

CHARNWOOD TRUST NURSERY ADMISSIONS POLICY

Charnwood Nursery and Family Centre at Heaton Moor is run by an independent Christian Trust which is a registered charity. We provide inclusive nursery education with the majority of places offered following parental application, while a certain number are purchased by Stockport Local Authority for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Charnwood operates as a term time only provision aligning ourselves with the Stockport Local Authority holidays. We have one main intake a year in September, with the majority of those places for children who are three by that September. We also offer some availability for children who are rising 3 i.e. those that are 3 after 1st September. As a validated nursery, we offer the free 15 hour nursery entitlement funded by government grant for all children attending in the school terms following their third birthday. Where a child is not eligible for the grant e.g. rising 3, parents will have pay the nursery fees until their child becomes eligible for the free entitlement.

As well as the 15 hour free entitlement for all children, there is also an option of extended free childcare (up to 30 hours) for children who are part of a household where both parents work, or in a lone parent household where the parent works. Please see the attached leaflet for details of who can claim the Extended Free Entitlement (30 hours) and how Charnwood will offer this.

Any places that become vacant during the year are filled at Charnwood's discretion, with children who are 3 or 4.

Session Options

We keep the way in which we offer sessions under review. In order to provide the best possible educational experience for the children we will continue our practice of offering the free 15 hour sessions as core hours either as 2½ days at the beginning or end of the week. The Extended Free Entitlement is offered as 30 core hours over 5 days per week, during term time.

In addition, parents can opt into Breakfast Club or After School Club to further extend the nursery day. We anticipate offering some school holiday cover during the Easter, Whit and summer holidays dependant on demand.

Criteria for Admissions

Our criteria for admissions from the applications received are based on the following three factors, all of which are considered in allocating priority for admission, but none of which guarantees a place. Charnwood retains the right to use discretion to respond to individual and exceptional circumstances, such as being a looked after or adopted child, whilst ensuring we create and maintain an inclusive nursery setting which enables and enhances each child's learning.

FACTOR 1: DATE OF BIRTH

The majority of the available places will be allocated to children who are three by 31st August 2022. They will have one year in nursery before moving onto Reception class in school.

To ensure an inclusive environment we will allocate some places to children whose birthdays fall after 1st September (rising 3's). We tend to offer these places in D.O.B order. These children will have 2 years in nursery, as will some children with SEND.

FACTOR 2: SIBLINGS

Children who have a sibling who has recently attended, or who is currently attending, Charnwood.

FACTOR 3: ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Charnwood offers specialist provision to children with additional needs. It is very important that you make us aware if your child / children have any additional needs, either in person or via the application form.

Applying for a Place at Charnwood Nursery for September 2023

Families who are seeking a place using the three year-old free entitlement or extended free entitlement funding may register an **"Expression of Interest"** at any time by telephoning (0161 442 7767) or emailing info@charnwoodnursery.org.uk

1. In late January, application forms will be sent to families on our register of interest.
2. Application forms will also be available on our website or can be sent upon request.
3. In May, offers of places will be made and a waiting list will be compiled.

Families who are seeking a SEND resourced place should initially contact us here at Charnwood Heaton Moor at info@charnwoodnursery.org.uk or on 0161 442 7767 where we can offer you support in applying for a specialist place.

Advice or clarification concerning any of the above can be provided via the Reception Team at Charnwood.