



Nursery Admission Policy for September 2025 Starters

Attendance at an LA maintained nursery does not give entitlement or greater priority for a Reception place in the school providing the Nursery provision, for the period of statutory education. Places in Reception classes are allocated as per the admissions policy for the school. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure they apply for a school place at the relevant time.

From September 2025, eligible working families with children aged between 9 months to school age will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare support. This admissions policy is set in readiness for the governmental childcare changes in September 2025.

From September 2025 - eligible working parents of children from 9 months to school age will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare a week. Like the existing offer, these hours can be used over 38 weeks of the year. If you claim [Universal Credit](#), please refer to [this webpage](#) to find out about how you can access childcare.

For further information and to find the options available to you, please visit [Homepage | Childcare Choices](#). ***It is a parent's responsibility to ensure they apply for funding. Failure to apply for funding correctly and in a timely manner could leave you ineligible for funding for a term – funding cannot be backdated.***

Priority is given at Crown Meadow Nursery to:

- Three-year-olds taking their full 30-hour entitlement plus three year-olds taking their full 15 hours entitlement
- Rising three years taking their full 30-hour entitlement
- Three-year-olds taking the closest number of hours to 30, or 15 (dependent upon their entitlement)
- Rising three-year-olds taking the closest number of hours to 30 (or other entitlement ie disadvantaged)
- Two year olds, who are not rising three.

Please note: A maximum of 5 two-year-olds may attend at any one time with priority given to applications for 'rising 3's' – those attending in the term before their 3rd birthday.

If the demand for places exceeds those available, both the full time and the part time applications will be prioritised in the following order:

- Looked After* and Previously Looked After* children.
- Children with additional needs**, with priority given to those who meet the County Council's criteria for statutory assessment;
- Children of staff to include teaching and non-teaching staff;
- Siblings*** if the older sibling will still be on roll at nursery or Crown Meadow school when the younger sibling starts in the nursery class;
- Children living nearest to the school measured by the shortest straight line distance****.

The area served by any nursery is wider than the catchment area of the providing school and may vary according to local circumstances.

***Looked after** means all those currently in the care of a Local Authority or accommodated by a Local Authority under the terms of the Children Act 1989 and children who were previously in the care of or accommodated by a Local Authority but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, a child arrangements order or special guardianship order and includes those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England, we mean children who have been looked after outside of England by a public authority, a religious organization or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. The care may have been provided in orphanages or other settings. Independent support evidence will be required.

** **Additional needs** include those children whose needs are monitored by LA or external support agencies. Needs may be physical/emotional/social or intellectual. The decision will be taken by the LA in consultation with the Headteacher, SENCo and early years teacher/coordinator.

*****The Sibling connection**, as well as brother and sister will include half-siblings, adopted children, step-siblings or a child of the parent/carers partner. They must also be living at the same home address. Children who are brought together as a family by a civil partnership and who are living at the same address are also considered to be siblings.

**** **Straight line distance**, we calculate the distance using a computerised system based on Ordnance Survey coordinates. These are calculated as a straight-line measurement between the geo-code of the pupil's home address and the geo-code of the school. Distance measuring does not consider walking, cycling or driving routes