

STARTING NURSERY IN HARINGEY IN SEPTEMBER 2013

Determined Admission Rules for Nursery Classes in Community Primary Schools and St. Aidan's Voluntary Controlled School.

Nursery classes in infant and primary schools

All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours per week of free early education for 38 weeks of the year. This may be accessed in a part-time place in a nursery centre or a class attached to a school from the September following their third birthday. If there are more requests than part-time places available, the admission rules (over-subscription criteria) explained on page 2 and 3 will be used to decide which children will be admitted (they will also apply to full time places). The age your child is able to start nursery will depend on the number of places available.

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

Determined Admission Criteria for full-time nursery places

Full time places may be offered to families where the child meets one or more of the following criteria. Criteria will be applied in two stages in order to enable priority to be given to those children with the greatest need.

Full time places are not available at every school within the borough. For availability, please check with local school.

It should be noted that if a child has one or more of these needs, there is no guarantee of a full time place, however a child may be given a higher priority for a place.

Level 1 Criteria

- Children in care; Children who are looked after by a local authority or were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.
- Teenage parents
- Parents with health difficulties (mental or physical)
- Family experiencing domestic abuse
- Family experiencing substance/alcohol misuse
- Asylum seeking families, including families with no recourse to public funds
- Family in temporary accommodation
- Children with a Child Protection plan
- Children in need (social care)

Level 2 - Oversubscription criteria

In cases of oversubscription, the following criteria should be applied;

- Lone parents
- Family breakdown

- Black and minority ethnic groups, including children from traveller families
- Family whose first language is not English
- Child with emotional /behavioural needs or language delay
- Sibling of children with disabilities/complex needs
- Children from a household with low income or claiming benefits (*further details of eligible income levels and benefits to be included*)
- Child from family with 3 or more children under 5

If your child has one or more of the needs shown above, 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 and your preferred school offers full time places, please contact the school to discuss this in detail. You will need to provide written evidence to support your application.

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 based on the considerations listed above. Please ask at your local school/centre for information in the first instance.

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 by 15 January in the academic year your child turns 4.

Determined Admission Criteria for part time places

Level 1 Criteria

- Children with a statement of special educational needs.
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 will be applied, in the order of priorities set out below to decide who is offered a place:

1) Children in Care

Children who are looked after by a local authority or were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.

Children in care means children who are in care of a local authority in accordance with Section 22 Children Act 1989.

2) Children who have accessed the 2 year free offer

3) Social/Medical

Children who the Authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social need for a place at one specific school. Applications will only be considered under this category if they are supported by a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other relevant independent professional.

The information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child. For example children subject to a child protection plan.

4) Brother or Sister

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 or other children living permanently at the same address. 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).

5) Distance

Children living closest to their preferred school.

Tie breakers

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 using a computerised mapping system.

The tiebreak for two or more applications that live exactly the same distance from the school will be random allocation using a computerised system.

If parents are separated the application should be made by the parent the child normally lives with. Where a child spends equal time with each parent, the exact arrangements should be made clear in a letter with a copy of any custody or residency order. The application can only be processed from one address which must be agreed by the family before the application is submitted.