

Seghill First School Nursery Admissions Policy

1. Applications for a Nursery place in September 2020

Applications for Nursery places should be made directly to the school before the end of 31 January 2020 preceding admission in September 2020.

Application forms for Nursery are available from the school office and via the school website. A copy is appended to this policy.

Seghill First School has a maximum intake of 26 children per year in to Nursery.

Any parents or carers considering Seghill First School as a school for their child are encouraged to visit the school and meet with Miss Chappell, the Headteacher or Mrs Askew, Nursery teacher, by making an appointment through Mrs Elliott, the Office Manager.

All places offered will be on a part-time basis for five morning sessions each week totalling 15 hours per week. Each morning session runs from 8:45am to 11:45am.

2. Entitlement to 30 hours provision

Parents of some children will be entitled to 30 hours provision each week. As a school, we do not offer 30 hours provision for 3 year olds. You may be considering using an alternative provider for the additional 15 hours provision.

Parents eligible to 30 hours MUST reconfirm to both ourselves and the other provider by the end date stated on their eligibility code issued by HMRC. Where we are notified by the Local Authority that you have missed your reconfirmation deadline date or that you are no longer eligible, your place will enter into a grace period, as set out in Regulations 2016, determined by HMRC or a first tier tribunal in the case of an appeal. In these circumstances we will contact you about the end of your free entitlement place and you will need to confirm which provider you will be using for your child's 15 hour free entitlement. It is therefore extremely important when taking up your child's place that you are fully aware of the importance of reconfirming your eligibility code and what this means for you and your child.

3. Offers of a place in Nursery

Offers of a place will be made as soon as possible after 31 January 2020. Parents and carers are asked to complete and return a reply slip to confirm that they wish to accept the place in Nursery.

4. Transition programme

When we have received confirmation of acceptance of a place in our Nursery, we will write to you and let you know about our programme of transition events to prepare parents and children for becoming part of our school. These events include-

- initial meeting for parents and carers;
- two stay and play sessions for children and their parents;
- a teddy bears' picnic for parents and carers;

- a home visit by the Nursery teacher, Mrs Askew, during the first week in September.

5. Over subscription

If there are insufficient Nursery places to meet the number of applications, priority will be given in the following order-

1. Places will be offered firstly to Looked After Children and previously looked after children, i.e. for looked after children, children who are (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989, at the time an application for a school is made; and previously looked after children, children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the Adoption Act 1976 or Adoption and Children's Act 2002), or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
2. Places will be offered to children who have a brother or sister, including an adopted, foster, half- or step brother or sister, living at the same address who is attending Seghill First School at the time of admission.
3. Places will then be offered in cases of exceptional family, social or medical need (which must be described on the application form and verified by professionally supported evidence) which makes this school the most suitable one for the child;
4. The remaining places will be offered to children who live nearest to the school, as measured by a straight line to the nearest school gate.

These criteria are used until all the available spaces are filled, and they are then used to draw up the waiting list for the school. The distance from home to school, criterion (4), is used as a 'tie breaker' if there are more applications than places under criterion (1), (2) or (3).

Places are not offered on a 'first come, first served' basis. The offer of a Nursery place does not guarantee a place in our Reception class, for which you will have to apply separately.

6. Waiting Lists

Where parents are refused a place in Nursery, school will keep a waiting list of the names of applicants up to the start of the Autumn Term or ongoing. Children are placed on the waiting list according to the oversubscription criteria regardless of when their application was received. Within each criterion their place is ordered by shortest distance to the school measured in a straight line.

If a place becomes available it will be offered to the child at the top of the waiting list. This means a child who is on the waiting list will move down the list if another late application is received that falls within a higher priority under the oversubscription criteria.

There is no appeal procedure for parents refused a place in a Nursery class but if parents feel that they have been unfairly treated then they can go through the Schools Complaints procedure through the Governing Body.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Version control | |
| Policy reviewed | June 2019 |
| Next review date | June 2020 |