

## Nursery Admissions Policy

Document control			
Author	Tara Penny	Approved by	Suzie Stevens
Approved date		Next Review	
Published		Policy Type	Trust / Statutory
Review Period			
Version	<i>Date issued</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Update information</i>
V1.0 DRAFT	15.02.22	Tara Penny	First draft version

As an academy the Trust is the admission authority and has responsibility for setting these admission arrangements and for making decisions regarding admissions applications. Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust schools set their own oversubscription criteria.

### 1. The Ethos of North Tawton Community School and Nursery

**To provide a happy, caring and stimulating learning environment in which all members of the school are valued and reach their full potential:**

- To encourage an active partnership between staff, children, parents, governors, and the community
- To provide a broad, balanced curriculum through which all children can reach their full potential
- To encourage children to develop their confidence and self-esteem so that they become caring, well-balanced individuals
- To enable and encourage children to be autonomous, independent learners
- To develop respect for their learning environment and the world in which they live

### 2. Early Years Funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds

- 2.1. All three- and four-year-olds are entitled to a funded early years place for 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year. Some children, whose parents are working, will be entitled to 1140 hours a year.
- 2.2. Some two-year-olds are eligible for a funded place in provision that Devon County Council has approved as being good or better quality. Our nursery and foundation stage unit (FSU) is an approved provider and can admit two-year-olds from the start of the funding period following their second birthday.
- 2.3. **If you are not sure whether you can get a funded place for your two-year-old, you should [check here](#).**

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Would you like:

- ☒ to give your child a head start?
- ☒ to be able to go back to work?
- ☒ to give your child high quality learning and care?
- ☒ to have some time for yourself?

Check out if your 2-year-old can get 15 hours of childcare per week at a preschool, childminder or nursery - **and at no cost to you!**

Visit: [devon.cc/tyf](https://devon.cc/tyf)  
Call: **0345 155 1013**



You can also check if your child can have a free meal if they go to a nursery in a school!

For further information and terms and conditions visit:

[devon.cc/childcaretyf](https://devon.cc/childcaretyf)

From the Early Years and Childcare team



- 2.4.** We expect to admit children that will be using their Early Years Funding as well as children whose parents are buying additional hours and those that are both funded and buying hours. There may be some children who are only attending for bought hours and some that only attend for funded hours. The maximum amount of funded time that can be taken in a day is 10 hours; parents cannot use more than two sites for funded early years places in one day.

### **3. Admissions to the nursery/preschools within Dartmoor Multi Academy trust**

#### **3.1. North Tawton Primary, Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust admits:**

- Eligible two-year-olds funded from the start of the funding period following their second birthday.
- Eligible two-year-olds funded as rising three-year-olds at the start of the term in which they have their third birthday.
- Eligible three-year olds that meet the criteria for two-year-old funding
- Non-funded two-year-olds from the start of the term following their second birthday.



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- Non-funded two-year-olds as rising three-year-olds at the start of the term in which they have their third birthday.
- Early Years funded three- and four-year-olds from the start of the funding period following their third birthday.
- Non-funded three- and four-year-olds from the start of term following their third birthday.


### 4. Points of Admission to nursery/preschool

- 4.1. Generally, children will start at nursery/preschool at the beginning of a term. Eligibility for the Early Years Funding for two-year-olds is from the start of the funding period following a child's second birthday and eligibility for all three-years-olds to receive the Early Years Funding is at the start of the funding period following their third birthday. This funding will be paid up until the time when the child reaches statutory school age and if the parent chooses to defer or delay entry into school.
- 4.2. There is a legal requirement that all children begin full time education by the beginning of the term following their **fifth** birthday. All places offered in reception at the normal round are for **full-time admission** in the September following the **fourth** birthday. This is a legal requirement on schools but not on parents who retain a right to defer admission or send their child part time.

### 5. Patterns of attendance available

- 5.1. We are required to offer the Early Years Funding in a flexible way. Our Trust schools makes a core offer for the **universal** 570-hour entitlement of:
- Morning sessions of 8.45am to 11.45pm or 8.45am to 12.45pm including lunchtime
  - Afternoon sessions of 12.45pm to 3.15pm or 11.45 to 3.15 including lunchtime
  - All day sessions of 8.45am to 3.15pm during term time only.
- 5.2. Our all year-round offer is 38 weeks a year.
- 5.3. If you choose a session which includes the lunchtime period that is 11.45 – 12.45pm. This time is part of the day when children continue their learning and will be funded as part of the Early Years Funding.

### 6. Extended Hours

- 6.1. Families that have an 11-digit code because they are working and eligible for the **extended entitlement** can have up to 1140 hours stretched across a year. This equates to 30 hours a week over 38 weeks of the year. NB: some families may attend more than one provider and want to stretch the entitlement across the year in one and take some during term time in another.
- 6.2. If parents want to buy additional hours on top of the 15 funded hours or the extended entitlement, they can do this during any of our opening times.
- 6.3. Families that require a longer day than we can offer should contact the providers that we partner with; details are available on [Pinpoint](#)
- 6.4. The table below sets out our session times. When applying for a place please use the  [Nursery Application Form DCAF-0 2022.docx](#) and tell us what sessions you need on the

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[Parent Declaration Form](#). We only consider requests for sessions AFTER the oversubscription criteria have been applied.

Session choices	Hours
8.45am – 11.45am	3
8.45am – 12.45pm	4
11.45 – 3.15pm	3.5
12.45pm – 3.15pm	2.5
8.45am – 3.15pm	6.5

- 6.5.** Parents wishing to use their 15 funded hours during term times only with us need to choose sessions carefully so that they can access the full 15 hours

### **7. Charging**

- 7.1.** There is no charge for applying for a place, for admission or for the provision of the funded entitlements. We will not request donations before or during the admissions process and any donations made to the school following admission are entirely voluntary. No bought activities, such as visits, are compulsory.
- 7.2.** The school must comply with Devon County Councils [Provider Agreement](#). Details about buying additional sessions/hours in the nursery/preschool are set out in the schools **Charging and Remissions Policy** [Dmat charging and remission policy](#)

### **8. Childcare Vouchers and Tax-Free Childcare**

- 8.1.** Our Trust accepts Fideliti, Child Free Tax Care and Edenred childcare vouchers
- 8.2.** Our schools are [registered](#) for [tax free childcare](#) parents can apply through [Childcare Choices this helps make childcare more affordable](#).

### **9. School Lunches**


- 9.1** [Free school meals](#) (FSM) are provided for children (whose parents meet the [eligibility criteria](#)) and if their child attends the lunch time period. A free school meal will be provided whether the child is attending for funded or bought time and regardless of their age. Parents must check eligibility through the [Citizens Portal](#).
- 9.1.** Children who do not meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals are offered the opportunity to either buy a school lunch or bring a packed lunch.

### **10. Visiting**


- 10.1.** We welcome visits from families who are considering applying for a place here. This is an opportunity for you to see what we have to offer. Visits are not a compulsory part of the admissions process and will not affect decisions on whether a place can be offered at our

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nursery/preschool. If you would like to visit our school, you should contact the school to make an appointment.

- 10.2.** We offer stay and play and taster sessions in the nursery, and we host a Little Seedlings baby group who meet on a Tuesday morning 9am – 11am
- 10.3.** Most children will start at the nursery/preschool at the start of the term. Other children join us at other times. This may be because they are new to the area or would like to transfer from another early year's provider.
- 10.4.** To apply for a place here you must use  [Nursery Application Form DCAF-0 2022.docx](#) [Parent Declaration Form](#) .
- 10.5.** Places are not allocated to a child automatically, even where:
- there is an older sibling attending here;
  - a child attends a particular toddler group or Children's Centre attached to the school.
  - a parent has expressed an interest at any time in the school; or
  - the child has always lived close to the school.
- 10.6.** No places will be held in reserve for a child who applies late; the school cannot hold places empty if another child applies for admission. We will publicise the need to apply on our website but the responsibility for making an application will be with the parent.

### 11. How to apply for a nursery place

- 11.1.** Parents must complete both the  [Nursery Application Form DCAF-0 2022.docx](#) and the [Parent Declaration Form](#) and return it to the school.

### 12. Information provided in an application

- 12.1.** We would like all applications to be fully and honestly completed. It is important that where we offer places to some and refuse others we do so fairly and consistently. Where we have reason to believe that information is false and has been provided knowingly, we may withdraw the offer of a place.
- 12.2.** If you know or believe that your child's address will change before admission, you must inform the school as this may affect your application.
- 12.3.** You will be asked to provide date of birth evidence so we can check your child's age.

### 13. What happens next

- 13.1.** If there are fewer applications than places, then no application will be refused. Only if there are more applications than there are places available will the governing body/ trustees prioritise applications according to the oversubscription criteria.
- 13.2.** We will endeavour to give the hours requested on the Parent Declaration Form. It is inevitable, however, that some parents who have been prioritised will not be able to access the hours they have requested. In these instances, we will offer times (days/hours/weeks) that fall closest to the hours requested.

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- 13.3.** We will contact successful parents to welcome them to the nursery/preschool and to make arrangements for admission itself. You will also be contacted if we do not have a place available so that you can apply to another provider.

### **14. Published Nursery Admissions Number (PNAN)**

- 14.1.** This is the number of places we intend to make available for our normal nursery/preschool intake. Once we set this number, we will not refuse admission for applications below the PNAN. If there is unexpectedly high demand and we believe we could admit more children, we inform Devon County Council's Early Years and Childcare Team and either some children will be admitted above the PNAN or we will increase the PNAN. The number of children that can be admitted will depend on their age, the amount of floor space we have and whether additional staff will be required.
- 14.2.** The governing body/ trustees also factor in the local demand for places. If there is a change to the PNAN part way through the year this will be published on the school website.
- 14.3.** If there is an increase in the demand for places the governors/trustees may decide to increase the PNAN in order to accommodate children on the waiting list and conversely reduce the PNAN if there is a very low demand.
- 14.4.** The table below sets out our Published Nursery Admissions Number (PNAN) for **2021 – 2022**

Our Nursery space is 52 square meters

<b>The maximum number of 3 and 4-year-old children that will be admitted at any one time:</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>The maximum number of 2-year-old children that will be admitted at any one time:</b>	<b>3</b>

- 14.5.** Where the number of applications exceeds the number of places available the trustees/governing body will use the following oversubscription criteria to prioritise applications for both funded and bought hours:

Where the number of applications exceeds the number of places available the (Published Nursery Admissions Number) in the nursery/preschool the governing body will use the following **oversubscription criteria** to prioritise applications for both funded and bought hours:

A child with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school will be admitted.

1. Looked after Children or those who were Looked After but ceased to be because they were adopted, made the subject of a child arrangements order or made the subject of a special guardianship order.
2. Children with an exceptional medical or social need to attend this nursery.
3. Children who live in the designated area and are eligible for two-year-old funding.  
[Check your eligibility for two-year-old funding and free school meals in the nursery](#)
4. Children who live in the school's designated area who have a sibling at the school.






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5. All other children who live in the designated area.
6. Children who live outside of the designated area with a sibling at the school.
7. Children who live outside the designated area who are eligible for the early years funding for two-year-olds.
8. Other children.

### 15. Waiting lists

- 15.1. Following the allocation of nursery/preschool places the school will retain a waiting list. Waiting lists will be kept in order of the oversubscription criteria above. Places on lists will not be prioritised according to how long a child's name has been on that list or by the age of the child or by whether the sessions are funded or bought. It is possible that a child's name could go down on a list as well as up.
- 15.2. If a place is only available for a short period of time, i.e. half a term or less, then the school will discuss with the parent whether it would be in the child's best interest to attend the nursery/preschool for such a short period of time before having to find a place at another provider. Continuity and consistency of care is most important in the early years and having lots of transitions can be disruptive for a child.
- 15.3. Parents with children that are not due to start within the next two terms, will be asked to complete a  [Note of Interest for a Nursery Place 2022.docx](#) and told when they should apply.

### 16. Increasing the hours attended

- 16.1. If a place/session becomes available part way through a term and there is a waiting list, priority for the place/session will be given to the children on the waiting list. If the parents on the waiting list do not want the sessions at the times that are available, then they can be offered to parents of children who are already attending the nursery/preschool. Similarly, if there is not a waiting list and there are parents of children that already attend the nursery/preschool who want to either take up additional funded hours and/or buy extra hours then a list of those parents will be made, and the oversubscription criteria will be applied to determine who should be given priority for that place.

### 17. Admissions appeals

- 17.1. If a nursery/preschool place is refused, parents can go through the Trust's complaints process [here](#) to express their concerns. The governing body/trustees will review the decision and decide whether the refusal was justified on the grounds that the nursery is full. Even if it is agreed that the nursery/preschool was full, it will also consider the impact on the child and family and may still award a place at the nursery/preschool if there is both the physical space and sufficient staff available.

### 18. Transport

- 18.1. No transport is available for nursery children.

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### 19. Uniform

- 19.1. Children attending North Tawton Pre School and Nursery are not expected to wear a uniform.

### 20. Claiming the Early Years Funding

- 20.1. The Early Years Funding can be taken at more than one provider; parents cannot use providers on more than two sites in one day. The provider claims the funding on your behalf.
- 20.2. It is important that both the school and parent can see what time is funded and what time is being bought.
- 20.3. Parents must not claim more than the 570 or 1140-hour entitlement, checks are carried out to ensure that over claims are not made.

### 21. Changes to attendance

- 21.1. Changes to the times when a child is attending will generally only be agreed to take effect from the start of a term. The oversubscription criteria will be applied to both a) and b) below to determine within each group which children should be given priority. Order of priority for the consideration of unfilled places.

- a) New applications from parents whose children do not yet attend the nursery.
- b) Requests by parents whose children attend the nursery, and they want to increase OR change the times their child attends

- 21.2. It is expected that parents will ensure that their child will attend at the times agreed so that children can establish a routine and be ready to start school.

### 22. Induction and transition arrangements for starting nursery/preschool

- 22.1. New children are welcome to start for the full amount of agreed time at the start of term if you so wish, we can offer stay and play and a staggered start if this will help your child settle.

### 23. Contacts and further information

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