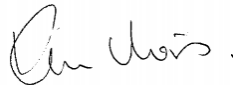


Meriden C of E Primary School



Nursery/FS1 Admission Policy

Approved by Full Governing Body	October 2020		
Signature of Chair		Date	October 2020
Review Cycle	Annual	Review Date	October 2021

Meriden C of E Primary School admits children in the 3 – 11 years age range. The school's admission number for nursery is 26. Children are usually admitted at the start of the school year (September) in which they become four.

Applications for Reception/FS2 are handled by through Solihull Local Authority's Admissions Service. Applications for Nursery/FS1 are handled by the school.

An application form for a school Nursery /FS1 place can be found on the school website www.meridenceprimaryschool.co.uk . Completed applications must be returned to school by 31st January. The school will send a confirmation email on receipt of the application. Offer letters will be sent on 1st March.

All applications received will be considered together at one time. Where applications are lower than the school's admission number, all applicants will be admitted. If the admission number is exceeded in any one academic year the governors will apply the following criteria, giving priority as follows:

- Priority 1** - Looked after children and previously looked after children who are now adopted or subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order
- Priority 2** – Children with an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan) which has named the school
- Priority 3** - Children who normally live in the catchment area of the school and who would have a brother or sister at the school at the time they start school
- Priority 4** - Children who normally live in the catchment area of the school
- Priority 5** - Children who live outside the catchment area and have a brother or sister at the school at the time they start school
- Priority 6** - Other children, whose home is closest to school, measured in a straight line

Definitions:

The address for admission purposes will be the one where the child spends (i.e. sleeps) the majority of the school week. If exactly equal amounts of time are spent at the two addresses, it is for the parents to decide which will be the address for admission purposes. Where a child lives with two

parents at separate addresses, the home address is the place where the child is permanently resident with his or her parents. If care is shared between two parents, you will need to provide a copy of the court order defining the arrangement. In the absence of a court order, we will use the address of the parent who is in receipt of the child benefit.

The distance will be measured from a child's home to the school according to the measurement system; closest being offered first. In the event of a tie, the place will be determined by random allocation.

The Governors of Meriden CE Primary School have a duty to admit any child with an Educational Health Care Plan that names this school. Any such admission will reduce the number of places available to other applicants.

The criteria are applied with regard to Equal Opportunities and without reference to a child's abilities or aptitudes.

Children within Local Authority care as defined in Section 22 of the Children's Act 1989, for example children in residential homes or foster care, and also children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption & Children's Act 2002) or because they became subject to a residency order or special guardianship order (under the terms of the Children's Act 1989).

A brother or sister must live at the same address and could be:

- a brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- a half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one parent; a stepbrother or stepsister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage or civil partnership (a formal arrangement that gives same-sex couples the same legal status as married couples);
- the separate children of a couple who live together; or
- an adopted or fostered brother or sister.

The offer – September Nursery/FS1 entry

Offers will be made directly by the school on 1st March. Parents/guardians will be required to accept or decline the offer by a specified date. If places then become available as they have been declined, they will be released to children whose applications were initially unsuccessful.

Unsuccessful applications

Parents/guardians will be informed if they have been unsuccessful in obtaining a place for their child. This letter will inform parents/guardians that they have the right of appeal. The names of children not offered a place in Nursery/FS1 will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list for Nursery/FS1 will be held by the school until the end of the Autumn term. Should places become available, offers will be made in accordance with the admissions criteria detailed in the policy.

Appeals process

It must be noted that there is no right of appeal for Nursery/FS1 places, as Nursery education is not statutory.

Admission during the school year

An application for admission during the school year can be made at any point.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the school so that they can make an informed choice about whether the school is right for their child. Applications should be made on the FS1 application form and returned directly to the school.

The Governors will consider each application; if the number in the year group is lower than the admission number, a place will be offered.

Where the year group is oversubscribed, the Governors can refuse admission even if the child is within the catchment area. There is no right of appeal for Nursery/FS1 places, as Nursery education is not statutory.

The Governors of Meriden C of E Primary School comply with Equal Opportunities legislation and the Fair Access Protocol operated by Solihull Local Authority.