



Nursery Admission Arrangements 2026-27

Signed:

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Bursley Academy

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NURSERY ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2026-27

Bursley Academy is part of the Collective Vision Trust.

Children can be admitted in the term after they become 3 years old. We run a cycle of 3 term admissions. September, January and April. There are 30 places available overall for the three points of entry.

Parents have the right to express a preference for the school that they wish their child to attend. However, if the total number of preferences for admission to Bursley Academy exceeds the places available, the following order of priority is used to allocate the available places:

Oversubscription criteria

If the total number of preferences for admission to a school exceeds the school's available places, the following order of priority is used to allocate the available places.

- 1) Children in care and children who ceased to be in care because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order), including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted
- 2) Children who satisfy both of the following tests

Test 1: the child is distinguished from the great majority of applicants either on their own medical grounds or by other exceptional circumstances.

Medical grounds must be supported by a medical report (obtained by the applicant and provided at the point of application). This report must clearly justify, for health reasons only, why it is better for the child's health to attend the Academy rather than any other school

Exceptional circumstances must relate to the choice of school and the individual child, i.e. the circumstances of the child, not the economic or social circumstances of the parent/carer. It should be supported by a professional report (obtained by the applicant and provided at the point of application), e.g. social worker. This report must clearly justify why it is better for the child to attend the Academy rather than any other school

and

Test 2: the child would suffer hardship if they were unable to attend the preferred school

Hardship means severe suffering of any kind, not merely difficulty or inconvenience, which is likely to be experienced as a result of the child attending a different school. Applicants must provide detailed information about both the type and severity of any likely hardship at the time of application

- 3) Children who have an elder sibling in attendance at the Academy and who will still be attending the Academy at the proposed admission date; (For admission purposes, a brother or sister is a child who lives at the same address and either: have one or both natural parents in common; are related by a parents' marriage; are adopted or fostered by a common parent or are unrelated children who live at the same address, whose parents live as partners)



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- 4) Children living within the catchment area. You can use the following link and enter your postcode to find out if you are in the catchment area www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Catchment-areas.aspx or to obtain a map of the catchment area.

- 5) Children are arranged in order of priority according to how near their home addresses are to the main gate of the Academy, determined by a straight-line measurement as calculated by the School. The School uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances in miles. The measurement is calculated using Ordnance Survey (OS) data from an applicant's home address to the main front gate of the school. The coordinates of an applicant's home address are determined using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) and OS Address Point data.

Waiting lists

Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list in accordance with the criteria stated above and not based on the date their application was received. If places become available after the offer date they will be offered according to the child at the top of the waiting list.

Inclusion on a school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available at the preferred school.

Allocation of sessions

When children are offered a place in the nursery, parents are asked for their preference for a morning, afternoon or full time place but there is no guarantee that they will be offered the place they prefer. Allocation of places is according to availability and at the discretion of the headteacher. The school has an agreed list of criteria for places based on:

1. The balance of any additional needs children may have, within the morning and afternoon sessions.
2. The balance of genders within morning and afternoon sessions
3. The balance of ages within morning and afternoon sessions
4. The day care needs of working parents.

There is no right of appeal for morning, afternoon or fulltime places.

Criteria for 30 hours

Places will be offered in such a way as to support the financial viability of the nursery setting.

1. Whether the child has a sibling in the school
2. Parents who request the full entitlement to 30 hours or pay for the 30 wraparound provision
3. Most additional hours

All places are subject to availability.

For more information on the 30 hours entitlement or wraparound provision please contact the school.

Additional notes

Attendance at the nursery will not guarantee admission to our Reception class or give any advantage to the child's application for Reception. Parents must reapply for admission to Reception at the appropriate time to Staffordshire School admissions



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In accordance with legislation, children who have an EHCP that names the nursery will be admitted to our nursery setting. This may reduce the amount of places available to other applicants.

How to apply

The closing date for nursery applications for September places will be 31st March. For admission for January and Easter starts it will generally be the Friday before the previous half term. An application form will be made available on the school website. Parents will be notified of the outcome of their application 4 weeks after the closing date.

There is no statutory right of appeal for admission to a nursery setting. Any disputes over the administration of the policy will be dealt with by the complaints procedure.