

## **Admission to School- Marine Park First School**

### **Admission Arrangements for the Nursery Classes attached to Marine Park First School**

The school follows the admission arrangements as set out in the North Tyneside Essential Guide:

<http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Essential%20Guide%202018.pdf>

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. In the Whitley Bay Collaborative, all Nursery offers are sent out on the same date.

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

Where demand for places exceeds the number of places available, the following admission arrangements are used to decide which children will be admitted to the nursery:

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, child arrangements or special guardianship order. See definitions 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 2018 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 2018.
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. In the case of flats if there is more than one home address with the same measurement the flat with the lowest number will be offered the place. In all other cases of the same measurement, random allocation will be used.

Definitions:

A 'Looked After' Child

A 'Looked After' child is a child who is in the care of a Local Authority or provided with accommodation by an Authority (this does not include Voluntary Care) see definition in Section 22 (1) of the Children Act. We give 'Looked After' children priority in our oversubscription criteria. This means that when a place becomes available in the school year it can be offered to these children to ensure that they are quickly placed in an appropriate school. It is a statutory requirement that Admission Authorities give top priority to 'Looked After' children or children that were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements order or special guardianship order in their oversubscription criteria.

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

A 'child arrangements 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.

Section 14A of the Childrens Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

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 Commissioning and Fair Access.

### **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.

**\*\* Parents should note that attendance at a nursery or co-located children's centre does not guarantee admission to the school.**

**When your child reaches First/Primary school age you MUST make an application for your child to attend the reception class.**

### **30 Hour Offer**

From 1st September 2017 eligible working parents of 3 and 4 year olds can claim up to 30 hours of 'free' childcare a week for 38 weeks.

Families can check if they are eligible for the 30 hours entitlement using the Government's Childcare Choices website Parents must have registered with Childcare Choices the term before they want to take up their 30 hour entitlement. Parents can use their 30 hours at a range of high quality childcare providers in North Tyneside. See North Tyneside Council's childcare webpage for more information or contact your preferred provider. Eligible parents will receive a 30 hours code that they take to their childcare provider to arrange their place.

### **Admission Arrangements for Reception classes at Marine Park First School**

<http://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Essential%20Guide%202018.pdf>

### **Admission to Marine Park at other times**

The school is popular and has very few places. The school and Local Authority Admissions team work in partnership to respond to any enquiries about admissions at other times (often referred to as casual admissions).

Please contact the 'Access Team' on 0191 643 8723 or the Ms. Ramsay in the school office on 01912008723