



Sharow CE Primary School Nursery Admissions Policy

Approved by:	Full Governing Body	Date: March 2026
Michael Paul Chair of Governors		
Last reviewed on:	March 2026	
Next review due by:	Spring 2027	

Applying for a place

The responsibility for determining the admissions for Nursery age children lies with the Governing Body of the school. The Governing Body has delegated this responsibility to the Headteacher, Early Years Teacher and Administrator.

Parents can request a nursery admissions pack by contacting the School Office.

All governing bodies are required to admit to the school a child with a statement of special needs that names the school. This is not an oversubscription criterion. This relates only to children who have undergone statutory assessment and for whom a final statement of special educational needs (SEN) or Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) has been issued.

Where the number of applications exceeds the number of places the Governing Body will use the following oversubscription criteria to prioritise applications.

ORDER OF PRIORITY:	<i>Notes</i>
<p>First priority: Looked after children and all previously looked after children for whom the school has been expressed as a preference. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted¹ or became subject to a child arrangement order² or special guardianship order.</p>	<p>This applies to all looked-after children, including those who are in the care of another local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services function at the time of making an application.</p> <p>Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order. In the case of previously looked after children, a copy of the relevant documentation will be required in support of the application. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 and children who were adopted under the Adopted &</p>



	<p>Children's Act 2002. Child Arrangements Orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a Child Arrangements Order.</p> <p>A child is regarded as being in state care outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.</p>
<p><u>Second priority:</u> Children the authority considers have special social or medical reasons for admission.</p>	<p>We will only consider applications on social or medical grounds if they are supported by a professional recommendation from a doctor, social worker, or other appropriate professional. The supporting evidence should set out the particular social or medical reason(s) why the school in question is the only school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.</p>
<p><u>Third priority:</u> Children living within the normal area of the school.</p>	<p>Find out about catchment areas here.</p> <p>If a school is oversubscribed, priority will be given to a sibling at that school in the September of the younger sibling's entry, and then to those living nearest the school.</p> <p>In all cases, "sibling" refers to brother or sister, half-brother or half-sister, step brother or step sister, or the child of a parent / carer's partner, where the child for the school places sought is living at the same family unit and at the same address as the "sibling".</p>
<p><u>Fourth priority:</u> Children of staff at the school.</p>	<p>Priority in this oversubscription criteria is given in either or both of the following circumstances:</p> <p>a) Where a member of staff has been employed at the school for more than two years at the time when the admission to the school is made,</p> <p>and/or</p> <p>b) the member of staff has been recruited to fill a demonstrable skill shortage.</p>
<p><u>Fifth priority:</u> Children living outside the normal area of the school.</p>	<p>If a school is oversubscribed, priority will be given to a sibling at that school in the September of the younger sibling's entry, and then to those living nearest the school.</p> <p>In all cases, "sibling" refers to brother or sister, half-brother or half-sister, step brother or step sister, or</p>



	the child of a parent / carer's partner, where the child for the school places sought is living at the same family unit and at the same address as the "sibling".
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Tie break

If there are not enough places for all the children in one of these priority groups, we will give priority first to those with a sibling at the school in September 2026 (in all cases sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent / carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling) and then to those living nearest the school.

If within a priority group there are not enough places for all those with a sibling at the school in September 2026, we will give priority to those children with a sibling living nearest the school.

All distance measurements are based on the nearest route recognised by the county council's electronic mapping system from a child's home address to school. The measurement is made from a fixed point within the dwelling, as identified by Ordnance Survey, to the nearest school entrance using footpaths and roads. The routes measured to determine the allocation of school places will be those recognised by the electronic mapping system used by the school admissions team.

A home address means the place where your child lives permanently for most of the time. If the residency of your child is split between two parents, we consider the home address to be the one where the child lives for the majority of the week. When a child lives equally with both parents, with both parents' agreement, they can elect one of their two addresses to be used for allocating a school place.

If the distance tie-break is not sufficient to distinguish between applicants in a particular priority group a random allocation will be used.

Places will be allocated in June for the following academic year (September-July). If your child is allocated a place in our nursery this place will be allocated for your child's entire time in Nursery. There is no need to re-apply at the end of the first academic year.