

The Avenue Pre-Preparatory School and Nursery

Admissions Policy

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Rationale

The Avenue Pre-Preparatory School and Nursery (the School) is a co-educational Independent School for pupils from ages 3 to 7+. The school is registered with the Department of Education for 100 pupils and is a member of the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS).

Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you will visit the School during one of our Tours.. See further details below.

This Policy applies to EYFS and KS1.

Visiting the School

We offer weekly tours of the school on Tuesday mornings at 9.30am to which prospective parents are invited to attend. It is essential to contact the school and reserve a place as numbers are restricted.

Entry to the School

The school has three main points of entry in September each year.

The first relates to children who turn 3 between 1st September and the 31st December of that year and is in respect of the Pre-Nursery Class on Monday to Friday, 8.45am to 12.00 midday.

The second intake relates to the Nursery class for children who are aged 3+ by 31st August. The Nursery class hours are 8.30am to 3.00pm, Monday to Thursday and midday on Fridays.

The third intake in September each year is for Reception aged children who will be aged 4+ in the September of entry. In addition, we have a very small intake in January each year of children into our Pre-Nursery Class who will have their 3rd birthday between 1 January and 31 March. We have occasional places throughout the year in our other classes.

We are able to admit children for whom English is their second language. See “English as an Additional Language” Policy

Registration

Parents who wish their children to attend the Avenue Pre-Preparatory School and Nursery may register their child any time after birth.

The Registration form is accessed online via A link on our school [website](#). An email acknowledging receipt of the completed Registration Form will be sent once payment of registration fee has been confirmed, giving details of the particular intake for which the child is registered. The child’s name will be put on the waiting list for that intake, according to when the completed Registration Form was received by the School Office.

Sibling Policy

We guarantee admission to siblings of children who are at the School, provided places are available in the relevant classes.

The Admissions Process

We invite prospective parents to make arrangements to visit the School to attend one of the regular School Tours which are held throughout the year on Tuesday mornings.

- **Pre-Nursery - September and January intakes, siblings**
We send Offer letters to parents of siblings at the beginning of the Autumn Term in the academic year prior to entry to the School.
- **Pre-Nursery - September and January intakes, non-siblings**
Parents need to have attended a tour of the school prior to any offer being made. We do not assess children for entry in the September intake into the Pre-Nursery.
If a place is available at the School, a letter offering a place to the child will be sent. Offer letters to parents of Pre-Nursery children are sent from October/November of the academic year prior to entry until all the places available have been allocated. If we are unable to offer a place at this stage, the child's name will remain on the waiting list for either a chance occasional place during the course of the academic year or for consideration for admission into the Nursery Class.
- **Nursery Class, siblings**
We send Offer letters to parents of siblings at the beginning of the Autumn Term in the previous academic year prior to entry to the School.
- **Nursery Class, non-siblings**
Parents need to have attended a tour of the school prior to any offer being made. We do not assess children for entry in the September intake into the Pre-Nursery. If a place is available at the School, a letter offering a place to the child will be sent. If we are unable to offer a place at this stage, the child's name remains on the waiting list for either a chance occasional place during the course of the academic year or for consideration for a place in Reception the following September.
- **Reception - current Nursery children.**
All children in the Nursery receive an automatic offer to join Reception in January prior to Reception start date. However, in some cases, despite our best efforts and reasonable adjustments, there may be circumstances where we determine that a child is unable to access or benefit from the school's curriculum in a meaningful way. This decision could arise due to factors such as significant learning needs, complex emotional or behavioural challenges, or other needs that cannot be effectively supported within the resources available at our school. While we will always work collaboratively with families to explore the most appropriate provision and support, there may be instances where, after thorough assessment and review, we advise that alternative educational settings are more suitable to meet the child's individual needs. In such cases, we reserve the right to suggest that the child leave our school in order to access a provision better suited to their requirements.

- **Reception - waiting list children**

We will contact parents of all children on the waiting list for the Reception Class in the middle of the Autumn term to enquire whether they are still interested in a Reception place at the School for their child beginning the following September.

Invitations to attend an informal visit in January at the school will be sent out to all children whose names are on the waiting list. This is not an academic assessment of the children but a means by which we evaluate the child's readiness for a School environment and eagerness to participate in the activities that the school offers, thereby ensuring that the child in question can settle into the existing Reception Class without any undue difficulties. We may request copies of recent School Reports as part of the admissions procedure.

Offers of a place will be sent out after this event. If we are unable to offer a place at this stage, the child's name remains on the waiting list for either a chance occasional place during the course of the academic year or for consideration for intake into Year 1.

- **Year 1 and 2**

Applicants into our Year 1 and Year 2 classes are invited to visit the School for a morning to spend time with their peer group. We will request copies of recent School Reports as part of the admissions procedure. In addition, an offer will not be made until the School has received a satisfactory reference from the child's current school.

Our Admissions process is not based upon academic selection. We are heavily oversubscribed with registrations from local families who live in close proximity to the School and therefore are often unable to offer places to children who live outside the schools informal "catchment" area, of Highgate, Muswell Hill, Crouch End, East Finchley. We are able to admit disabled children and will make reasonable adjustments to adapt the premises to suit their needs. We offer additional support to children with SLT and OT needs with an on-site provision at no extra cost to the parents.

Acceptance of an Offer of a Place

Acceptance of the offer of a place must be received by the School within the time specified in the Offer Letter. A deposit, as specified in the offer letter, is payable on acceptance of the offer. The deposit is deductible from the last term's fees if the schools terms and conditions in relation to giving notice are met but is not refundable in the event that the place is not taken up. If no reply is received, it is assumed that the parents no longer require a place at the School and this place is offered to another child.

Offer of a Place, not Taken Up

If a parent decides to decline the offer of a place and wishes their child's name to be carried forward to a later intake, their name will be transferred to the relevant waiting list on receipt by the School Office of formal notification of preference for deferral.

Acceptance of a Place, Subsequently Deferred

Sometimes parents accept an offer of a place for their child but before entry to the School their circumstances change so that they are unable to take up the place originally offered. In this case, the place will be offered to another child on the waiting list and, if requested, the former child's name may be put on the waiting list for the next possible

intake. Every effort will be made to accommodate the child in the later intake if a place becomes available, but this cannot be guaranteed. Siblings of children already in the School will take priority.

Equal Treatment

Our aim is to encourage applications from families with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our School community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world. The School is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, religion, or social background. Please see the school's equal opportunities policy.

Special Needs

We do not discriminate in any way regarding entry. We welcome pupils with special educational needs, providing that our Learning Support Department can offer them the appropriate, additional support that they require. We welcome pupils with physical disabilities provided that our site can cope with them. However, we advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with the School prior to an offer being made. Parents should provide a copy of any Educational Psychologist's report or medical report during this meeting, if it is relevant to their child's education at the School.

We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he/she becomes a pupil at the school.

Settling In

New Joiners to the School

All new joiners are invited to the School for a session towards the end of the Summer Term before entry except for the Pre-Nursery new joiners. They have a home visit from the class teachers during the week prior to starting at the school

He/she spends one hour in the School with the parent/carer to familiarise themselves with the staff and the environment. The parents will be able to meet with the other new parents. Prior to the visit an Information Pack is sent to the parents containing all necessary forms for completion which are to be returned to the School by a set date. New parents are also given details of their Username and Password to enable them to access the Parents' section of the School Website. This contains all the information that the parents will require about the School, including the settling in period for their child at the start of their first term, daily routines, uniform requirements, the curriculum on offer and health issues etc.

In addition, before the start of the Autumn term we invite the parents of all new joiners to a "New Parent's Evening" when all new parents have an opportunity to meet with the staff, representatives of the PTA and each other. The evening commences with a brief introductory talk given by the Principal. The new parents are given details of the Staff who will be teaching their child.

Religious Beliefs

The School is non-denominational and we respect all faiths, celebrating a wide range of relevant religious festivals with the children throughout the School year (e.g. Diwali, Holi, Christmas, Easter, Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashanah, and Chinese New Year).

Contractual Terms & Conditions

Copies will be made available to parents as part of the Admissions Process.

Complaints

The School's Parental Complaints Policy is available on the School Website.

Related Policies

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following School Policies:

- Child Protection
- Equal Opportunities
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Publications

Equality Act 2014