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Batford Early Years Centre

Batford Nursery School Admissions Policy

Next Review date: Jan 2018

Signed..... Head of Centre / Headteacher Date:

Signed..... Chair of Governing Body Date:

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Jan 2016



Batford Nursery



Children's Centres



Skylarks Day Care



Batford Nursery



Skylarks Day Care

The Governing Body follow the rules and arrangements for entry into Batford Nursery School that are set by the Local Education Authority.

As a Nursery School, Batford is able to operate a single intake, enabling children to take up their nursery place in the September following their third birthday.

Parents will receive a leaflet from Hertfordshire County Council in the February of the year in which the child is due to start nursery.

Parents are able to apply online from February until March.

The school will receive the list of applications in mid-April and will then offer the places to parents online.

If places are still available after the September intake, the school will offer places to children in the term after the term in which their third birthday falls. The nursery is able to take children at any point in the year if they meet the age criteria, for example, those moving into the area, providing that there is availability of places.

Hertfordshire County Council's oversubscription criteria for maintained nursery schools and classes for the school year 2016/17

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs, which names the school, will be allocated a place in accordance with section 324 of the Education Act 1996. Schools must also admit children with an EHC (Education, Health and Care Plan) that names the school

Parents may state their preference as to which nursery class, school or centre they would like their child to attend in the years leading up to the child's fourth birthday. However, if there are not enough places available, places will be allocated in the following order of priority:

- a)** Children looked after and children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order).
- b)** A child 'at risk' (or the sibling of a child 'at risk') who is the subject of an inter-agency child protection plan.
- c)** Other applicants where the following criteria are considered to determine priorities:
 - 1)** Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to the school, including those already in attendance.
 - 2)** Children who are transitioning through the centre from Batford Nursery Schools 2 Year old provision.
 - 3)** Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age-range of the school. Note: the 'normal age range' is the designated range for which the school provides.
 - 4)** Any other children.

If more children qualify under a particular rule than there are places available, a tiebreak will be used by applying the next rule to those children. If more children qualify under criterion 2 than there are places available, priority will be given to those who live nearest to the nursery, as measured in a straight line. Where there is a need for a tie-breaker where two different addresses measure the same distance from a school, in the case of a block of flats for example, the lower door number will be deemed nearest as logically this will be on the ground floor and therefore closer. If there are two identical addresses of separate applicants, the tie break will be random. The same definitions apply as outlined in the explanatory notes and definitions in the county council's schemes of coordination which are available at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/admissions/links/admissionrules/Admarr1617/admissions2016/>

Distance Measurement

All distances will be by a "straight-line" measurement from the address point of each individual house to the address point of the school. (address point data taken from AddressBase Premium dataset)

Allocation of sessions

When children are offered a place in the nursery school, parents are asked for their preference for a morning or afternoon place but there is no guarantee that they will be offered the place they prefer. Allocation of places is according to availability and at the discretion of the Headteacher. The school has an agreed list of criteria for places based on:

1. The balance of any additional needs children may have, within the morning and afternoon sessions
2. The balance of genders within morning and afternoon sessions
3. The balance of ages within morning and afternoon sessions
4. The day care needs of working parents

There is no right of appeal for morning or afternoon places.