

Oaklands Nursery and Childcare

Nursery Admissions Policy Oaklands Nursery and Oaklands Childcare	Title:	Version:5 January 2018
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Aim

- To provide high quality education and care for children living in the locality.

Nursery Provision

Children are admitted to **Oaklands Nursery** (Local Authority Maintained nursery) in the September following their 3rd birthday.

Children can be admitted to **Oaklands Childcare** (**Oaklands Childcare** is a Company Limited by Guarantee) in the term after their 3rd birthday.

Children can be admitted to **Oaklands Childcare (2 year old provision)** when they are 2 years old.

3 and 4 year olds are all entitled to 15 hours funded childcare.

Some families will be eligible for 30 hours provision; this is for families where both parents are working. Eligibility criteria for 30 hours funded provision [..\30 hours childcare\30 hours funded places criteria.docx](#)

Parents can apply for additional hours over and above the 15 hours which they will pay for on an hourly rate. The additional hours can be taken flexibly for as much or as little time as the family requires.

The funded nursery places offered are for either 5 mornings 9.00 – 12.00, 5 afternoons 12.30 -3.30 or a 2 ½ day block each week (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning OR Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday).

Additional hours can be paid for to make up the provision needed.

Rationale

In order to provide the regular and consistent educational experiences and to be able to build on what the children are learning from day to day, we feel that it is in the best interests of the child to attend nursery each day and at regular times. We have found from our experience that children who attend some days and not others or who attend at different times of the day take longer to settle, do not pick up the routines and do not achieve at the same rate as children attending every morning or every afternoon. For this reason we recommend that

children attend either 5 mornings or 5 afternoons each week. We do understand that parents have work or studying commitments which is why we offer additional childcare which can be paid for. We also offer a 2 ½ day block if this suits the needs of the family better but should point out that this does mean the child does not receive the advantage of building on their learning day by day.

Oaklands Nursery provides education for children from age 2 until the start of school in the September following their 4th birthday.

Oaklands Nursery and Oaklands Childcare are fully integrated, with children and staff in the same room using the same resources and experiencing the same activities.

Admissions

Oaklands Nursery administers the admission process and allocates places to children.

- Families make an enquiry and details are entered on SIMS – waiting list.
- They are given information about the nursery and an application form.
- Families are contacted when children are due to start and sessions/times etc are agreed.
- Once families have accepted a place, their children will move through nursery until they leave in the July prior to the start of reception class in their chosen school.

Admission Criteria for Oaklands Nursery

If the total number of preferences for admission to a nursery age setting exceeds the number of available places, then the following order of priority will be used to allocate the available places.

Priority is given to:

1. Children in Care and children who ceased to be in care because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

2. Children who satisfy both of the following tests:

Test 1: the child is distinguished from the great majority of other applicants either on their own individual medical grounds or by other exceptional circumstances.

Medical grounds must be supported by a medical report.

Exceptional circumstances must relate to the choice of nursery and the individual child, justifying why it is better for the child to attend the preferred maintained nursery rather than any other nursery.

and

Test 2: the child would suffer hardship if they were unable to attend the preferred nursery setting.

Hardship means severe suffering of any kind, not merely difficulty or inconvenience, which is likely to be experienced as a result of the child attending a different school. Applicants must provide detailed information about both the type and severity of any likely hardship at the time of application.

3. Children who have an elder brother or sister in attendance at the school.

4. Children will be offered places based on proximity to the nursery; children arranged in order of priority according to how near their home addresses are to the nursery.

Children can be admitted throughout the year. Children can be admitted as they turn 3; places will be allocated according to the following criteria:

- Oldest first (children will be admitted in the term after their 3rd birthday)
- Where two children have the same birthday, precedence will be given to children with a sibling attending Oaklands Nursery.

2 year olds

Children will be admitted to the 2 year old room as they turn 2 years old; in date of birth order.

Appeals

Appeals regarding a place in Oaklands Nursery or Oaklands Childcare are to be addressed to Oaklands Governing Board or Oaklands Childcare Committee via Oaklands Nursery office.