

Admissions Policy

School Admissions

It is the aim of Rothbury First School to admit all children whose parents/carers wish them to attend whenever space is available. The catchment area for Rothbury First School is defined as Rothbury, Whitton and Tosson, Ewesley, Netherwitton, Brinkburn and Cartington.

Admissions for Reception, and transfers from other schools, are co-ordinated by the Local Authority. Parents/carers who wish their children to attend this school should apply via the Northumberland County Council School Admissions Team. Your child is eligible to start Reception in the September after his/her fourth birthday. Parents/carers should apply for a Reception place at Rothbury First School in the Autumn Term prior to this.

Details of how to apply can be found on the Northumberland County Council's webpages under School Admissions: www.northumberland.gov.uk

Nursery Admissions

Admissions for our 26-place Nursery are decided by the school. Please complete an application form which can be requested from the school office, and return it to the school office.

Our Nursery sessions last 3 hours and run from 08:50 to 11:50 during term time when school is open. We assume that once a place has been accepted, children will attend for every session allocated. The maximum available hours are 15, these are funded by the Local Authority in accordance with the Northumberland County Council Local Code of Practice Early Years Funded Entitlement for Two, Three and Four Year Old Education.

Places in Nursery may be offered to children from the beginning of the term after their third birthday and until the end of the school year in which they have their fourth birthday. Nursery places are offered according to whether a child is N2 or N1.

- N2 children are those who have their fourth birthday during the current academic year and therefore will be eligible for Reception in the next academic year.
- N1 children are those who have their third birthday between September 1st and March 31st of the current academic year and therefore will be N2 in the next academic year.
- Children who have their third birthday between April 1st and August 31st of the current academic year will go straight into N2 in the next academic year.

The Nursery currently has three admission points coinciding with the start of the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms respectively. The admission arrangements for these are as follows:

Admission at the start of the Autumn Term:

N2 children will be offered 15 hours, ie: 5 daily sessions. We are able to offer spaces to accommodate 26 children per day. The spaces offered will be for the full academic year.

Admission at the start of the Spring Term:

If there is space in the Nursery, places will be offered as follows:

N2 children requesting a place will be offered 15 hours or pro-rata depending on available space. Any remaining available hours will be offered to N1 eligible children (those born September 1st to December 31st). Applications should be made by the end of September and places will be offered by the end of October.

If the number of applications exceeds the number of available places, then places will be offered to children in the order of their date of birth.

Admission at the start of the Summer Term:

If there is space in the Nursery, places will be offered as follows:

N2 children requesting a place will be offered 15 hours or pro-rata depending on available space.

Any remaining available hours will be offered to N1 eligible children (those born January 1st to March 31st). Applications should be made by the end of January and places will be offered by the end of February.

If the number of applications exceeds the number of available places, then places will be offered to children in the order of their date of birth.

Please note that the offer of a place in the school Nursery does not guarantee a place in the Reception class. All applications to Reception must be made via the Local Authority.

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