

Bincombe Valley Primary School



Nursery Admissions Policy

You are very welcome to come and visit our Nursery. Please contact our school office for an appointment.

The Governing Body of the school deals with admissions for the nursery.

The Community Nursery is funded by Dorset Local Authority. It provides up to 60 part time places (30 morning places and 30 afternoon places) for three- and four-year-olds. In addition, we offer 32 part time places (16 morning places and 16 afternoon places) for funded 2-year-olds. The Nursery is open for 38 weeks of the year and matches the term dates of Bincombe Valley Primary School.

A part time place consists of 15 hours per week. (for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds). A full-time place consists of 30 hours per week (available for 3–4-year-olds in receipt of 30-hour funding).

Sessions are 3 hours long and run from 8.40-11.40am **or** 12.10-3.10pm. For our 3–4-year-olds who attend for whole days we also run a lunch session which is not covered by funding and needs to be paid for.

All places are subject to availability.

We have two Nursery classes:

Acorns (3–4-year-olds)

N1 Children

Children may join the Nursery the term after they are three. These three-year-olds will be allocated **up to** five morning or five afternoon sessions or a mixture of both depending on availability.

N2 Children

These children will turn 4 during the academic year and will be starting school the following September. We aim to give the majority of N2 children a whole day session and a mixture of morning and afternoon sessions. If you are eligible for 30-hour funding children can attend up to five full days per week.

Buds (2–3-year-olds)

Children may join Buds the term after they are 2. These two-year-olds will be allocated **up to** five morning or five afternoon sessions or a mixture of both depending on availability. However, we recommend a maximum number of hours per day, and this is set at 3 hours per day for 2-year-olds.

To check eligibility for funded two-year-olds and criteria for 30-hour funding can be found via dorsetforyou.gov.uk.

Additional sessions may be available subject to availability in Buds, and Acorns, taking into account the needs of the individual child and staffing availability. The cost of these additional sessions is currently set at £16.50 per session for Acorns (3 hours) and £22.50 (3 hours) per session for Buds. Lunchtime sessions cost £2.50 (30 minutes), and our Friday afternoon 30 hour top up session is £10 (2 hours).

If there are more requests than places the admissions criteria are based upon the following considerations:

- ❑ Children who have a priority need through referral by education, health or social care professionals
- ❑ Children who have been in receipt of 2-year-old funding for families receiving additional support
- ❑ Siblings of others at school at the time of entry
- ❑ Distance to the Nursery

If all the places are full then a waiting list is maintained with the same criteria being applied.

If there are no places available parents can seek other private or voluntary settings in the locality. Information of these is obtainable from the school office or via dorsetforyou.gov.uk

Children attending our Nursery are given preferential consideration for a place in the Reception classes of the main school. (Places will still need to be applied for through Schools Admissions Process)

Updated & Checked Jan 2026