

Delayed Accelerated Admissions Policy for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Aim

The aim of this policy is to establish a procedure for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools which gives parents, schools and settings clear guidance on delayed or accelerated admission. When a delayed or accelerated request is made for an own admission authority school the decisions rests with the school requested.

Principles

- 1.1 All children and young people should normally be educated in their chronological year group
- 1.2 Schools assess the learning needs of children and young people so that the curriculum they provide is relevant enabling them to make appropriate progress and maximise their achievement
- 1.3 Admission of children outside their normal year group will only be considered in exceptional circumstances (ref: Schools Admissions Code 2012 – 2.17)

2. Deferred Entry Reception Classes:

- 2.1 The Early Years Foundation Stage spans pre-school to the reception age group within school providing appropriate learning experiences for children aged 3 – 5 years
- 2.2 Primary education is normally provided in primary schools although, in some areas, there are separate infant and junior schools. Children whose fifth birthday falls before 1 September, 1 January or 1 April become of compulsory school age on whichever of these dates follows their fifth birthday. However, so that all children can benefit from three full years of infant education children can be admitted to the reception year group at the beginning of the academic year starting in September
- 2.3 With agreement of the Headteacher reception admissions can be phased in up to the end of the 1st term either on a part-time or full-time basis. Parents may request a deferred entry until later in the same school year as long as this does not go beyond the child's compulsory school age or beyond the academic year for which the original application was made
- 2.4 Parents can request that their child takes up the reception place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age
- 2.5 There is an expectation by the Department for Education that children who start school following their 5th birthday and go straight into year one, should be taught the National Curriculum for KS1, which is designed to be taught and

assessed in five terms. This assumes that such children have experienced educational provision in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage framework prior to starting school. This supports the principle that children and young people should be educated within their chronological year group

- 2.6 Children whose 5th Birthday falls in the Summer Term do not legally have to send their child to school until the following September. Parents who wish to do this should apply to the Local Authority for a Reception place in the Academic Year following their child's 5th Birthday for **the request to be considered**. Decisions relating to delayed or accelerated transfer in exceptional cases must be informed by a report from relevant professionals (Education Psychologists / Paediatricians / Statutory SEN team)
- 2.7 The final decision on delayed or accelerated transfer will be taken jointly by the Headteacher of the school requested and Jen Southall, School Development Adviser, School Improvement Team.
- 2.8 Admissions to a school normally occur at the beginning of a school term but there may be special circumstances, such as a house move, which mean that admissions may be at other times.

3. Delayed or accelerated Admission to Junior Schools and delayed transfer to Secondary Schools

- 3.1 Children and young people should transfer to the next phase of education (junior schools) with their peer group
- 3.2 Decisions relating to delayed or accelerated transfer in exceptional cases must be informed by a report from relevant professionals (Education Psychologists / Paediatricians / Statutory SEN team)
- 3.3 The implications for delayed pupils reaching statutory school leaving age before completing Key Stage 4 and social emotional issues for delayed or accelerated pupils must be considered when making any decision
- 2.9 The final decision on delayed or accelerated transfer will be taken jointly by the child's current Headteacher and Jen Southall, School Development Adviser, School Improvement Team.
- 3.4 It must, however, be noted that a receiving school may decide to review any previous decisions made which may result in the child being taught in their chronological age group.

4. Accelerated admission to Secondary School

- 4.1 Children and Young People should normally transfer to the next phase of education [secondary schools] with their peer group.

- 4.2 If a request for accelerated transfer is made the final decision will be taken by the requested secondary school[s] being their own admission authority. Details of each schools policy will be available directly from the school concerned. It must, however, be noted that a receiving school may decide to review any previous decisions made which may result in the child being taught in their chronological age group.

5 Pupils with Statement of Special Education Needs

- 5.1 Due to their specific needs children with a statement of Special Education Needs may have it recognised in their statement that it is necessary to be taught outside their chronological year group. This decision will be made by Michael Gorman, Head of the Virtual School.