



Admissions Policy 2025-26

The maximum number of places available (Planned Admission Number) for each session is 39.

In the first instance, places will be allocated to children who reach their 4th birthday within the academic year, in which admission is sought. If we are over-subscribed, places will be allocated in accordance with the following priority order:

1. Children who have been identified by a relevant professional as having or likely to have a special educational need, as defined in the 0-25 SEN Code of Practice.
2. Children who have been identified as children in need as set out in the Children Act 1989.
3. Children who will have a sibling still attending Brunel Nursery School or St Matthew's Church of England Primary School (both being part of the federation of St Matthew's Church of England Primary School with Brunel Nursery School) at the time of their admission.
4. Children who live nearest to Brunel Nursery School. The distance will be measured using the straight-line distance from the child's home.

Where the above criteria have been exhausted, we then consider the child's date of birth.

We offer the 15-hour entitlement for a morning or afternoon session, Monday to Friday. Places are allocated using the criteria above in all cases.

We offer a limited number of 30-hour places. The core offer for the 30 hours offer is 08:30am - 3:00pm, Monday to Friday. Places are allocated using the criteria above in all cases, and places for the 30 hours offer are reliant on parents applying through the 'Childcare Choices' website. All eligibility codes must be obtained prior to a child starting in school and must be within the window of opportunity as detailed on the government's 'Childcare Choices' website.

In the term following a child's 3rd birthday a place will be offered as soon as one becomes available. If Brunel Nursery School is oversubscribed the above criteria will apply.

To apply for a place at our nursery school, parents/carers should call in for an application form. Application forms will be accepted from the time a child turns two years of age. The above criteria will be applied to determine how places to children are allocated; the date that parents submit a form has no impact on securing a place.

Parents/carers will receive a letter confirming their child's place and details prior to their child starting in school. Please note that dependent on numbers, we usually have further intakes throughout the year, usually in January and after Easter.

- Brunel Nursery School reserves the right to verify any information given.

- Any offer of a place will be on the basis that the information given is accurate.
- Any offer of a place will be withdrawn if it is subsequently found that the information provided was inaccurate.

Please inform our school of any changes in your circumstances. If you are unsuccessful in obtaining a nursery place for your child and you wish to appeal against the decision, then please contact the Blackburn with Darwen Admissions Team.

Please note that admission to Brunel Nursery School does not guarantee a place at St Matthew's C. of E. Primary School or any other Infant or Primary School.

- A place might be offered earlier, depending on availability of places and individual circumstances, at the discretion of the Governing Body.
- Parents/carers should inform Brunel Nursery School immediately of any changes in their circumstances.

October 2025