



Crest Infant School & Nursery

Policy for Admission into our Nursery Class (FS1)

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Crest Infant School Nursery class provides FS1 education to children after their third birthday. Nursery education is a non-statutory phase of education and falls outside of the Local authority admission process.

The responsibility for agreeing and implementing an admissions policy for FS1/Nursery lies with the individual school. Crest Infant School and Nursery have published this policy to ensure that families are aware of our procedures.

Children are entitled to 15 hours of education. Crest Infant School & Nursery provides this as five morning sessions or five afternoon sessions each week during school term time.

Age of Admission

- Children will not be admitted before the age of three years.
- The majority of children are admitted in the September following their third birthday. Additional children are admitted during the school year depending on the availability of places i.e. at the beginning of term 3 (January) or term 5 (April).
- Children of families newly moving to the area, who are aged over 3 years but below the age of primary admission, may be admitted immediately, or at the beginning of the next school term, if there is an available space.
- Admission allows for an appropriate settling in process, and proper transition from any setting previously attended.

Application Process

- Parents requiring a place for their child should complete the school's FS1 / Nursery application form. FS1 / Nursery application forms will be available to any parent on request
- Decisions about admissions will be taken by the headteacher.
- Where there are more applications than available places, the published over-subscription criteria will be used to determine who will be allocated places.
- Parents will be informed of the outcome of their application by 1st July, and the proposed start date will be specified at this time.
- If places remain unallocated after this process, then in-year applications will be considered in an appropriate manner by Crest Infant School & Nursery.

PLEASE NOTE: Admission to the school nursery class **does NOT** constitute admission to Crest Infant School, nor does attendance at the FS1 / Nursery class give priority to admission to the school.

Over-subscription Criteria

The over-subscription criteria for the FS1 / nursery class will be based upon the criteria used for determining admission to the primary school.

Priority will be given first to children who are Looked After / in public care.

1. **Current family association/sibling** (a brother or sister in the nursery class, or in the Infant School, at the time of entry)
1. **Child's health reasons** (for which a medical certificate may be needed)
1. **Nearness of children's homes** (with places offered to those living closest to the school by the shortest available safe walking route)

Home address

It is at the discretion of the Headteacher to determine whether a child cared for by a relative or registered childminder should be admitted on the basis of the carer's home address. However, it must be noted that for admission to the Infant School the address used must be the child's normal place of residence. (This could cause children to be moved from the school in the middle of the Foundation Stage if a different address has been used to determine admission to FS1)

Appeals Process

There is no statutory right of appeal against a decision with regard to admission to a nursery class.

Parents wishing to object to a decision concerning their application should in the first instance put their concerns to the Headteacher.

Transfer to Primary School (FS2 / Reception)

Children commence primary school in the school year in which they attain their 5th birthday. All schools offer places in the FS2 (Reception) Class to start in the September of the school year.

A parent may choose to defer their child's start at school, and may remain in a pre-school or day nursery.

It is **not** permissible for a child to remain as a FS1/Nursery pupil, as children on the roll of a school must be registered with the correct year group.

Consequently, all places in FS1 (Nursery) classes will finish at the end of term 6 (July) prior to the start of the FS2/Reception year.

Advice and guidance

Schools and parents may contact the early years and childcare service for advice and guidance on any aspect of nursery education – **01634 335566**

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