Beech Hyde Nursery Admissions Arrangements 2026-27

At Beech Hyde Primary School and Nursery, we value everyone as an individual. Our vibrant learning community provides a supportive, challenging environment that places equal importance on academic progress and the nurture of self-belief. We strive to help every child to reach their maximum potential and leave us as well-rounded, life-long learners, able to flourish in the next phase of their lives.

To help everyone achieve their best and succeed, we:

- Provide a warm, welcoming environment
- Embrace the diverse social and emotional needs of each child
- Deliver a broad and enriched curriculum that inspires every learner
- Develop a spirit of curiosity and actively encourage independent learning
- Promote the school's ethos of tolerance, respect and mutual support
- Trust the children in a wide range of duties to develop a sense of social responsibility

We would love you to visit our school and nursery building. If you wish to book a tour, please contact the school.

Admissions

We warmly welcome new children into our Nursery. We currently run one 3 hour session per day with a maximum of 36 children per session. 15 hours is fully funded via universal provision.

School nurseries, in line with all Private Voluntary and Independent providers have managed their own admissions from September 2018. Parents are invited to apply for their child's nursery place in the spring before the academic year that the child turns 4. Academic years run from September to August. Parents may state their preference as to which nursery class, school or centre they would like their child to attend in the year leading up to the child's fourth birthday.

In the event of the Nurseryl being over-subscribed, places will be allocated according to the school's admission rules and arrangements. Copies of these are available below or can be obtained from the school office.

1. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (15 hours)

Children with an EHCP which names the school will be allocated a place in accordance with section 324 of the Education Act 1996. Schools must admit children with an EHC (Education, Health and Care) Plan that names the school.

2. Children Looked After or Previously Looked After (CLA or PCLA) (15 hours)

Children looked after and children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order).

A "child looked after" 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 (section 22(1) of The Children Act 1989)

Adopted – under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (section 46). The Adoption and Children Act was not enacted until December 2005, therefore children adopted before December 2005 are not eligible.

Residence Order – under the terms of the Children Act 1989, section 8 defines a residence order as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.
Special guardianship order – under 14A of The Children Act 1989, an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian or guardians.
Children in the process of being placed for adoption are classified by law as children looked after providing there is a Placement Order.

3. Siblings of Beech Hyde School and Nursery Children (15 hours)

Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age-range of the school (Year 6).

A sibling is defined as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

4. Siblings of other schools in Wheathampstead (15 hours)

Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age-range of the school (Year 6).

A sibling is defined as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

5. Distance – (15 hours)

Children who live closest to the school. This will be at the discretion of the Governors.

The link below enables parents to check whether they qualify for the additional funded hours and then register: they will then receive a code that they MUST be able to produce when registering with the school.
https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/childcare-and-advice-forparents/free-early-education-and-childcare/free-early-education-and-childcare.aspx

7. Any other children

Where the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

Children moving into the area who wish to join our school should be aware that we hold a continued interests list. The continued interest list for Nursery children who will be 4 this academic year, is held in school. If you wish to register your child please complete the registration form below and return to the School Office, Beech Hyde Primary School and Nursery, Nurseries road, Wheathampstead, Herts., AL4 8TP or online at admin@beechhyde.aetrust.uk.

IMPORTANT: Admission to Beech Hyde Nursery School does not guarantee admission to the Reception class at Beech Hyde Primary School. Please refer to the Hertfordshire Admissions Rules for Primary Admissions.

Parents may also choose to access the 15 hours provision here at Beech Hyde, and then use another provider, such as the Early Bird Pre-school (also on site) or childminder, for additional hours. It is important to inform the school if a child is accessing extended provision.