

Seaton Sluice First School



Nursery Admission Criteria 2024

Written by: Amanda Bennett October 2024

Role: Headteacher

Approved by: Amanda Bennett

Date to be reviewed: October 2025

Children will be admitted in the nursery class for either 30 or 15 hours per week depending on parental preference, no earlier than the term following the child's third birthday. There are three termly admissions – September, January and April, although these are subject to change should numbers rise or fall.

Application forms are available electronically on the school website or a paper copy is available from the school office. All applications will be considered together at the beginning of each term.

Where the demand for places exceeds the number available, places will be offered by applying the following criteria in decreasing order of merit:

Pupils who are age three prior to the academic term in question and

- (i) Looked after children who are in the care of the local authority
- (ii) Children with an Education Health and Care Plan
- (iii) Children living within the catchment area of the school of Seaton Sluice First School
- (iv) Children from non-catchment local areas who have a sibling already attending Seaton Sluice First School
- (v) Children on whose behalf evidence of exceptional medical or social need is presented
- (vi) Children within non-catchment local areas such as Seaton Valley and Blyth who do not have a sibling attending the school
- (vii) Any other applications will be considered where vacancies exist, on a first come first served basis.

Staggered Intake

The governing body recognise that a well-structured and supportive transition in to school is paramount to children's emotional wellbeing. In order to ensure a smooth transition this school operates a staggered/reduced hours intake. The rationale behind when each child starts will be unique with consideration given to previous childcare, emotional development, number of hours attending.

We operate this arrangement in the best interests of the children. If this does not meet your current needs please consider carefully before applying for/accepting a place.

Attendance & Engagement

We request that parents of the children in our Nursery comply with our expectations for children who are statutory school age. This includes engaging with us to support their child's learning, attending on time every day (Monday to Friday each week) unless they are too unwell to be in school. If this is not the case, the offer of a Nursery place may be withdrawn either before the start of term or during term time.

Deferment

Nursery education is not statutory but we offer it as we strongly believe that it provides the foundation for all future learning and builds on children's early experiences.

If it is the case that a child is struggling in the Nursery and demonstrates that they are not yet ready to get the most out of this experience, we may suggest deferring entry to the Nursery until a point when the issues have been resolved or adaptations have been made.

Right of appeal

Please be advised that there is no right of appeal for parents refused a place in a Nursery class.