



Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust

Policy number: 66

Admission to Early Years Policy

OVERVIEW

The Early Years team at The Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust are dedicated to providing the children in their care with the best start to their educational career by ensuring a seamless transition into all our settings from 6 months in Rainbows into Pre-Nursery, Nursery, Reception and then into the next Key Stage as they enter Year One.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide a safe and secure setting for the children, that they feel confident in.
2. To make separating from their carer as stress-free as possible.
3. To give each child a key person, who is the first point of contact for both the child and their carer.

STRATEGIES

Admission into Rainbows, Pre Nursery and Nursery

1. Children are admitted to The Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust's pre school classes according to the policy of Liverpool Education and Lifelong Learning Service. All families have the opportunity to visit the setting before requesting a place. Children will be offered spaces according to if they have siblings in school and the distance they live from school respectively. Children of Rainbow Education Multi-Academy Trust staff members will be given priority for places in Rainbows @ St Silas.

2. When children turn two they will be able to start Pre-Nursery for 15 hours if they are eligible for funding or and depending on availability, they may supplement their sessions as per the individual schools arrangements of mornings or afternoons or five full days.

3. The term after their third birthday, children are eligible to come to Nursery dependent upon siblings in school, distance they live from school, whether they are currently attending Rainbows @ St Silas and finally the availability of space. All three year old children are entitled to 15 hours funding. In nursery they usually do a morning or afternoon session however, if we can accommodate 2.5 days to support a family we will do as long as this is in the best interest of the child.

4. At The Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust, we aim to give our Early Years children the best possible start to their school life and so we are able to provide some full time places to Nursery children. This is not guaranteed but is based upon your child's needs and funding eligibility. This decision will be made by the Early Years Leader. Lunch arrangements will be discussed with you by the Early Years Leader.

5. Transition into our settings is different for each child; some children settle quickly and are ready to attend for their full entitlement straight away, others may need to build up the time they spend in the setting and may require a parent or carer to stay with them for the first few sessions.

Admission into the Nursery

1. Children who have attended Rainbows @ St Silas will automatically be given a Nursery place **however, being in Rainbows or Nursery does not guarantee a Reception place.**
2. If a child has not attended our Pre-Nursery prior to starting Nursery they will attend sessions based on how well they are settling, to be decided between practitioner and parent.



CONCLUSION

We know that each child is different and so our admissions arrangements are flexible to suit the needs of individual children and their families.