



St Godric's Catholic Primary School

Nursery Admission Policy 2026-2027

We have 26 full-time Nursery places available for 3 and 4 year olds at St. Godric's Catholic Primary School. Nursery places will be available for those eligible for a September start, however if spaces are available for January/April, we can admit children from the term after they turn 3 years old.

15 or 30 hours provision

We offer 15 or 30 hours nursery provision. 30 hours are only available to eligible children. If you are entitled to Free School Meals, your child is eligible for 15 hours nursery provision however there will be the option to pay for additional hours up to 30 hours. If you would like to apply for a place for your child in our nursery class, please download and complete the forms available on our school website and return to the school office.

If your child is eligible for a nursery place in January/April, you shall be notified in November (January starters) or January (April starters).

If there are more applications than places available, Nursery places will be allocated using the oversubscription criteria set out below, in order:

First priority in each category will be given to children who will have an older sibling attending school in September 2026.

1. Children in Need

The Children Act 1989 defines a 'child in need' as:

- a) He/she is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision of services by the Local Authority under Part 3 of the Act.
- b) His/her health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him/her of such services.
- c) He/she is disabled. In addition, Durham County Council has determined that children of families where English is not the main language of the family will be considered under this criterion.

2. Age

The offer of a place will be prioritised according to date of birth. The earliest date your child can be accepted for Early Years is at the age of 3 -the term after their third birthday. Where applicants have the same date of birth, priority will be given to the earliest date of application.

3. Children Living in Other Authorities

Although there are no catchment areas for places, preference will be given to children whose parents live within County Durham's or parish boundaries administrative area.

Waiting List

As a school, we operate a waiting list for Nursery admissions and parents can apply for their child's name to be placed on our Nursery list **at any time** by completing our Nursery Application form. Children are normally admitted to Nursery in the September after their third birthday, unless places are available in Nursery for children to start the term after their third birthday. If places are available, there will be the option to pay for provision from your child's third birthday, up until their eligible free hours begin the following term.

The process of allocating places will begin using the criteria outlined above. We will then send out offer emails to confirm the offer of a Nursery place and, parents will be able to select their preferred offer of attendance within the provision.

Appeals

Parents do not have a statutory right to appeal against the admission authority's refusal to award a place to their child. However, if you feel that the admissions criteria stated above has not been fairly applied to your child, then you may register a complaint using the normal complaints procedure. People who wish to submit a complaint against an admissions decision should refer to the Complaints Policy, which is available from the school's website

Admission to the Nursery does not guarantee admission to Reception- you will still need to apply for a primary school place following the guidance from the local authority.

Parents who wish their child to attend St. Godric's Catholic Primary School are welcome to visit the school for a tour and an initial discussion with the Head Teacher.

Phone: 0191 384 7452

Email: info@stgd.bwcet.com