



Joy Lane Foundation Primary School

Oysters SRP (ASD)

Admission Arrangements for Entrance
From September 2026

Draft Prepared	February 2025
Date Agreed	March 2025
Signed by Executive Headteacher	Ms D J Hines
Signed by Chair of Governors	Mrs N Mattin
Date Policy to be Reviewed	July 2025

Joy Lane Foundation Primary School

It is the intention of the Governors that children who are admitted to the Foundation Stage will do so before their fifth birthday. Usually, children will enter the Foundation Stage at the start of the academic year (September 2025 - August 2026) that they have their fifth birthday. The School's Published Admission Number is 90.

Contact details are as follows:

The Executive Headteacher
Joy Lane Foundation Primary School
Whitstable
Kent
CT5 4LT

Tel: 01227 261430

email: admissions@joylane.kent.sch.uk

In the event of oversubscription: Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of special educational need or Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly. If the number of preferences for the school is more than the number of spaces available, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

- 1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children** – A looked after child 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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

- 2. Current Family Association** - A brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry where the family continue to live at the same address as when the sibling was admitted – or – if they have moved – live within 2 miles of the school, or have moved to a property that is nearer to the school than the previous property as defined by the 'Nearness' criterion'.

In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother and sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters.

- 3. Health and Special Access Reasons** – Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents'/guardians' physical or mental health or social needs mean that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school.

- 4. Nearness of children's homes to school** – Nearness of children's homes to school - we use the distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school. Where applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant co-ordinates. In exceptional circumstances where alternative co-ordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by Head of Service.

Waiting list will be held for at least the first term of the academic year in oversubscription criteria order.

Where an offer has been made, the school will provide for the admission of all children in the September following their fourth birthday. Parents can chose to defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year, but not beyond the start of the term after their child reaches compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year. Where parents wish, children may attend part-time until later in the school year, but not beyond the start of the term after their child reaches compulsory school age.

Requests for admission to Reception outside of the normal age group should be made to the Headteacher of each preferred school as early as possible in the admissions round associated with that child's date of birth. This will allow the school and admissions authority sufficient time to make a decision before the closing date. Parents are not expected to provide evidence to support their request to defer their application, however where provided it must be specific to the child in question. This might include medical or Educational Psychologist reports. There is no legal requirement for this medical or educational evidence to be secured from an appropriate professional, however, failure to provide this may impede a school's ability to agree to deferral. Parents are required to complete an application for the normal point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined. This application can be cancelled if the school agrees to accept a deferred application for entry into Year R the following year. Deferred applications must be made via paper RCAF to the LA, with written confirmation from each named school attached. Deferred applications will be processed in the same way as all applications for the cohort in the following admissions round, and offers will be made in accordance with each school's oversubscription criteria.



Oysters Specially Resourced Provision (SRP)

Kent County Council have commissioned 30 places in the year 2025 - 2026. Parents and Carers must apply to access our SRP through their Local Authority SEN Officer; a direct application cannot be made to the School.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be considered for admission children must:

- have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) or be undergoing a formal assessment-

(formerly known as a Statement of Special Educational Needs) □
have a diagnosis and Primary need of Autism.

- be within the normal range of average ability.
- have the ability to communicate verbally without full reliance on communication aids, although children may still need support and programmes devised by a Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) and delivered by trained support staff.
- be able to integrate for the majority of the school day.

Admission will not be agreed if:

- the agreed number of funded places by the Local Authority are fully subscribed so that admitting children over this number would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.
- there is insufficient evidence of a clear diagnosis of Autism. E.g. where it is reported 'there are autistic traits'.
- there is evidence of moderate, severe or complex learning difficulties in addition to Autism.
- the admission of a pupil would compromise the health and safety of the pupils and/ or staff within the provision or would compromise or disrupt the education of pupils already in attendance.
- It should also be noted that siblings are not automatically admitted.

Referrals for Admission

All referrals are directed to the school through the Local Authority, who commission the school places and will be reviewed by the admissions team prior to further communication. All referrals sent to Oysters are considered by the Inclusion Manager in liaison with the Senior Leadership Team. Where it is felt Oysters is potentially the right placement for a child, parents will be invited to visit the school. This will then be followed by an observation of the child in their current setting before a final decision is made.

Oyster Bay Nursery School

Oyster Bay Nursery School is a Private Independent Nursery run by the Governing Board of Joy Lane with the Headteacher delegated to oversee the efficient running of the Nursery. Children who attend our Nursery are not automatically entitled to be admitted to our Year R classes.