

Mossgrove Primary School Nursery Unit
Swanston Road
Newtownabbey
BT36 5DN

Controlled Nursery Unit
Admissions No: 52 (Part-time)
Session Times – Morning Session: 8:50am – 11:20am
Afternoon Session: 12:20pm – 2:50pm

Principal: Mrs E Sinton
Chair of Board of Governors: Mr Robert Young

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Website: www.mossgroveprimaryschool.co.uk

Statement:- Potential applicants should be aware that our pre-school setting has been recommended to be part of the Pre-School Standardisation Programme from September 2025. This means that, subject to Ministerial approval, our setting's pre-school education provision will change from part-time to full-time for September 2025.

Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and the Principal in relation to admissions.

The Board of Governors will determine the Admissions Criteria. The criteria will be applied by the Principal on behalf of the Board of Governors.

Admissions Criteria

A timetable of pre-school admissions procedures setting out the dates by which an application is to be submitted is available at www.eani.org.uk/admissions under 'Pre-School Admissions'. During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered.

The application procedure opens on 10 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 24 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 24 January 2025 will be treated as a late application.

As the pre-school admissions procedure is in two stages the timetable also specifies the relevant dates at Stage 2 which will determine if an application is to be considered as punctual or late.

Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the school being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in order of priority.

Resident in Northern Ireland at the time of proposed admission to the school.

Statutory Criteria

1. Children from socially disadvantaged circumstances in their final pre-school year who were born:
 - on or between 2 July 2021 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive) and whose parents have not exercised their right to defer their child's entry to primary school; or,
 - on or between 1 April 2021 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - have not attended or are not currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged child; and,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2026.

Note: Children from 'socially disadvantaged circumstances' means a child whose parent has an entitlement to (i) Income Support, or (ii) Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or (iii) Income related Employment and Support Allowance, or (iv) Universal Credit. When parents apply for places for their child on this basis they must provide Benefit Verification to confirm that they have an entitlement. The application procedure for Pre-School will outline how Benefit Verification can be submitted.

2. Children not from socially disadvantaged circumstances (as defined above) who are in their final pre-school year (as defined by Criterion 1).

Sub-criteria

In the event of oversubscription on the application of a statutory criterion the sub-criteria will be applied in the order set down.

- a. Children who, at the date of their application, have a child of the family currently enrolled at the school.
- b. Children who are already attending the nursery unit at the time of application.
- c. Children who, at the date of their application, are the eldest child of the family to be eligible to apply to attend a mainstream nursery school. (Please see Duty to Verify)
- d. Children whose home address is nearest to Mossgrove Primary School as decided by a straight line digital measurement using 'Spatial NI' measurement tool.

In the event of two children living the same distant from Mossgrove Primary School then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as per the birth certificate in the order set out below:-

G S J M c M D C W Z Q O' I L X F B O H K T N E V P A U M a c Y R

The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters. In the event of surnames beginning with the same letter the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used as per the birth certificate.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Documentation submitted in support of your application should be provided directly to the school of first preference.

Non-statutory criteria

Note: Applications falling under Criterion 3 are processed only during Stage 2 of the admissions process, after final pre-school year (Statutory 1 and 2) applications.

3. Children who were born:

- on or between 1 April 2021 - 1 July 2021 (inclusive), or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - and have attended or are currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged (not penultimate aged) child; and,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1, or
- on or between 2 July 2022 and 1 July 2023 (inclusive); or,
- on or between 1 April 2022 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2027.

Tie Breaker – Non Statutory Criterion 3

Children within Criterion 3 will be selected in Chronological Order of Age – eldest child first. In the event of two or more children having the same DOB Sub Criteria f will be applied.

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine necessary to support or verify any information on the application form. The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by the school can result in the inability of the school to offer a place/the withdrawal of a place. Only if oversubscribed, the school will make contact about verification documents in relation to the 'eldest child'. If requested by the school, parents can provide one of the following documents to prove eldest or only child; a letter from a member of the clergy; a public servant such as a health visitor or educational professional to include a pre-school Nursery teacher or a Child Benefit Letter.

Waiting List Policy

The school's policy on the consideration of applications after the Open Enrolment Admissions procedure concludes is available directly from the school or can be accessed on our school website at www.mossgroveprimaryschool.co.uk

Should a vacancy arise, the above criteria will be applied to select pupils from our waiting list.