



## **Admissions Policy For The Lodge Day Nursery and Reception**

### **The Lodge**

The Lodge Day Nursery is registered as a child care provider in the Suffolk Directory of Providers and therefore offers grant funded early education to a maximum of 15 hours free education a week (see website for further details of hours available).

Admission to The Lodge Day Nursery is through registration, following a timetable for admissions. Children are not assessed prior to entry but a successful settling-in session where behaviour will be evaluated, will confirm acceptance. Where behaviour is deemed as inappropriate for starting in accordance with our usual timeframes, a decision will be made about the child's entry in consultation with the child's parents.

Children are eligible to join The Lodge Day Nursery between the ages of 3 months and 3 years of age, dependent on The Lodge availability.

It is expected that all children registered for The Lodge Day Nursery will attend a minimum of three sessions per week, or the equivalent of 15 hours. The maximum number of sessions a child may attend is ten.

### **Entry into reception**

For entry to Reception, preference is given to pupils in the Pre- School room. Other places are offered on the basis of an assessment to external applicants who are registered with the School.

*Reception Entry Procedure:* Children are assessed in the January before entry unless places are available at a later time. The assessment is made up of four main parts including language development, practical reasoning, group participation and play. The assessment acts as a screening process to suggest those who might have the potential to cope with a busy, fast-paced school day. The assessment includes some standardised testing in language and reasoning and all scores are weighted according to age so that younger children are not disadvantaged. Use of pencils is kept to an absolute minimum and reading and writing are not assessed.

All children have innate curiosity and the range of activities during the assessment will give every child an opportunity to participate in some area of personal interest. The School appreciates that children reach developmental milestones at different times. Every attempt is made to make a child's assessment experience as much fun as possible.

A timetable for admissions for Reception is followed.

Ages are taken from the 1<sup>st</sup> September, so children join the Reception class in the September following their fourth birthday. There is one entry per year – in September, at the start of each academic year unless spaces are available.

There are two classes in each year group.

**Amended July 2023**