

Frequently asked questions about applying for a place

- **Can I visit the nursery?** Parents are encouraged to find out about the nursery through a Saturday "open morning" for children and parents to come and explore and experience the nursery from **9.30am until 11.30 on 24th February 2018**. This is a drop in session so there is no requirement to book for the open morning. In addition we will also arrange a number of "viewing appointments for those who are unable to attend the open morning" for prospective parents to come and visit York Road. Please telephone or email us to find out dates.
- **How long will my child have a place for at the nursery?** 1 full year - due to Government legislation all children are offered a full time place in their school reception class in September. Children join Nursery during the academic year of their 4th birthday. York Road Nursery School offers places to start in September so all children will have the benefit of 3 terms in our nursery. We ensure we support the children as individuals dependent upon their needs and stages of development (through EYFS Foundation Stage). Parents of children born during the Summer (after 1st April) can request an additional 2nd academic year with their child's Nursery.
- **How are children supported in nursery?** We have a key teacher system which effectively supports the children, giving continuity. These groups are also supported by additional Learning Support Assistants.
- **How can we ensure the quality of the nursery?** We have achieved recognition as Outstanding again by Ofsted (November 2013).
- **What session do we provide?** York Road Nursery sessions are for 3 hours, 5 days per week either am or pm, term-time. We believe it is important for children's stability and the continuity of their education to provide regular 3 hourly sessions. 9am until 12pm or 12.30pm until 3.30pm.
- For those parents who are **eligible for their child to receive 30 hours childcare provision**, this will be arranged so that your child attends York Road Nursery School for 15 hours a week and then the additional 15 hours will be within the school setting and in partnership with Yorkies Daycare. The hours available for the 30hours childcare provision will be Monday- Friday 9.00-3.00 term time only.
- **Who is eligible for 30 Hours Free Childcare?**

All parents in the household work at least 16 hours a week and earn at least £107 per week up to a maximum salary of over £100, 000 per parent in the household.

1 parent is employed and 1 parent is disabled or incapacitated, based on receipt of specific benefits

1 parent is employed and 1 parent has substantial caring responsibilities, based on specific benefits received for caring.

Both parents are employed but 1 or both parents are temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave.

Both parents are employed but 1 or both parents are temporarily away from the workplace on statutory sick pay.

For up to date information on eligibility please visit:- www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/parents
- **How will the school know who are their eligible parents?**

For those parents who may be entitled to 30 hours childcare provision, you will be expected to do an online eligibility check using the HMRC Tool Kit provided. If you qualify you will receive a voucher code which you will need to give to the school once your child's Nursery place has been finalised. It will be parental responsibility to update your personal circumstances and inform the school of any changes.

- **Do we pay anything?** There is no payment for your Nursery School sessions.
 - **What if I need more than the hours I am entitled to?** If you require additional hours, Yorkies provide care from 7.30-9am and 12-6.30 pm as well as holiday clubs.
 - **Website:** www.yorkiesdaycare.com Telephone: 01462 632333, or e-mail:- yorkiesdaycare@hotmail.com for further information. You need to make a separate application for Yorkies, and there is a charge for additional hours at Yorkies.
 - **How do I apply?** *If your child is born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015* , you should have been sent a communication from County advising you to "choose a Nursery place" for your child. The application process this year is open on **February 5th 2018** and closes on **March 16th 2018**. You may make your application at any point between these dates via the link on our school website, which will be available during this timeline. **Do not miss the deadline.**
 - **What if I don't have access to a computer?** The School anticipates all parents will make on-line applications. If you need any help to apply, please contact us.
 - **What if I don't get offered a place at York Road after putting it as first preference?** We can offer up to 130 nursery places, so we take a large number of children from all over Hitchin. We also take children from outside the area if we have spaces, so it really is dependent upon the requests for admissions that we get. If you are unsuccessful in the first round the system will offer you the option to go on the "continued interest list." When spaces become available we work through this list.
 - **What are the timeframes after making an application?** You will be offered a place via the same method as your application was made on **27th April** and have until **4th of May** to accept or decline the place.
 - **Can I make any requests?** Once you have made your application, should you have any particular request for AM or PM sessions, staffing request or any information that you wish to advise us about, you should do so as soon as possible in writing to the Headteacher. These will be kept on file, and taken into consideration when writing to inform you of your child's start date/session - we anticipate this to be during June. Please be assured that we will always endeavour to meet your particular needs/request, - but this is not always possible.
- Other useful contact details:-**
- If you would like more information about the Nursery School, visit our website:- www.yorkroad.herts.sch.uk
 - Childrens Centre:- For support and information 01462 442438