples of social need which may be considered (in no specific order) might include:

- Children who were multiple births (twins, triplets)
- A child with a confined playspace (those living in a bedsit, top floor flat, hostel, caravan, mobile home or children with no garden)

- A child with a parent living alone
- A child with a large family (4 or more children)
- A child with parents under the age of 20
- A child in sole care of grandparents
- A child who has two or more siblings under 4 years of age
- A child of parents with disabilities or a child who has siblings with disabilities
- A child who is cared for by a 'young carer'
- Children from minority ethnic groups particularly those for whom English is an additional language
- A child who is gifted who lacks social interaction

Category C

A child with a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) who requires a significant amount of additional support

A child who at the time of application has a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) on the school roll who will still be attending the school when the younger sibling joins the nursery

Category D

Remaining places will be allocated based on proximity to the school using the shortest radial route (straight line distance)

Children whose application is unsuccessful will be placed on a waiting list and will be notified when a place becomes available. Waiting list places will be allocated using the criteria above.

Vacant Places

Where there are vacancies after all eligible children have been offered places consideration will be given to the following:

Parents who wish to purchase additional hours at a cost of £6 per hour.