

Applying for Pre-School Education for your Child

Session 2010-11

প্রাক-প্রাথমিক শিক্ষায় ভর্তির জন্য আবেদন করা
申請 3 至 4 歲幼兒教育學位
Aanvragen van een plek in het peuter en kleuter onderwijs
Faire une demande de place dans l'éducation préscolaire
A' Dèanamh Iarratais airson Àite ann am Foghlam ron Sgoil
Einen Vorschulplatz beantragen
Inscriversi per un posto alla Scuola Materna
Piesakot Bèrnu Pirmsskolas Nodarbībām
Kreipimasis del vietu ikimokyklinėse istaigose
申请学期教育的位子
Søknad om plass i førskoleundervisning
Składanie podania o miejsce w Edukacji Przedszkolnej
Como Recorrer a um Lugar na Educação Pré-Escolar
Подача заявки на получение места для ребёнка в группы дошкольной подготовки
Solicitud de plaza en educación preescolar

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Can I transfer my child from one pre-school setting to another?

You can only transfer from one pre-school setting to another if:

- you move house
- your child's significant support needs warrant it
- you change your pre-school place because you need to access wrap-around care.

Can I split my child's place between providers?

Split Placements will only be agreed if your child's significant support needs warrant it.

Please note that Aberdeenshire Council Nursery Classes do not offer split placements.

How do I apply for the pre-school setting of my choice?

Application forms are available from your local pre-school setting. You will be given a booklet, *Selecting Pre-School Education for your Child*, which explains the priorities for admission and lists all pre-school education settings in Aberdeenshire.

If you have questions relating to your child's pre-school education application contact the setting directly. If they are unable to answer your questions, contact the appropriate Area Education Office:

Banff & Mintlaw Networks

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Aberdeenshire Council's 3 –18 Curriculum Framework supports schools and learning communities in organising, scheduling and delivering consistent learning experiences that meet the entitlements and needs of individual learners from age 3 years to 18 years.

Aberdeenshire Council establishes a culture of respect, care and ambition for our children and young people.

When is my child entitled to free pre-school education?

Every child is entitled to a free part-time education place from a date following their third birthday.

Admission to pre-school education is according to the child's date of birth and at the following time:

- August - to secure a place for this term a child must be 3 years old by 31st August *
- January - to secure a place for this term a child must be 3 years old by 31st December
- April - to secure a place for this term a child must be 3 years old by the last day of February

For example, if your child's 3rd birthday is 20th September she/he will be entitled to a place from the following January.

This means that all children will be entitled to between 4 and 6 terms of pre-school education.

* Children cannot commence pre-school education until their third birthday.

Is my child able to start before her/his pre-school entitlement commences?

Many of the partners in the independent and voluntary sector offer provision for children under the age of entitlement but you will have to pay for this.

Where can my child access free pre-school education in Aberdeenshire?

Pre-school education in Aberdeenshire is available at a variety of different settings including:

- Aberdeenshire Council Nursery Classes
- Commissioned Playgroups
- Commissioned Private Day Nurseries

For more information about individual settings, please contact the setting directly. See leaflet *Selecting Pre-School Education for your Child* for a list of all Aberdeenshire Council and Partner Provider settings across Aberdeenshire.

Do I have the right to send my child to the pre-school setting of my choice?

Aberdeenshire Council strives to ensure that funded places are matched to the needs of children and parents. All such places are allocated according to the criteria in the *Policy for Admission to Pre-School Education* to ensure fairness and equality. You must give a second and third choice on the application form. Failure to do this will disadvantage your child.

Admission for pre-school education is by Community School Network, not by primary school catchment area.

Transport to and from a pre-school setting is not provided or funded by Education, Learning & Leisure.

How does my child access free pre-school education in a private day nursery?

If your child attends a commissioned private day nursery, Aberdeenshire Council will fund and quality assure the delivery of pre-school education provided by the setting.

You can access your entitlement of five sessions over a minimum of 2.5 days of each week, term time only. However, there must be at least one hour between the morning and afternoon sessions. You will need to complete an application form in the normal way and submit it to the private day nursery.

How many weeks of pre-school education will be provided and for how long?

All settings provide 38 weeks of free pre-school education each year. The full entitlement is five sessions weekly during term time.

Aberdeenshire pre-school settings offer the following:

- Staff who recognise that you are the biggest influence on your child's development.
- Welcoming and inclusive experiences that are planned to build on the individual talents and needs of your child.
- Effective learning and teaching that makes your child's learning creative, relevant, lively, active and fun.
- Smooth transition experiences that support your child with the development of their social and emotional skills.

My child is already accessing funded pre-school education in a nursery school, playgroup or private day nursery. Do I need to apply?

Yes. If you wish your child to remain in the same pre-school setting for the forthcoming session, complete Sections 1 and 2 of the *Pre-School Education Application Form* and return to the pre-school setting your child currently attends. Your child's current place will be kept for him/her.

However, if you wish to move your child from one setting to another setting, you must submit a complete application for the forthcoming session.

If you have any questions discuss this with your current pre-school setting.