

ADMISSIONS STATEMENT 2023-24

THE ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO WHALEY THORNS COMMUNITY NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL



This document sets out the admission arrangements for Whaley Thorns Community Primary and Nursery School and should be read in conjunction with the TEAM Education Trust Student Admissions Policy.

This document forms an Annex to the Funding Agreement between TEAM Education Trust and the Secretary of State. Any changes to the arrangements set out in this document must be approved in advance by the Secretary of State.

The school will act in accordance with an Independent Appeal Panel (Childrens Services Department of Derbyshire County Council) to act in accordance with all relevant provisions of the statutory codes of practice (the School Admissions Code and the School Admission Appeals Code) as they apply at any given time. Reference in the codes to admission authorities shall be deemed to be references to the governing body of school.

In particular, the school will take part in the Admissions Service operated by Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and have regard to its advice; and will participate in the co-ordinated admission arrangements operated by DCC.

Notwithstanding these arrangements, the Secretary of State may direct the school to admit a named pupil who is the subject of a School Attendance Order.

The admission arrangements for Whaley Thorns Primary School for this year are as follows:

- Whaley Thorns Primary School has an agreed admission number of 30 in the Reception year and will therefore accordingly admit 30 pupils into Reception if sufficient applications are received.
- Pupils will not be admitted above the Published Admission Number (PAN) unless exceptional circumstances apply and such circumstances shall be reported to the Secretary of State.
- Whaley Thorns Primary School reserves the right to set a higher class size number than 30 for any specific year

The admission limits for our Nursery classes are:

- 26 in each Nursery (3+) session (am and pm)

Nursery for 3 Year Olds

Children enroll into our Nursery by applying for a place directly with the school who use the common DCC admissions criteria as set out in the TEAM Education Trust Student Admissions Policy.

Whaley Thorns Primary School accepts children who are eligible for 30 hours funding however, reserves the right to cap the number of 30 hours places it can offer depending on the level of demand for places.

Children are usually admitted to the Nursery on a part time basis at the beginning of the term after the child's third birthday. We have three points of entry at the start of the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms.

To put your child's name down for a place in Nursery please contact the office.

Entry to Reception

The school operates a single point entry into Reception classes in September.

On the offer of a place parents have the right to request a deferred admission until the child reaches statutory school age which is the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday.

Parents seeking a place for their child at Whaley Thorns Primary School must make an application before the beginning of the academic year in which the child is due to start school. This application should be made through central admissions organised by Derbyshire County Council. Further information is available on the Council's school admissions webpage ([click here](#) for more information).

When parents are unable to obtain a place, they may appeal against the decision to an independent appeal panel.

Admitting New Pupils

We always welcome parents to come and visit us and look around the school. This especially applies to parents who are new to the area.

As a school we try to make sure that a child's start to school is a happy one. Consequently, before a child starts the Nursery, parents are invited to meetings to meet the staff and discuss admission arrangements. The children are also invited to visit the Nursery with their parents before they officially start.

When a child transfers to full time education this is another important time. Before this happens parents are again invited to meetings to find out more about the child's planned education and to meet the child's class teacher. The children also get an opportunity to have some lessons in reception before they start full time.

Transfer to Secondary Education

At the end of Year 6, the vast majority of children usually transfer to Shirebrook Academy. We have very strong links with the Academy and have regular contact with them. During Years 5 and 6 the children will have had the opportunity to visit the Academy and have the experience of working with members of their staff. This is part of the planned programme that has been developed between the Primary and Secondary Schools.

Admission arrangements are sent to school in September with details on how to apply for a place in the school of your choice or you can follow the [link](#) to go to Derbyshire County Council's school admission page.