LITTLE CRICKETS AT PARK SCHOOL - ADMISSIONS POLICY

(Please read this document in conjunction with the Nursery "What Happens Next…" information sheet)

Further information and details can also be obtained from the School's Admissions and Accessibility policies – available from the School Office on request.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Little Crickets at Park School is a thriving Nursery for 3 months to 4-year-olds open all year round, from 8.00am to 6.00pm.

1.2 Deciding on the right Nursery for your child is very important and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you and your child will visit Little Crickets at Park School, to see for yourself how the children can develop their skills with the additional benefit of sharing the facilities of Park School.

1.3 Please contact the Nursery Admissions team via the School Office on 01202 396640 or by email to admissions@littlecricketsbournemouth.co.uk

1.4 This policy has been authorised by the Senior Leadership Team of the School and the Nursery. Its status is advisory only. It is addressed to prospective parents and to all members of the teaching and administration staff.

2. THE ENTRY PROCEDURE

2.1 Children are accepted into the Nursery at any time from 3 months, provided there are places and where this environment is suitable for the child.

2.2 The first formal step in the admissions process is to register their child so that their name can be included on the Nursery's registration list. To do this they must pay the non-refundable registration fee of £80.00. We do however recommend families to visit the nursery before registration, to discuss any questions they may have.

The nursery requires that you choose a minimum of five sessions when there is sufficient availability. In the event that five sessions are not available, you may be able to choose less sessions upon agreement with the Admissions Officer. You will be advised when sessions do become available in the future so you will be required to book these at the time of registration.

3. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

3.1 Park School and Little Crickets aim is to encourage applications from a diverse range of backgrounds. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world.

3.2 Park School and Nursery is committed to equal opportunities for all pupils regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, disability or social background.

4. SPECIAL NEEDS

4.1 Little Crickets at Park School welcomes pupils with special educational needs or disabilities providing that the school can offer them the support that they require and our site can accommodate them. We strongly advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical or mental disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with the Admissions Officer and Nursery Manager before registering for a place so that they can discuss thoroughly the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child. Parents should provide a copy of an educational psychologist's report or a medical report or the report of any other relevant professional childcare specialist if they have one. Following this meeting

the Nursery Manager will advise the most suitable placement for the child.

5. ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

5.1 When offering places, consideration is given to the order in which children were registered on the waiting list. However, preference may be given as follows:

- to the children who are registered for the Reception class at School,
- to children whose parents work in the School or in the Nursery,
- children who are moving from Little Crickets at Dean Park or Little Crickets Forest School.

5.2 To register for a school place, there is a separate admissions process which parents must complete. See the Admissions Policy - School for further details.

5.3 Letters offering a place are sent out once a child has been successfully registered and on the basis that the desired places are available. If not all the sessions requested are available, the admissions officer will get in contact to find a mutually-convenient arrangement. Parents wishing to accept the offer of a place are required to complete and return an Acceptance Form together with payment of the acceptance deposit of £400.

5.4 There is no formal entry test for children entering the Nursery. However, in Mini Maples/Maples it is important for pupils to be as independent as possible in matters of personal hygiene. In addition, it is encouraged that from the age of 2 years in the nursery your child will:

- be prepared to attempt to put on their own coat and shoes, etc;
- be able to sit at a table for a set period whilst eating and drinking;
- be able to play sensibly and sensitively with other children;
- Listen/look at the staff looking after them
- be able to answer simple questions and to explain their needs;
- be able to sit and listen to a story, play with a toy and look at a book for a few minutes;

5.4.1 In addition, in the Maples room

- be able to hold a pencil or crayon and be beginning to “mark make”;
- be able to wash and dry their hands; also
- be able to visit the toilet independently (most of the time).

5.5 With regard to a child’s conduct, they must:

- be able to respond with appropriate behaviour to instructions/requests made by nursery staff;
- be able to exercise self-control and co-operate with other children and Nursery staff, both in the learning area and in all play areas;
- be willing to listen and learn.

5.5.1 If a child is unable to meet and sustain the majority of the above, the Little Crickets at Park School reserves the right to defer or refuse entry.

5.6 During the registration process, children may be invited into the Nursery for familiarisation sessions. If a child is unable to meet and sustain the basic requirements set out in 5.4 to 5.5 above, the Nursery reserves the right to defer or refuse entry.

6. DISABILITY AND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

6.1 The School and Nursery have limited facilities for some disabilities. However, we will do all that is reasonable to comply with our legal and moral responsibilities under the Equality legislation. This is in order to accommodate the needs of applicants who have disabilities for which, with reasonable

adjustments, the Nursery can cater adequately.

6.2 The Nursery needs to be made aware of any known disability or special educational need which may affect your child's ability to take full advantage of the education provided at the Nursery. Parents of a child who has any disability or special educational need(s) must provide the Nursery with full written details at registration, or as soon as possible thereafter, before accepting the offer of a place.

6.3 The Nursery needs this information so it can assess any specific needs a child may have. It also allows staff to discuss with parents the reasonable adjustments that can be made during the admissions process and once the child starts at the Nursery.