Heronshaw Nursery – Admissions Criteria

Introduction

Heronshaw Nursery is a maintained nursery class following Milton Keynes Local Authority guidance. On joining us, your child will immediately feel part of our school community. The experienced and caring staff will work with you to settle your child quickly and will regularly update you on how they are getting on.

The Nursery Class and Reception Class teachers work closely together, to ensure that all our Early Years children receive the support they need, and progress well.

The purpose-built Early Years classrooms are light and bright, and equipped with everything children need to extend their learning with plenty of activities always available for the children to explore both inside and outside.

Resources are made accessible in order that children can make their own choices and the displays and creative areas are developed to enhance children's interests.

At Heronshaw Nursery we concentrate very much on the important processes of learning and recognise that because children are unique they will learn at different times and different rates. Early learning takes place in all areas of our nursery school and is shaped by the Characteristics of Effective Learning and the Prime and Specific areas of Learning and Development within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS 2017).

Age Range & Entitlement

We offer places for children aged 3–4 years including 15 and 30 funded hours.

3. Admissions Authority

The IFTL Board of Trustees is the admissions authority for Heronshaw Nursery. We work closely with the Local Authority (LA), as required by the Department for Education (DfE), to co–ordinate

the admission arrangements and identify children eligible for funding. Heronshaw Nursery communicates all admissions decisions to parents/carers.

4. Admission Numbers/ Infant Class Size Legislation

The square meter size of the Nursery classroom allows the school capacity for 16 children aged 3–4 at any one time. Heronshaw Nursery will accept applications for any child, aged three–four.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Attendance at our nursery does not guarantee a place at the school in Year R, parents must apply for their child's reception school place through Milton Keynes School Admissions.

4. Admission Points

September, January, April intakes with LA-aligned deadlines.

5. Application Process for Nursery

To register interest in your child attending Heronshaw Nursery please complete an online registration form which is available on our website; Nursery - Heronshaw School

The 3 school terms are identified as blocks for funding purposes.

Block 1 is Summer Term

Block 2 is Autumn Term

Block 3 is Spring Term

Parents must ensure all admissions form, parental contracts and validity codes for funding are completed by the following deadlines:

Block 1 is 31st March

Block 2 is 31st August

Block 3 is 31st December

Once a completed application is received, your child will be added to the relevant waiting list.

If, however, the Nursery is oversubscribed, the application will be declined and parents may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list. **As the number of places available is set by official bodies, including Ofsted, we are duty bound by staff to child ratios and there is no right to appeal a place.**

6. Oversubscription criteria

When allocating a place at Heronshaw Nursery we follow a criteria which is set out below. Please note the criteria does not include when you registered.

Priority Criteria

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.
2. Children of staff at the school. Priority will be given to children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances: a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
3. A sibling at the school who is expected to be on roll at the school at the time of admission and the place of residence is within catchment of the school
4. The child's place of residence is within catchment area of the school and there is no sibling on roll at the school
5. There is already a sibling on roll at the school at the time of admission and the place of residence is outside of the catchment area
6. Other

Note.

1. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

2. A sibling is defined as a birth sibling and also includes step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently at the same address.

3. Distance − Priority will be given to those living closest to the school using distance between the child's home address and the school's main entrance, measured in a straight line by a computerised system. If two applicants live exactly the same distance from the school, random allocation will be used as the ultimate tie−breaker.

6. Funding Requirements

Upon receiving a place at Heronshaw Nursery parents must provide funding codes and documentation.

7. Waiting List

Places allocated using the same priority order. If the Nursery receives more applications for places than there are places available, your child can be added to a waiting list which will be maintained by the School Office following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

Heronshaw Nursery do not disclose numbers on the waiting list due to complying with the oversubscription criteria.