

Date/Dyddiad 26th January 2024
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Dear Parent/Carer

ADMISSION TO NURSERY: SEPTEMBER 2024 – JULY 2025

All admissions to Vale of Glamorgan Community Nursery Schools and Units are dealt with by the School Access section of the Council. It is our understanding that you may be interested in a nursery place as your details have been provided to us either from you directly, or via a school. Your child will be eligible for a part time nursery place from the term after his/her third birthday. Should you wish to apply for a nursery place for next academic year it is necessary for you to apply online before the closing date of **15th March 2024**.

Please access <https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/schools/admissions/Nursery-Admissions.aspx> for further information.

You will need to apply for a place now if your child was born **between 1st September 2020 and 31st March 2022**, even if you have expressed an interest at the school or with us previously.

SCHOOL ORGANISATIONAL CHANGES

Cowbridge School

To meet increased demand for primary education in the Cowbridge area, Cowbridge Comprehensive School became an all through 3-19 school from September 2023, providing 48 nursery places.

The catchment area for the primary phase at Cowbridge Comprehensive School will mirror that of Y Bont Faen Primary School. **As with all applications, it is therefore important that parents submit more than one school preference on their application form.**

St Nicholas C/W Primary

To meet the requirements for nursery provision at the school, a nursery unit was set up at St Nicholas Church in Wales Primary School for September 2023 with 24 places for parents of nursery age children to apply for. A new school building with 24 additional part time nursery places was constructed to replace the previous school building.

As with all applications, it is important that parents submit more than one school preference on their application form.

More information on the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme can be found on the Council's website: www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/21st-Century-Schools

ONLINE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

This process is quick and easy to use and has made it much simpler for parents to apply for Vale of Glamorgan school places. Full details of the process will be available on the Nursery Admissions page on the council's website. Before applying, applicants should ensure that they have read the **Parental Guide to School Admissions** which is also available on the Nursery Admissions Pages of the council's website.

Application via the council website is the preferred method as it provides parents with the assurance of a safe and secure application process and an immediate acknowledgement so that you can be sure that your application has reached us. However, if for any reason you are unable to apply this way, please contact us and we will arrange to send you a paper application form, or alternatively you could collect one from the reception desk at Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry.

Any application received after the closing date will be recorded as late and may result in your child being denied a place at your chosen nursery if demand exceeds the number of places available. Parents should note that children attending the nursery unit of a school will not be guaranteed to continue education at the same school at reception age. You will need to apply to the Authority for a reception place, even if you require your catchment area school. **If you wish to apply for a Church in Wales Aided or Catholic Nursery then you must apply directly to the School as they deal with their own admissions.**

The Childcare Offer

The Childcare Offer provides eligible parents of 3 to 4-year olds with childcare funding, for up to 48 weeks a year.

Children become eligible for the funding from the term after their third birthday. As long as parents remain eligible, the childcare funding continues until the child enters full-time education. There is extra support available for children with additional needs, for training, equipment or staffing in childcare provision.

Parents must be in work or enrolled on a Further or Higher Education course that lasts at least 10 weeks. For working parents, minimum and maximum earnings criteria apply.

In term time, you could receive up to 17.5 hours per week of funded childcare in registered childcare provision.

In the school holidays, you could receive up to 30 hours per week of funded childcare in registered childcare provision, allocated at three holiday weeks per term.

For more information, eligibility criteria, application opening dates, and the Childcare Offer application, please go to:

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/childcareoffer

Please contact the Childcare Offer helpline with all enquiries on the Childcare Offer and finding suitable childcare.

Call: 03000 628 628 or Email: childcareoffer@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

School Access Team
Directorate of Learning and Skills