

POLICY TITLE	Nursery Admissions Policy
RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	EAB
RATIONALE	Admission to F1 at Mersey Primary Academy is determined by the Education Advisory Board (Governing Body). This admissions policy does not apply to the admission of pupils into the main academy for which Hull City Council is responsible
PURPOSES	<p>The Governing Body has agreed this admission policy so that in the event of there being more requests for nursery places than are available, there are fair and transparent admission criteria in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This nursery admissions policy will ensure that places in our nursery are allocated fairly. It will be reviewed as part of the academy's self-evaluation programme unless changes to statutory requirements necessitate an earlier review. • It is important that parents and carers are aware that places within our Foundation Stage 1 are in demand. Failure to attend regularly or erratic attendance may result in a place being withdrawn.
GUIDELINES	<p>Admission Arrangements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors of Mersey Primary Academy have agreed that our nursery should be a 40 place setting. • Mersey Primary Academy has a 40 place nursery, though staffing is in relation to the numbers attending. • Attendance at our nursery is part-time, for 15 hours per week. Whilst traditionally children have attended for five mornings or 5 afternoons we do have a number of 'flexible' places which allows parents to take their entitlement hours more creatively (subject to availability). • Nurseries do not have catchment areas in the same way as schools, so once places are full, the academy will signpost parents to other providers. • Parents and carers should approach the academy directly if they would like their child to attend the nursery. • The academy maintains a register/list of parents' or carers' interest in a nursery place. Early registration of interest will not however guarantee a place in the nursery. • If a child gets a place in the nursery at the academy, it does not automatically follow that he/she will get a place in the academy. Given that there are 50 places in Foundation Stage 2 (Reception), there is always a chance that some children attending the nursery will not get places in the academy. Equally, there are children who require an academy place who have not attended our nursery due to parental preference. <p>Nursery places at Mersey Primary Academy nursery are open to all children, irrespective of where they live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at the nursery at Mersey Primary Academy is not a precondition of a place in the academy. Places at the academy must be applied for through the separate process for school admission (see Admission Policy). • Parents and carers do not have a statutory right to appeal to an independent appeal panel in relation to nursery admissions. It is therefore important that our nursery admissions decisions can be justified by reference to our agreed criteria.

	<p>Criteria for admission to the nursery: The following criteria for admission will be applied in the event of there being more requests for places than those available:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A child can be considered for a place in the nursery from the start of the term following the child's third birthday. This place will normally be for between three to five terms prior to entry into a mainstream school. 2) New arrivals to the area/requests for nursery places will be slotted in at the appropriate point. 3) In the case of over subscription governors will consider applications for nursery places against agreed criteria (see below). This responsibility is delegated on a day to day basis to the Head of Academy. 4) The academy will let parents and carers know of their decision through a home visit by the nursery staff, regarding a place in the nursery. 5) If a child is offered a place in the nursery, parents and carers must confirm their acceptance within two weeks to avoid the academy refusing places for other children unnecessarily. 6) The final decision on when a child is admitted, the number of sessions a child is able to attend and his/her pattern of attendance, rests with the Head of Academy. <p>Criteria for allocation of places in cases of over subscription:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Children with special educational, social or emotional needs, as evidenced by a professional form health, social care or education. b) Member of the academy's staff c) Children whose parents are in employment d) Children who have a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) on the academy roll who will still be attending Mersey Primary Academy in the following academic year. e) Children whose parents have returned to education or training f) Date of registration for nursery place g) Other children.
<p>FURTHER DETAILS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENTS</p>	<p>Admissions Policy</p>
<p>Date approved: _____ Review: _____</p>	