**Admissions**

 EYFS: 3.28, 3.57

At **Little Explorers** we care for **up to 50** children between the ages of **0** and **5**.

The numbers and ages of children admitted to the nursery comply with the legal space requirements set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This was discussed at registration.

We take the following matters into account when prioritising and deciding on admissions:

* Availability of places, taking into account the staff: child ratios, the age of the child and any registration requirements.
* Children who have siblings who are already with us.
* When the application is received (extra weight is given to those who have been on the waiting list the longest).
* The nursery’s ability to provide the facilities necessary for the welfare of the child, including appropriate staffing arrangements.
* A child requiring a full-time place may have preference over one requiring a part-time place. This is dependent upon work commitments, occupancy and room availability.
* Any extenuating circumstances affecting the child's welfare or the welfare of his/her family.

We operate an inclusion and equality policy and ensure that all children have access to nursery places and services irrespective of their gender, race, disability, religion or belief or sexual orientation of parents.

Prior to a child attending nursery, parents must complete and sign a contract and registration form. These forms provide the nursery with personal details relating to the child. For example, name, date of birth, address, emergency contact details, parental responsibilities, dietary requirements, collection arrangements, fees and sessions, contact details for parents, doctor’s contact details, health visitor contact details, allergies, parental consent and vaccinations etc.

We offerfree places for two to five year olds for early learning sessions specified by the local authority. At **Little Explorers** we currently provide free funded places available for children subject to availability. These places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and can be booked a term in advance. Please note for admissions for the free nursery education we have a termly intake, beginning the term following your child’s \*second/\*third birthday.

All funded sessions are now in line with the flexible arrangement as specified by the Government. When you register your child for their funded place we will discuss your needs and, as far as possible with availability and staffing arrangements, we will accommodate your wishes.

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| This policy was adopted on | Signed on behalf of the nursery | **Updated on** | Date for review |
| *March 2016* | E.Rathbone | Jan 2022  | *Jan 2023* |