



Gorsemoor Primary School

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WS12 3TG.

8th May 2017

Dear Parents,

Recently you will have been notified by the Staffordshire Education Authority Admissions Office that your child has been offered a place at Gorsemoor Nursery in September 2017. We would like to welcome you and your child to Gorsemoor.

Our Nursery runs two sessions during the day. The morning session runs between 9.00am and 12.00pm and the afternoon session runs between 12.30pm and 3.30pm. Each session is limited to 26 places.

As you may be aware, from September 2017 the Government will be offering an extra 15 hours of free childcare to those parents who are eligible. The scheme is available for parents who earn, on average, £120 a week or more, which is the equivalent of 16 hours or more on the National Minimum or Living Wage. Please visit the link on our school website to find out more information on this.

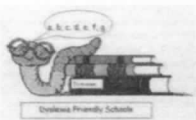
We would like to invite you to an open evening, between 5.00pm and 6.00pm on the evening of **Monday 15th May 2017**, where we will endeavour to give you more information regarding this. We would appreciate it if you could have visited this website: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk, **before the meeting**, in order to provide us with information as to your eligibility so that we can begin the process of allocating places.

Gorsemoor will not be providing the extra 15 hours of childcare due to already having a full intake of nursery children. We will however be continuing our strong link with St John's Nursery and local childminders to provide the extra childcare for you.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to a Welcome Meeting, which will be held in the school hall, on **Wednesday 21st June at 2.00pm**. At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet the Nursery staff, look around our Nursery unit and ask any questions that you may have. This initial meeting is intended for parents only as children will be invited to visit the Nursery and spend some time with us at a later date in July. Please could you fill in and return the attached reply slip.

We look forward to seeing you very soon.

The Gorsemoor Early Years Team



Please bring this reply this slip to the 30 hour free childcare meeting or, if not attending, to the school office by Monday 15th May.

Name of child.....

I will / will not be taking up the offer of a place at Gorsemoor Nursery in September 2017.
(Please delete as appropriate)

I have completed the eligibility form on the Government website and I am/am not eligible for the 15 hours free childcare. (Please delete as appropriate)

As always, preferences for morning or afternoon sessions will be taken into consideration. However, due to the 30 hour childcare initiative, if you are eligible for this, your session at Gorsemoor may be selected for you in order to cater for the link between St John's and childminders.

Please tick which session you would prefer your child to attend:

I would prefer a morning Nursery session from 9.00am until 12.00pm.

I would prefer an afternoon Nursery session from 12.30pm until 3.30pm.

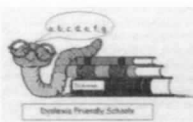
I have no preference, either session will be suitable.

If you have a **strong** preference for a morning or afternoon place please use this opportunity to state your reasons below:

I will / will not be attending the Welcome Meeting on Wednesday 21st June at 2.00pm.

If we do not receive any information from you by Friday 19th May 2017 then we will assume that you are either:

- Not eligible for 15 hours extra childcare care
- You do not have a preference of morning or afternoon nursery
- You will be organising your extra 15 hours of childcare with a provider who is not St John's Nursery or a childminder linked to our school yourself



How to find out eligibility and apply

- If you want to apply for free care, you can do so through the government's new Childcare Choices website - <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>. It also features a handy Childcare Calculator to help parents narrow down their options - and the best schemes to meet their salary and needs.
 - Once you've applied, your application will be reviewed by HMRC. Those who qualify will then be sent a code - which will allow parents to pre-arrange their childcare place ahead of September 2017.
 - When you apply, you'll be asked to enter your name, address and National Insurance number and the same details for your partner, where applicable.
 - You'll also be asked if you're expecting any changes to your income over the coming three months and whether you are in receipt of any relevant benefits.
 - Successful applicants will have to reconfirm their details quarterly - to ensure all information held is up to date.
 - At the start of the application, you'll be required to create a *Government Gateway* account if you don't already have one. This will then give you a user ID which will allow you online access to the government's services.
 - If you experience any problems while applying, you can get help through the government's Customer Interaction Centre on 0300 123 4097.
 - At the end of the application process, parents will have a childcare service account.
 - Keep an eye on the "secure messages" section - as this is where you'll be notified if you qualify for the scheme.
 - Eligible parents will be given an 11 digit 'eligibility code' for their child.
 - They will be asked to take this code - along with their National Insurance number and child's date of birth - to their provider to claim their 30 hours place.
 - These codes normally start with '5000'. However, there are a small number of cases where parents might have a temporary code starting with '11'.
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