

Early Learning and Childcare Policy for Admission

Context

Aberdeenshire Council has a statutory duty, under the terms of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 to offer 600 hours of Early Learning and Childcare (EL&C) to all eligible children. All children are eligible for a place from the school term following their third birthday and in addition some children aged two will also be eligible. To ensure we fulfil this duty we work in accordance with the requirements and guidance identified in local and national documentation and legislation.

Aberdeenshire Council's Early Learning and Childcare provision reflects our value of ensuring the best start in life for children. Flexibility within our provision supports the need for best value, quality of EL&C that meets the needs of families. Within this context, Aberdeenshire Council recognises that families have a variety of needs and preferences with regard to EL&C. We offer places in local authority schools, and in playgroups and private nurseries that are in partnership with the Council.

Aim

Curriculum for Excellence, Pre-Birth to 3, Building the Ambition and Aberdeenshire Council's 3-18 Curriculum Framework support the delivery of flexible and active EL&C experiences which meet the needs of every child. This experience starts in Early Learning and Childcare settings and continues to the end of Primary 1, and beyond for some children.

Admissions Criteria for Local Authority Nurseries Only Aged 2 to not yet attending school

Priority One

Two year children eligible under Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

Priority Two

Children deferring entry from Primary One and staying at an EL&C setting where an additional year of funding has been agreed by Aberdeenshire Council.

Priority Three

3 and 4 year old children who are resident in Aberdeenshire who have a recognised additional support need and as agreed by the Central admissions panel.

Priority Four

Children who are returning to the same EL&C setting, including those who were eligible from aged two.

BY DATE OF BIRTH:-

Priority Five

Four year olds from the local children's services network

Priority Six

Three year olds from the local Children's services network who have a sibling

already within the EL&C setting and/or school.

Priority Seven

Three year olds from the local children's services network

Priority Eight

Children whose childcare is within the local children' services network

Priority Nine

All other eligible children residing in Aberdeenshire

Priority Ten

Children residing outwith Aberdeenshire

It should be noted that Partner Providers are not bound by the above admissions criteria but must ensure their admissions policy complies with all current equal opportunities legislation.

Local Documents

Education and Children's Services, Getting it Right for Aberdeenshire's Children:

www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org

Aberdeenshire Council 3 - 18 Curriculum Policy 2014

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-us/service-structure/education-and-childrens-services-8>

National Documents

The Scottish Government and COSLA. *The Early Years Framework: Part 1 and 2* (2008). The Scottish Government, Edinburgh.

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/01/13095148/0

The Scottish Government. *A Guide to Getting it Right for Every Child* (2008). The Scottish Government, Edinburgh

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/238985/0065813.pdf>

The Scottish Government. *Curriculum for Excellence - Building the Curriculum 3: a framework for learning and teaching* (2008) The Scottish Government, Edinburgh

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/06/06104407/0

HMIe. *The Child at the Centre 2: Self Evaluation in the Early Years* (2007) HMIe, Edinburgh

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/TheChildattheCentreSelfevaluationintheEarlyYearsern4-684267.pdf>

Scottish Executive. *Health for all Children (HALL 4): Guidance on Implementation in Scotland* (2005). Scottish Executive, Edinburgh

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/04/15161325/13269

National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare (2008)

<http://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/108849/ncs-early-education-child-care-up-to-16-sep-2009.pdf>

Building the Ambition

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/earlyyears/buildingtheambition

Setting the Table

www.healthscotland.com

Acts of Parliament

Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/8/contents/enacted

Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Acts (2004 and 2009)

www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2004/4/pdfs/asp_20040004_en.pdf

www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2009/7/pdfs/asp_20090007_en.pdf

Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000 - Section 34: Guidance on Pre-School Education (2002). The Scottish Government, Edinburgh

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/08/gpse/1