



Exeter Pre-Prep School

Admissions Policy

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This policy applies equally to all pupils across the school, including EYFS.

Exeter Pre-Prep School is a co-educational, mixed ability school and is committed to supporting children of all abilities and those with special educational needs and disabilities which are possible for us to reasonably support without affecting the learning of other children in the school. Our policy is to apply our admission criteria to all potential pupils. We require parents of children with special educational needs, disabilities or allergies (suspected and diagnosed) to discuss their child's needs with the school at the outset of the admissions process so that, if possible, we can make adequate provision for them.

The school shall determine the reasonable adjustments that are required for the applicant based on the information provided, in accordance with the school's obligations under equality legislation. The school will consult with parents about the adjustments which can reasonably be made to ensure that the application procedure is accessible for the child and that the school can cater adequately for the child should an offer of a place be made.

We welcome all faiths and ethnicities and seek to provide a cohesive and familial community. We therefore start our admissions process by welcoming prospective families into the school for a tour and discussion with the Head or member of the admissions team on a personal basis. Applications from all children, including siblings, will be considered as below. Our aim is to encourage applications from pupils with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. We are mindful of our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 during the admissions process. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world.

If a child is attending another setting, such as another nursery or childminder, it is important that the parents inform the school about this. It is an Early Years requirement that all settings a child attends liaise for the benefit of the child.

All pupils pay a non-refundable fee of £100 to register for a place at Exeter Pre-Prep School.

Starting at 3+ years old into the Nursery class

The earliest point of entry is into our Nursery in the half term after your child's third birthday and this is when most pupils join us. Following the tour of the school, you can then register your child by completing the appropriate application form. If your child has already attended a nursery elsewhere or has been cared for by a child minder, we shall make contact to arrange for any relevant information to be passed on to your child's teacher. In the term prior to starting with us, your child will be invited to attend a taster visit to familiarise themselves with the new environment. It also provides a perfect opportunity for you to ask questions at any point.

Admissions outcome

On successful completion of the above, your child will be offered a place to join us, usually at the beginning of the following half term. Very occasionally, a child's needs may only become fully apparent during the settling-in process. If concerns arise about a child's behavioural or learning needs, our approach will be:

1. We will first assess the nature of the needs, in consultation with parents and, where appropriate, external professionals.

2. We will consider what reasonable adjustments or additional support could be put in place to meet those needs within our setting.
3. If, having done this, we conclude that we are not able to meet the child's needs even with reasonable adjustments, we will discuss this openly with parents, explain our reasoning, and where possible help identify alternative provision better suited to the child.

We will not withdraw or decline to confirm a place on the basis of a disability itself, and any decisions in this area will be made in line with our obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

On acceptance of the place, a refundable acceptance deposit of £200 will be requested. A further £300 refundable acceptance deposit will be requested when your child transitions into the Reception class.

Our parent handbook is then provided for parents to read and any further queries may be addressed to the Head or the admissions team at any point before your child joins us.

Starting at 4+ years old into Reception class

Some children may start at 4+ and therefore may miss Nursery and enter directly into Reception class, the first statutory year of schooling. The format will be the same as above, with the taster visit being as soon as possible if the child is already over 3 years old. On acceptance, a refundable acceptance deposit of £500 will be requested

Starting at 5+ years old into Year 1 or Year 2

Following a tour of the school, children entering in Years 1 and 2 will be invited to spend a 'taster day' with us if possible. There is no formal testing, but this day allows both the school and you an opportunity to discuss any issues. A reference may also be sought at this stage from the child's present school. Following successful completion of the taster day, and subject to a satisfactory reference where the child has been in a formal school or early years setting, a place would be offered and the admissions procedure would continue through the completion of the relevant forms.

On acceptance, a refundable acceptance deposit of £500 will be requested. Further information will be requested by us, and we also provide you with a parent handbook at this point. If your child is not starting straight away, they will be invited in for familiarisation prior to the start date. Any further queries may be addressed to the Head or the admissions team at any point before your child joins us.

Oversubscription

If a class is full, then you can apply for a place on the waiting list. If a place becomes available, the admissions process will be as above.

Future Schools

The school constantly assesses pupils for academic and social progress and there may be occasions where a child has difficulty in accessing the school's curriculum. Full consultation with the parents takes place throughout their child's education and if necessary, help will be given to find an appropriate school to which to transfer.

Most of our children progress to Exeter Junior School and take part in the assessment procedure in January/February of Year 2. However, if a selective school is not the parents' desired choice or is in some way unsuitable for the child, then the staff will work closely with parents along the way to explore other desirable alternatives. The child's next step at Year 3 is always a priority for our consideration and close discussions take place with parents from the early stages of their child's time with us.