

**PROPOSED
ADMISSION POLICY FOR
COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASSES**

The North Tyneside proposed Admissions Policy has been formally adopted by the Governing Bodies of Trust, First and Primary Schools and Grasmere Academy.

Applications for nursery places should be made directly to the school before the end of January preceding admission in September. Offers of place will be made as soon as possible after this date.

The LA provides nursery education to three year olds and four year olds leading up to their statutory school starting age.

In accordance with the Education Act 1996, children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs are required to be admitted to the school named in the statement. Thereafter the following oversubscription criteria will apply.

Oversubscription Criteria

1. Looked after children in the care of a local authority or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. **See Note 1 below.**
2. Pupils who live within the catchment area of the nursery school/class (pupils in this category with a sibling link (an older brother or sister) who will be attending the school in September 2014 will be given priority.
3. Sibling link (an older brother or sister) to include adoptive siblings, half siblings, step siblings and long term fostered children residing at the same address and who will be attending the nursery school/class in September 2014.
4. Shortest distance measured as a straight line from a single fixed central point of the home address (including flats) to the central point of the nursery school/class using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer and the Council's Geographical Information System (GIS) system.

N.B The above distance measurement will also be used as a 'tiebreaker' within each criterion, if necessary.

NOTE 1

A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a local authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time the application for admission to school is made and whom the local authority has confirmed will still be looked after at the date of admission.

An **adoption order** is an order made under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002

A **residence order** is an order outlining the arrangements as to the person with whom the child will live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989

It should be noted that places in a nursery school or nursery class should be on a part- time basis (5 mornings or 5 afternoon sessions per week) and this will be the maximum amount of funding allocated. One nursery session is based on three hours in length.

Full time places can only be agreed in exceptional circumstances and in agreement with the Head of Access and Inclusion.

Waiting Lists

Where parents are refused a place schools 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, from a single fixed central point of the home address (including flats) to the central point of the school using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer and the Council's Geographical Information System (GIS), with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority.

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 school/class but if parents feel that they have been unfairly treated then they can go through the Schools Complaints procedure through the Governing Body.