



Options for deferring entry to Reception and School

Lots of parents have been asking us what the options are for their child after they leave Beatle Woods to go to school, so we thought it may be useful to answer some of those questions in this leaflet and signpost parents to their Local Authority. If you have any further questions, please ask us.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. At what age must my child start school?

Children can attend school at the start of the term following their 5th Birthday; there are 3 prescribed dates for Compulsory School Age (CSA). They are 31st December, 31st March and 31st August. The law states that your child (should you decide to send them to school and are not home educating), should enter Reception at these key points although the majority will enter school in the September following their 4th birthday.

2. What if I'd like to defer my child's entry to school?

It is possible to defer entry into Reception in the following instance:

If your child was born between 31st March and 31st of August, they are summer born and it is possible to defer entry to reception by one year. This means that your child can enter Reception (not necessarily year one) in the September following their 5th Birthday. (Please see the information below for further information regarding Early Education Funding for this period).

If your child is not summer born and you choose not to send your child to school for their reception year, they are effectively home educated or deferring entry into school. You do not need to tell your Local Authority if you plan to do this if you do not apply for a school place. However, if you do apply for a school place and then change your mind, you must tell the LA that you plan to do this. Your child would then either enter school in the September of the year following their 5th birthday and join their chronological age group in year 1 or continue to be home educated with the possibility of spending time in our Home-Ed option (details in separate information leaflet).



If you choose to send your child to school and enter Reception before or after CSA prescribed dates, you can still elect for your child to do so part time and therefore continue to spend time at Beatle Woods (Flexi-Ed) or another nursery, if they offer this. You should approach both your chosen school and the admissions department of your Local Authority to discuss this.

- Please note that different Local Authorities have different processes and criteria in place for this; we have placed links to Solihull, Coventry and Warwickshire at the end of this leaflet.

3. What happens with funding and how many hours can my child spend at Beatle Woods if they are not at school?

Your child can spend up to 18 hours a week at Beatle Woods in all the above instances but the funding for your child ceases in the term following their 5th Birthday (again according to the prescribed dates).

For example, if your child turns 5 in the Autumn term (31st August-31st December) we can only access the current Early Education Funding (EEF for 15 or 30 hours) until 31st December. If you choose for your child to continue attending Beatle Woods, the sessions will then become chargeable. However, we are committed to supporting our families and ensuring the continuity that we know is vital for your child's well-being, so will not charge our normal fees but align fees with the funding and additional charges we currently receive (subject to general future increases). Please ask us for more details.

If your child turns 5 in the Spring term (31st December – 31st March), EEF will cease at Easter so the place is not funded from April and becomes chargeable (same as above).

If your child turns 5 in the Summer term (31st March- 31st August) we will be able to claim EEF until the end of the academic year (July), so no extra charges save for the additional hour (as now) because we can still claim on your behalf for the place.

4. What about the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile?

The early years foundation stage (EYFS) is the period of learning from birth to age 5 – before key stage 1 begins in Year 1. The EYFS profile is an assessment of children's achievements at the end of the Reception year – the last year of



the early years foundation stage. Children are assessed against 17 early learning goals. The child's profile will include whether children are below, at or above these goals – known as emerging, expected or exceeding the level expected by the end of reception year. If your child defers entry into Reception (as a summer born child), the receiving school will complete the EYFS Profile at the end of their reception year. If they spend their reception year with us and enter year one, we will be required to submit this information to the LA.

5. Where can I find out more and access information about my Local Authority?

For Coventry this page has the information you need:

http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/148/school_admissions/114/primary_school_admissions/4 and

http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/148/school_admissions/114/primary_school_admissions/9

For Solihull:

<http://www.solihull.gov.uk/Resident/Schools-learning/schooladmissions/School-admissions>

(Please note that on the deferred entry tab and the admission out of normal age range, SMBC say that it is only possible for summer born children to enter year one; please check out the information in the link below as by law they cannot insist this is the case. We already have a summer born child attending and the family have successfully applied to local schools and have approval for deferred entry into RECEPTION not year one).

For Warwickshire:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/startingprimaryschoolwhen>

(Warwickshire have detailed the legislation which backs up parent's ability to make choices regarding deferred entry and this page supplies all the dates you need too).