



Nursery Admission and Funded Criteria Policy

We are an inclusive nursery, welcoming children from all backgrounds and abilities.

- The only restriction we have to place on entry is that of numbers. If the number of children applying for entry exceeds the places available, we will adopt the criteria set out below to determine whether a child is to be accepted or not. It is our wish for parents to find a place for their child at the nursery of their choice. However, this is not always possible due to excess demand on the places available.
- Parents interested in a nursery place for their child should complete a Newdale nursery expression of interest form.
- Expression of Interest forms will be held on file and looked at 6 – 8 weeks before the end of each term. Parents will be notified shortly after if they are successful in gaining a place. Places **are not** allocated on a first come first served basis.
- Children who **presently attend** the nursery will be guaranteed the universal offer of 15hrs the term after their 3rd birthday, if they access any additional hours these will also be guaranteed. We will try, however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to accommodate the additional 15 hour session requests (30 hour funding) to children who qualify. This will be looked at during the term before your child qualifies for funding.
- From April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds have been able to access 15 hours childcare and from September 2025 this will become 30 hours. We will try, however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to accommodate the additional 15 hours.
- Where availability is limited, the nursery will implement the admissions criteria policy to allocate sessions.

Admissions Criteria:

The following priority order will be applied:

1. **Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children who reside within the school defined attendance area.**
2. **Children who have a sibling/s who attend Newdale Primary School and Nursery and who reside within the school defined attendance area.**
3. **Children who live in the school/nursery defined attendance area.**
4. **Children with a sibling/s in school that live outside of the defined attendance area.**
5. **Any places which remain available will then be allocated to applicants from outside the school's defined attendance area.**