

St Columba's Nursery Unit
3 Agivey Road
Kilrea
BT51 5UT

Maintained Nursery Unit
Admissions No: 26 (**Full-time**)
Session Times: 9:00am – 1:30pm
A mid-day meal is available

Telephone: 028 2954 0273

Principal: Mrs Ciara Henry
Chair of Board of Governors: Mrs Una Walsh

E-mail: info@stcolumbasps.coleraine.ni.sch.uk
Website: www.stcolumbaskilrea.co.uk

Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and the Principal in relation to admissions.

The Board of Governors will determine the Admissions Criteria. The Criteria will be applied by the Principal on behalf of the Board of Governors.

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 10 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 24 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 24 January 2025 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.

Admissions Criteria

Admissions criteria to be used in the event of the Nursery Unit being oversubscribed. The criteria are listed in order of priority.

Statutory Criteria

1. Children from ***socially disadvantaged circumstances** in their **final pre-school year** who were born:
 - on or between 2 July 2021 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive) and whose parents have not exercised their right to defer their child's entry to primary school; or,
 - 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,
 - 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,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2026.

****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.***

2. Children **not from socially disadvantaged circumstances** (as defined above) who are in their **final pre-school year** (as defined by criterion 1).

Sub-criteria / tie breaker

In the event of oversubscription on the application of a statutory criterion the sub-criteria will be applied in the order set down.

- a. Children who reside in the Parish of Kilrea and children in the catchment area of the former St. Mary's P.S. Aghadowey.
- b. Children who have a child of the family presently/formerly enrolled at St Columba's P.S. Kilrea, including children whose sibling is admitted to year 1 in September 2025.
- c. Children who are the first child of the family (twins to be considered joint eldest).

In the event of over-subscription in any one of the sub-criteria, taken in order, final selection will be on the basis of initial letter(s) of surname (as entered on Birth Certificate) in the order set out below:

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

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:
- on or between 1 April 2021 - 1 July 2021 (inclusive), or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - 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,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1, or
 - on or between 2 July 2022 and 1 July 2023 (inclusive); or,
 - on or between 1 April 2022 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2027.

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 DOB the above random selection of letters will be used.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or provided with the application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or provided with it.

Applicants should note that they will be required to produce documents verifying their address and the child's date of birth.

In the event of a vacancy arising after the conclusion of the EA Application Procedure children will be admitted to the Nursery Unit until the approved Nursery Enrolment number is reached.

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

The Waiting List Policy is available directly from St. Columba's Nursery Unit.