

Millennium Integrated Primary School Nursery Unit
139 Belfast Road
Lisdoonan
Saintfield BT24 7HF

Principal: Mr Barry Corrigan
Nursery Teacher: Mrs J Houston
Chair of Board of Governors: Mr Declan Hall

Grant Maintained Nursery Unit
Admissions No: 52 (Part-time)
Session Times – Morning Session: 8:45am – 11:15am
Afternoon Session: 12noon – 2:30pm

Telephone: 028 9081 5874
Website: www.millenniumips.com

Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and the Principal in relation to Admissions

The Board of Governors draws up the admissions criteria and delegates to an Admissions Sub-Committee, which includes the Principal, the responsibility for applying these criteria.

The legal responsibilities under which the Board of Governors in the integrated sector have operated, were derived from the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989. The Board of Governors of Millennium Integrated acknowledge the introduction of the new Integrated Education Act 2022, and the Governors will assess any potential changes to existing school policy in line with that Act and its supporting Regulations and Guidance when they are published

Open Mornings and Evenings

There will be two Open Days:

Saturday 13th January – run over two sessions: 9:30am – 11:00am (Principal's address in hall at 9:40am) and 11:30am – 1:00pm (Principal's address in hall at 11:40am)

Wednesday 17th January: 9:30am – 11:00am (Principal's address in hall at 9:40am)

Further details can be found on the school's website: www.millenniumips.com

Timetable

A timetable of pre-school admissions procedures setting out the dates by which an application is to be submitted is available at www.eani.org.uk/admissions under 'Pre-School Admissions'. During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered.

The application procedure opens on 9 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 26 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 26 January 2024 will be treated as a late application.

As the pre-school admissions procedure is in two stages the timetable also specifies the relevant dates at Stage 2 which will determine if an application is to be considered as punctual or late.

Community Background

To fulfil our admissions criteria it is the responsibility of all parents/guardians to provide information regarding their child's perceived community background. The religious affiliation/community background (Protestant, Catholic or Other/None) of a pupil will be determined by one of the following methods:

- a) For parents/guardians applying for a place via the Education Authority's **online application** you will be prompted to and must select your child's religious affiliation when completing the form; or
- b) For parents/guardians applying using a **paper application** you must also complete our school's Religious Affiliation Form which can be obtained from our school office or you can provide alternative written confirmation to our school. Your Religious Affiliation Form/written confirmation of religion must be received by our school by 4pm on Wednesday 31st January 2024;

If the parent(s)/guardian(s) does not supply this statement then the child's application will be considered with those from the majority category of that year's applicants.

Admissions Criteria

As an integrated school, Millennium seeks to achieve in its enrolments a balance between all the cultural traditions in Northern Ireland. Consequently, having placed applicants in rank order according to the criteria set out below, Millennium will in the first instance offer:

*10 places to the highest-ranked applicants who identify as Other, **and**
21 places to the highest-ranked applicants who identify as members of the Protestant community, **and**
21 places to the highest-ranked applicants who identify as members of the Catholic community.*

In the event that some places remain unfilled at that point, Millennium will offer them to the highest-ranked remaining applicants who identify as Other, and then to the highest-ranked remaining candidates regardless of community affiliation.

Places will be allocated in the following order:

Statutory Criteria

1. Children from socially disadvantaged circumstances in their final pre-school year who were born:
 - a. on or between 2 July 2020 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) and whose parents have not exercised their right to defer their child's entry to primary school; or,
 - b. on or between 1 April 2020 and 1 July 2020 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - have not attended or are not currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged child; and,
 - where that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1.
2. Children not falling within Paragraph (1) who are in their final pre-school year (as defined by paragraph 1)

Note: Children from 'socially disadvantaged circumstances' means a child whose parent has an entitlement to (i) Income Support, or (ii) Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or (iii) Income related Employment and Support Allowance, or (iv) Universal Credit. When parents apply for places for their child on this basis they must provide Benefit Verification to confirm that they have an entitlement. The application procedure for Pre-School will outline how Benefit Verification can be submitted.

Sub-criteria

In the event of over-subscription in criteria above, the following sub-criteria will apply:

- (a) Children who are currently attending the Nursery Unit or have a sibling currently attending Millennium Integrated Primary School;
- (b) Children who, at the date of their application, are the eldest child of the family to be eligible to apply for admission to the school (i.e. second child will not be disadvantaged if the eldest child attends a special school or specialist unit). The Board of Governors will also consider cases where the applicant is more than 8 years younger than the next eldest sibling as being an equivalent to an eldest child.

The definition of 'sibling' includes but is not limited to half-sister/brother or foster sister/brother.

- (c) All other applicants.

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion which can be applied then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname, as entered on the Birth Certificate, in the order set out below:

M G F D U H R T P I Y Z W K Q S X N L B V C J A E O

The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters.

In the event of surnames beginning with the same initial letter the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames will be used. If it is still not possible to distinguish between applicants, places will be determined by drawing lots.

Non Statutory Criteria

Note: Applications falling under Criterion 3 are processed only during Stage 2 of the admissions process, after final pre-school year (Statutory 1 and 2) applications.

3. Children who were born:
 - a. on or between 1 April 2020 - 1 July 2020 (inclusive), or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - have attended or are currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged (not penultimate aged) child; and,
 - where that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1: or,
 - b. on or between 2 July 2021 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive); or,
 - c. on or between 1 April 2021 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and where that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2026.

Tie Breaker – Non Statutory Criterion 3

Children within Criterion 3 will be selected in Chronological Order of Age – eldest child first. In the event of two or more children having the same date of birth the above random selection of letters will be used.

NB: Punctual and late applications for children in their final pre-school year will be prioritised ahead of punctual and late applications for children in the penultimate pre-school year.

It is a matter for the parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that they provide all the information required by the primary school to apply its criteria.

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form. If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

Waiting List Policy

Millennium operates a Waiting List for entry to Nursery and to all classes. A copy of this is available on the school website or directly from the school office.

Data Protection

The Board of Governors of an integrated school must use its best endeavours, in exercising its functions under the Education Orders, to ensure that the management, control and ethos of the school are such as are likely to attract to the school reasonable numbers of both Protestant and Roman Catholic pupils. The collection and processing of information regarding the religious/perceived community background of children set out above is necessary in order for the Board of Governors of an integrated school to carry out its statutory functions and fulfil its public task.