



Policy for Nursery Admissions

2025-26



EARLEY ST. PETER'S NURSERY

ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025 - 2026

THERE ARE SEPARATE ADMISSIONS POLICIES FOR THE NURSERY AND FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Please note:

- **Separate applications are required for Earley St. Peter's Nursery and for Earley St. Peter's C.E. Primary School**
- **A successful application for Earley St. Peter's Nursery does NOT guarantee a successful application to Earley St. Peter's C.E. Primary School**
- **Offers of a place in the Nursery will be sent in writing**

APPLICATION

Application must be made by completing the appropriate form obtained from the School Secretary or downloaded from the school's website.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

1. Children will normally be admitted to the Nursery at the beginning of the academic year after they turn three years old. If the child is born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 they will join Nursery in September 2025.
2. The Nursery can offer 26 morning spaces (15 hours) and 26 afternoon spaces (15 hours) some of which can be offered as full time (30 hours) places when children attend both morning and afternoon.

Children will be entitled to attend for a maximum free entitlement of 15 hours per week or 30 hours per week, depending on the parents' circumstances. For 15 to 30 hours free childcare per week proof of entitlement will be required before attendance at Nursery can begin, and at the start of each subsequent term if attendance is to continue. Children attending for 15 hours per week will attend five morning sessions or five afternoon sessions.

Session times are:

Morning: 8.30 am – 11.30 am

Afternoon: 12.30 pm – 3.30 pm

The Nursery sessions and times may be adjusted and a minimum of one term's notice in writing will normally be given.

3. Parents of children allocated a place for 30 hours per week will be offered the opportunity to buy into a lunchtime club for the time between the morning and afternoon sessions. Lunchtime club sessions will be charged on a half termly basis, to be paid in advance. Lunchtime club charges will be payable regardless of whether the child attends their Nursery session. A notice period of half a term is required if the lunchtime club place is no longer needed.
4. Children will be expected to attend regularly. The Governors reserve the right to withdraw a place if a child is frequently absent or is absent for an extended period without a good reason. Places may be held open in exceptional circumstances such as a long period of hospitalisation.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

1. Completed Nursery application forms must be returned to the School office by:

31 January 2025 for admission in September 2025

2. The Governors' Admissions Panel will meet to consider the information on each application form before allocating the available places, according to the Admissions

Criteria. Applications for 15 hours per week, those for 30 hours per week and those for fewer hours per week will be treated equally. Within the admissions criteria, should the need arise, priority will be given to those children living closest to the Nursery. Distances will be measured using a computerized mapping system. The distance is measured as a straight line between the respective home address and the nursery entrance at the time of the application. In the event of identical or equidistant addresses, random allocation will be used to decide which child will be allocated the remaining place(s). This will be by supervised drawing of lots, carried out in the presence of a person independent of the Nursery.

3. All offers of places will be made in writing.
4. All offers of places must be accepted within 14 days of the offer being made.
5. A Parent who refuses a place must re-apply if their child is to be considered for a place in future.
6. Applications at other times of the year, late applications or transfers from other nurseries will be considered by the Governors and a place offered if a vacancy exists.
7. A Waiting List will be kept by the Nursery for unsuccessful applicants. Places will be offered from the Waiting List, if a vacancy occurs, in category and distance order (see 'Admissions Criteria').
8. A Parent whose application is unsuccessful has no statutory right of appeal but may ask the Governors' Admissions (Personnel) Committee formally to reconsider the application.

9. If there are spaces in the Nursery and no applications on the waiting list
parents may be offered the opportunity to buy additional hours of attendance
at the then current rate.

Earley St. Peter's Nursery is an Equal Opportunities establishment and all applications will be given equal consideration within the Governors' Admissions Policy.

Following the allocation of a place parents will be asked to provide the child's birth certificate or another acceptable form of identity such as a passport.

The right is also reserved to verify any of the information, including home address, given on the application form.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming Earley St. Peter's Nursery in the Plan or Statement will always be admitted.

When completing the Nursery Application Form, parents should decide under which of the following five categories (other than for children with a statement or EHCP naming the Nursery) they wish to apply.

In the event of there being a greater demand for admission than there are places available, the following over subscription criteria will be applied in the order set out below.

Category One: Looked-after children and children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because, immediately after being looked after they became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order.

Category Two: Children who have a sibling on the roll of the school at the time of application or whose parent has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.

Category Three: Children living in one of the roads listed below.

Category Four: Children living in the Wokingham Borough Council part of Earley (these are roads in the administrative area of Earley as listed by Earley Town Council), but not in one of the roads listed below. **(Children living in the Reading Borough Council part of Earley are not included in this category)**

Clarification can be sought by viewing the Earley Town Guide published

by Earley Town Council.

Category Five: Any other children whose parent wishes them to attend Earley St Peter's Nursery.

List of roads in Category Two:

Anderson Avenue	Barrington Close
Blackthorn Close	Byron Road
Chiltern Crescent (including Bridges Grove)	Church Road (both sides excluding no.74 and odd nos. 1 – 67)
Courts Road	Culver Lane
Delamere Road	Eastcourt Avenue
Erleigh Court Drive	Erleigh Court Gardens
Fairview Avenue	Gardner Place
Gladridge Close	High Tree Drive
Hilltop Road	Hitch Hill Close
London Road (South Side nos. 228 to 404 only)	Mays Close
Mays Gate	Mays Lane
Milton Road	Nuthatch Drive
Oldfield Close	Palmerstone Road
Pitts Lane	Pocket Place
Sidmouth Grange Close	Sidmouth Grange Road

Stanton Close	Station Road (no 4, Corner House, No 5, Tudor Cottage, No 7, The Haven, No 9 Flats 1-5 and No 9, The Willows
Sutton Court	The Drive
Whitegates Lane	Wokingham Road (North Side nos. 197 to 301 only)

Terms used are as defined below:

Looked After Children

"Looked after" means a child in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of its social services function. An adoption order is one made under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46). A "child arrangements order" is one settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live (Children Act 1989, Section 8, as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 14). A "special guardianship order" is one appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian/s (Children Act 1989, Section 14A). Applications under this criterion must be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (e.g. a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order).