

STROUD SCHOOL: ADMISSIONS POLICY

This policy is applicable to all pupils including those in the EYFS

This policy is for guidance and will be adapted by the School from time to time as circumstances require. If the parents decide that the school is the right environment, the following admissions procedure shall apply:

The Entry and Assessment Procedure

The usual points of entry are Nursery, Reception, Year 3 and Year 7, but children are admitted to the school at any time, subject to the availability of places and meeting the pre-conditions for admission.

The preconditions for admission are that:

- The child is of the appropriate age and sufficient maturity, as assessed by the EYFS staff.
- The School is able to provide adequately for any learning disabilities and difficulties the candidate may have (see further below).
- The School, having made reasonable adjustments, is able to cope with any disability the candidate may have (see further below).
- The present School reports and any verbal references satisfactory attitudes and conduct on the part of the parents and the child (if applicable).
- Fees (if applicable) at the present school have been paid.

All children should visit the school before a place can be confirmed to ascertain their academic ability as well as their social and emotional development. If there is doubt from staff as to the suitability of the school for an individual, the parents will be informed following the trial day. In these circumstances a place may be offered after a further trial period. In the event of a family relocating from a significant distance, a pre visit may not be possible. In this case the Head may determine suitability

Entry to Nursery:

A child will normally enter Nursery the term after their third birthday. During the term prior to entry to Nursery, the child will attend 'fledglings' sessions with their parent/carer, to familiarise themselves with the classroom. This is to enable the Nursery teacher and Head of Early Years to ascertain their developmental level and readiness to start. In the second half of term they attend one or two unaccompanied visits. Assessment for Nursery is based on observing informal play in small groups.

Places in Nursery will not be confirmed until the term prior to the child joining.

Entry to Reception:

A child may only enter Reception from the September after their fourth birthday. Every child should attend Reception on a full time basis and must attend full time from the term after their fifth birthday. Children wishing to enter Reception in September will be asked to attend a familiarisation and assessment afternoon in the March prior to entry. Assessment for places in Reception is based on observing informal play in small groups.

As a result of a successful visit the September place for Reception will be confirmed.

Entry to Years 1 – 8:

Once a child has registered for a place at the school they will be invited in to school for a familiarisation visit. At the time of writing the school does not expect children to sit a formal entrance examination. During the visit, teaching staff will make informal assessments and this information is then collated by the Head's PA in advance of a conversation between the Head and the parents, normally within two days of the visit. The Head will communicate the feedback from staff, as well as any concerns arising from reports, references, SEN statements, or other relevant data.

Equal Treatment

At Stroud, all forms of unlawful or unfair discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, religion, belief, cultural background, linguistic background, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, SEN and disability are unacceptable and are opposed in line with the Equality Act 2010. Our aim is to secure fair and equal treatment for all children.

Disability and Learning Difficulty

The School has limited facilities for the disabled but will do all that is reasonable to comply with its legal and moral responsibilities under the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 in order to accommodate the needs of children who have disabilities for which, with reasonable adjustments, the School can cater.

Parents of a child who has any disability or learning difficulties must provide the School with full written details when registering for admission, including medical or specialist assessor reports e.g. Educational Psychologist's reports as necessary. The School needs this information so that, in the case of any child with particular need, we can consider those needs and endeavour to make sure that the school can provide adequately for those needs throughout the admissions process and beyond. If special educational needs or a disability become apparent after admission, the school will consult with the child's parents and other outside agencies as appropriate. There is an expectation that if the school considers it necessary to involve outside specialists, parents will be cooperative and supportive of this approach.

The School will consult with parents and their medical advisers about the adjustments which can reasonably be made for the child, subject to the School's Accessibility Plan and usual routines and budget constraints, both during the admission process and later as a pupil.

Where the School agrees to support the provision of additional services for children with disability or learning difficulties, such as the use of extra staff or auxiliary aids, parents or guardians will be charged for these at a level that reasonably reflects the cost to the School of providing the service or facility.

Additional time in exams and other special arrangements as are deemed reasonable and necessary will be made available for pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities where:

- notice of such learning difficulties or disabilities has been given to the School; and
- the School has been provided with a copy of a specialist assessor report e.g. Educational Psychologist's report or medical report (prepared within the last two years), which must include a recommendation for such special arrangements.