



17th January 2017

Nursery Provision at St Joan of Arc Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for applying for a Nursery place at St. Joan of Arc Primary School. We are very proud of our school Nursery and your application means a lot to us.

We would like to make sure you are aware that the Government introduced a new Childcare Bill into the House of Lords on 1st June 2015. The Bill proposed to extend the free childcare entitlement for working parents of three- and four-year-olds to provide eligible parents with a total of 30 hours of free childcare per week. The Childcare Bill: Policy Statement can be viewed on the Department for Education's website at GOV.UK.

The School Governors have tried their very best to implement these changes whilst retaining the educational nature of our nursery. From September 2017, the nursery will continue to be led and managed by a fully qualified teacher and a nursery nurse. The Admissions Policy remains unchanged.

You will find attached a separate document explaining how the Childcare Bill is going to be implemented at St Joan of Arc. This document outlines eligibility for the free 30 hour entitlement. You will see, that for the first time, we will be offering parents who do not qualify for the full free 30 hours an opportunity to pay for the additional hours for which they do not qualify. This is a decision that has not been taken lightly but has been solely driven by the changes made to nursery funding by the government. The charges listed offer very competitive rates, considering nursery education is being offered by a teacher.

We understand that parents are anxious to settle their nursery arrangements as soon as possible. The Governors are in the process of ranking the applications and will make every effort to inform you of your outcome by the 31st of March.

In the meantime, thank you once again for your application and for your patience and understanding in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Campbell
Headteacher