



Lodge Farm Primary School
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“Learning in mind, community at heart”

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POLICY STATEMENT FOR ADMISSIONS TO LODGE FARM NURSERY

Lodge Farm Primary School allocates Nursery places in align with the County Council's published admission criteria.

Lodge Farm Primary School is a two-form entry school which admits up to 60 children into each year group. Children are normally admitted into the nursery class in the September following their third birthday.

We offer five 3 hourly sessions (either morning 8.45 - 11.45 or afternoon 12.30 - 3.30) per week. Once your child has been offered a Nursery place at Lodge Farm, you can then state your preference for morning or afternoon, and we will endeavour to accommodate your request if possible.

Parents receive information, via our website, giving details of how to apply for a Nursery place online. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to hold open sessions where parents can tour the school and talk to staff. However, there is plenty of information including videos on our website.

Lodge Farm Primary School also offers 30-hour provision to support working parents. This 30 - hour provision is currently limited to 20 places. Applications have to made for this provision. Admission I subject to an application made and availability. Parents must meet the criteria and be provided with a code as outlined in 30 hours free childcare - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). If the school does not receive the relevant code, parents will be charged for the additional hours.

The deadline for applications is Friday 26th March 2022.

Offers are sent via email.

Please note, attending the nursery does not guarantee a place in the main school and parents will need to apply directly to County for a primary school place. An application pack for a primary school place will usually be sent to parents by Herts County Council in the October/November following your child's admission to a nursery.

Parents are encouraged to apply online directly to the school for a nursery place and we will allocate places in accordance with admission criteria, as set out below:-

Determined Lodge Farm Primary School's oversubscription criteria:-

In the event of the school being oversubscribed places will be offered in the following priority order:

1. **Children Looked After** and children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).
2. **Medical or Social:** Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to the school. A panel of officers will determine whether the evidence provided is sufficiently compelling to meet the requirements for this rule. The evidence must relate specifically to

the school applied for under Rule 2 and must clearly demonstrate why it is the only school that can meet the child's needs.

3. **Sibling:** Children who have a sibling on the roll of the school or linked school at the time of application. This applies to reception through to Year 5 at Lodge Farm.
4. **Nearest School:** children for whom it is their nearest community or voluntary-controlled school or an own admitting school or academy using Hertfordshire County Council's admission rules
5. **Distance:** Children who live nearest to the school. If your child does not qualify under Rule 4, they will be under Rule 5.

These rules are applied in the order they are printed above. If more children qualify under a particular rule than there are places available, a tiebreak will be used by applying the next rule to those children. Where there is need for a tiebreaker where two different addresses measure the same distance from a school, in the case of a block of flats for example the lowest door number will be deemed nearest as logically this will be on the ground floor and therefore closer. If there are two identical addresses of separate applicants, the tie break will be random.

If offered a place at Lodge Farm Primary School and the child's date of birth lies between 1st April and 31st August, parents have the option to accept the place but delay the start until the spring or the summer term. Alternatively, parents can choose to defer entry for a whole year. This will mean that the child will be in a different cohort throughout the school years. This cannot be changed. Attending part time is currently not an option at Lodge Farm Primary School unless we are advised to do so from a medical or social aspect. If this is the case, then it would have already been brought to the school's attention by the appropriate professionals working with the child under Rule 2.

Updated: November 2021