

# STARTING NURSERY IN HARINGEY IN SEPTEMBER 2011

## ADMISSION RULES FOR NURSERY CLASSES IN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND ST. AIDAN'S VC SCHOOL

### Starting School

Children born between September 2006 and 31 August 2007 will normally start reception classes in September 2011. However, the law does not require a child to start school before the end of the term in which they become five. In these circumstances, parents may wish for them to start school later than September 2011 but before they are five. In these circumstances, parents are asked to be aware that all places in reception may have been taken up by this time. Also, if they wait until their child reaches five, they may be admitted into a Year 1 class not a Reception class as children are usually educated in their chronological age group in Haringey.

### Nursery classes in infant and primary schools

#### Part-time nursery places.

Of course, younger children may have a part-time place in a nursery centre or a class attached to a school in the September following their third birthday. If there are more requests than part-time places available, the admission rules (over-subscription criteria) explained below will be used to decide which children should be admitted (they will also apply to full time places).

You should ask your preferred primary school for an application form. The Authority is responsible for admissions but these are managed by schools and nursery centres. There is no right of appeal against the decision to refuse admission of children to nurseries.

#### Full-time nursery places

The Authority provides a small number of full-time places in a few schools. The places are offered to families in greatest need. The types of need that we take into consideration include:

1. children with special educational needs
2. children with a social or medical need, for example a child in the care of the local authority and children on the at risk register
3. children who are residents of Haringey and who are:
  - housed in temporary accommodation
  - cared for by a lone parent
  - refugees or asylum-seekers
  - from a family receiving Income Support
  - from a family with a number of pre-school-age children and/or
  - have English as an additional language

If a child has one or more of these needs, there is no guarantee of a full time place, however your child may be given a higher priority for a place. If you think your child has any of these needs, please contact your preferred school or centre to discuss this in detail.

**Parents/carers should note that admission to a nursery class in a school does not guarantee a place in the reception class at the same school, and separate application forms must be completed later for the reception class at the right time.**

Some places may be available to children for one or two terms before the school year in which they have their fourth birthday. Priority for these places is given to children in greatest need. Please ask at your local school/centre for information in the first instance.

### **The Admissions Rules (“Over Subscription Criteria”)**

Children with a statement of special educational needs which name the school will be admitted in accordance with section 324 of the Education Act 1996.

If the number of applicants without statements of special educational needs which name the school is higher than the number of places available, the following rules are applied, in the order of priorities set out below to decide who is offered a place:

- 1) Children who are looked after by a local authority.
- 2) Children who the Authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social need for a place at the school. Applications will only be considered under this category if they are supported by a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other appropriate independent professional. These must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and show that only the specified school can meet the defined needs of the child.
- 3) Children who will have a brother or sister attending the school (or its associated Infant or Junior school) at the time of admission. This category includes foster brothers and sisters, half brothers and sisters or stepbrothers and sisters. Parents should note that in all these cases, the brother or sister must be living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made. (However, this does not include younger siblings in the school’s nursery class).
- 4) Children living closest to the preferred school. (Distance measured by straight line using a computerised mapping system).

The tie-breaker for all criteria is-children living closest to the school measured in a straight line from the home post office address point to the entrance of the school’s using a computerised mapping system.