

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 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) to all eligible children. From August 2020, this will increase to 1140 hours of ELC in line with the Government's ELC expansion programme. All children are eligible for a place from the term following their third birthday. 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. Aberdeenshire Council recognises that families have a variety of needs and preferences with regard to ELC. We offer places in local authority schools, and in funded providers such as playgroups, private nurseries and childminders that are in partnership with the Council. While we try to meet individual preferences, we cannot guarantee a place at named nurseries. You will always be asked to provide a first, second and third choice of setting.

Curriculum for Excellence, Pre-Birth to 3 and Realising the Ambition support the delivery of flexible and active ELC experiences that 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 1

All children **returning** for another academic year.

All entitled delayed entry.

Priority 2

Already placed eligible 2-year-olds (this needs to be indicated on the online application)

Looked after children /vulnerable children (supported application)

Children with ASN (supported application and MAAPM)

Priority 3 - All **new** applications for preschool children with siblings in the school.

Priority 4 - All **new** preschool applications.

Priority 5 - All ante preschool with siblings in the school

Priority 6 - All ante preschool applications

Priority 7 – Non-Aberdeenshire residents

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It should be noted that Funded 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

Right support, Right place, Right time
<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/16803/right-support-right-place-right-time-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

National Documents:

National Standards
[Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: principles and practice - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

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
<https://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/238985/0065813.pdf> (webarchive.org.uk)

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

How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare. (Feb 2016) A self - evaluation toolkit.
[How good is our early learning and childcare? \(education.gov.scot\)](http://education.gov.scot)

Health and Social Care Standards: My support, My life.
www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/06/1327

Realising the Ambition
[Realising the Ambition | Learning resources | National Improvement Hub \(education.gov.scot\)](http://education.gov.scot)

Setting the Table
<http://www.healthscotland.com/documents/30341.aspx>

Space to Grow
<https://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/1623/space-to-grow.pdf>

UNCRC – United Nations Convention on The Rights of The Child
[UN Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\) - UNICEF UK](http://www.unicef.org/uk)

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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

[Standards in Scotland's Schools Etc. Act 2000 - Section 34: Guidance on Pre-School Education \(webarchive.org.uk\)](http://www.webarchive.org.uk)