



All Saints CE Primary School & Nursery

Nurturing, Resilience and Achievement for all!

Headteacher: Mr Philip Asher, BMus(Hons), PGCE, ARCO, NPQSL, MCCT

Summer-Born Admissions FAQ

We appreciate that starting school is a big event in any child's life. In some cases, it is the first time children have been with a large group of peers. Sometimes, parents and children will understandably be anxious

What is this about? Parents of a **summer-born (1 April-31 August)** child may choose to delay their child's start at school until the September following their fifth birthday. This is normally because they feel their child is not yet ready for school but can be for a number of reasons – educational or pastoral. We aim to be as supportive as we can be and want to help parents. In most cases it is a straightforward process. However, we can only consider this for summer-born children, and we can only consider it on a case by case basis.

How is delaying the start different to 'part-time attendance' or a 'deferred start'? Delaying your child's start at school because they are Summer Born means they won't start school until the academic year after their fifth birthday. Part-time attendance or a deferred start means your child starts school within the academic year they turn 5.

Part-time attendance is where a parent requests their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches the age of 5. This could be mornings only, or three or more full days per week. Any less time than this would not be recommended because of the impact it would have on your child's learning and our ability to support them. In most cases where parents have requested this, we find the children are ready for full time school within a few weeks.

Deferred start is where a parent requests the date their child is admitted to school is deferred until later in that academic year. The date can't be beyond the date the child reaches the age of 5 or the start of the Summer Term, whichever is sooner.

In both cases, your child would then be with their age cohort (Reception) and continue in that group when they move up to the next class. If you would like to discuss these options, please get in touch as soon as possible.

What are the implications to delaying September start? In making this decision, you are legally delaying the start of full-time schooling for your child. This means they are not then entitled to full time school provision in that academic year, but can continue to use the 15hrs childcare (or 30hrs if you qualify) at a nursery/pre-school setting, or stay with you at home.

Delaying the September start then means their child's normal year of entry to school would be into Year 1 - this is because children are offered places in school based on their age at the time of entry and the academic year in which their age changes.

For example, if your child had their 5th birthday in June, they would normally have started school the September before (when they were 4) as part of the Reception Class. They would normally move into Year 1 from the September after their 5th birthday and so would automatically join that year group if offered a place after a delayed start.

Parents will need to request that their child is admitted outside of their normal age group to Reception, rather than Year 1, if they delay their child's start. All requests for this are considered on a case by case basis, and it is not an entitlement since it is based on the ability of the school to meet this need. Parents should request this at the same time as informing us they are delaying their child's September start.

There is no guarantee that a place will be available for your child (in Year 1 or Reception) and all applications are considered according to the Admissions Policy of the school. Agreement to a request for out of year admission is not an offer of a place - just that your child would be admitted to that Year Group if a place is available.



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If your child is admitted out of age group, they remain with that year group for the rest of their time in our school. However, you may need to apply for admission out of age group again when it comes to Secondary School – this will depend on the school's own admissions policy.

How do I do this for my child? If you are thinking of doing this for your child, you must speak to us in school or write to us about your intention. If you would like to request an out of age group application to be considered, then tell us clearly in a letter and outline the educational and pastoral reasons you feel need to be taken into account.

Please do this as soon as possible to allow the Governing Body time to consider and ask any follow up questions.

Please also don't just apply (or wait) and hope for the best. It is very important to speak to us about your reasons and situation so we can be helpful and make the best possible decision for your child and the school.

The full process for applying is outlined in our Admissions Policy (Section 2.4). Please read it carefully and contact us if you need anything clarifying. The Governing Body make the decision, in consultation with the Headteacher, and their decision is final. The statutory right to appeal does not apply if a child is offered a place at the school but not in a preferred age group.

What if I change my mind afterwards? Ring us to talk about the situation. It is not an easy decision to make and has longer term impact than just the first year of schooling. It is sometimes possible to change plans, but you do need to be aware we may have a waiting list for places (either for the current admissions year or the following) and you risk losing any place offered if you withdraw your child's application at any time.

Contact details:

Please call: 01279 836006 or email: admin@allsaints.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Hatch, our Office Manager, will be able to help with all Admissions Enquiries, or you can use these contact details to make an appointment to speak to Mr Asher our Headteacher.