



Joy Lane Foundation Primary School  
Oysters SRP (ASD)  
Admission Arrangements for Entrance from September 2025

Draft Prepared	February 2024
Date Agreed	March 2024
Signed by Executive Headteacher	Ms D J Hines
Signed by Chair of Governors	Mrs C Graves
Date Policy to be Reviewed	September 2024

Joy Lane Foundation Primary School

It is the intention of the Governors that children who are admitted to the Foundation Stage will do so before their fifth birthday. Usually, children will enter the Foundation Stage at the start of the academic year (September 2025 - August 2026) that they have their fifth birthday. The School's Published Admission Number is 90.

Contact details are as follows:

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In the event of oversubscription: Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of special educational need or Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly. If the number of preferences for the school is more than the number of spaces available, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

- 1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children** – A child in care is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

- 2. Current Family Association** - A brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry where the family continue to live at the same address as when the sibling was admitted – or – if they have moved – live within 2 miles of the school, or have moved to a property that is nearer to the school than the previous property as defined by the 'Nearness' criterion'.

In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother and sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters.

**3. Health and Special Access Reasons** – Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school’s legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents’/guardians’ physical or mental health or social needs mean that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school.

**4. Nearness of children's homes to school** – we use the distance between the child’s permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child’s home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG.

The same address point on the school site is used for everybody.

In the event of any of the above criteria being oversubscribed, priority will be given based on distance as described above with those closest being given higher priority. In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

If siblings from multiple births (twins, triplets, etc.) apply for a school and the school would reach its Published Admission Number (PAN) after admitting one or more, but before admitting all of those siblings, a place will be offered to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the school above its PAN. If the admissions are to Year R, and so result in a breach of infant class size legislation, the additional pupil(s) will be treated as “excepted” for the time they are in an infant class or until the numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit, as defined in the School Admissions Code.

## Appeals

In accordance with the requirements of the Education Acts, the Governors will make arrangements, if required, for parents/carers/guardians to appeal to an independent panel against the refusal of a place for their child in the School.

## Waiting List

The school will maintain a clear, fair and objective waiting list until at least 31st December of each school year. The school will re-rank the waiting list as each child is added, in line with the published oversubscription criteria.

## Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so, they should include a written request with their application, setting out the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place and the reasons for their request. When such a request is made, the Headteacher will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case, based on their professional judgement of what is in the best interest of the child, taking account of the evidence and rationale provided by the parents.

Parents are required to complete an application for the normal point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined. This application can be cancelled if the school agrees to accept a deferred application for entry into Year R the following year. Deferred applications must be made via paper RCAF to the LA, with written confirmation from each named school attached. Deferred applications will be processed in the same way as all applications for the cohort in the following admissions round, and offers will be made in accordance with each school's oversubscription criteria.



### ***Oysters Special Resource Provision (SRP)***

Kent County Council have commissioned 30 places in the year 2025 - 2026.

Parents and Carers must apply to access our SRP through their Local Authority SEN casework Officer; a direct application cannot be made to the School.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

In order to be considered for admission children must:

- have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) or be undergoing a formal assessment- (formerly known as a Statement of Special Educational Needs) have a diagnosis and Primary need of ASC.
- be within the normal range of average ability.
- have the ability to communicate verbally without full reliance on communication aids, although children may still need support and programmes devised by a Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) and delivered by trained support staff.
- be able to integrate for into mainstream lessons

Admission will not be agreed if:

- the agreed number of funded places by the Local Authority are fully subscribed so that admitting children over this number would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.
- there is insufficient evidence of a clear diagnosis of Autism Spectrum condition as a primary need.
- there is evidence of moderate, severe or complex learning difficulties in addition to Autism.
- the admission of a pupil would compromise the health and safety of the pupils and/ or staff within the provision or would compromise or disrupt the education of pupils already in attendance.
- It should also be noted that siblings are not automatically admitted.

## **Referrals for Admission**

All referrals are directed to the school through the Local Authority, who commission the school places and will be reviewed by the admissions team prior to further communication. All referrals sent to Oysters are considered by the Inclusion Manager in liaison with the Senior Leadership Team. Where it is felt Oysters SRP is potentially the right placement for a child, parents will be invited to visit the school. This will then be followed by an observation of the child in their current setting before a final decision is made.

### ***Oyster Bay Nursery School***

Oyster Bay Nursery School is a Private Independent Nursery run by the Governing Board of Joy Lane with the Headteacher delegated to oversee the efficient running of the Nursery. Children who attend our Nursery are not automatically entitled to be admitted to our Year R classes.