



ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR NURSERY

THE ETHOS OF IQRA ACADEMY

IQRA means 'Read '

Improvement

Quality

Respect

Achievement

Policy Statement

Iqra Academy is committed to achieving a high standard of education for all its pupils, so that they have the ability the skills necessary to cope confidently with the demands of further education, employment and adult life.

Key Responsibilities

The Governing Body must:

- Ratify the Admissions Policy for Nursery
- Monitor the annual intake to Nursery
- Monitor the in-year admissions
- Monitor the implementation of the policy

The Principal:

- Will be responsible for the successful implementation of the policy
- Will report to the Governing Body termly
- Will be responsible for the day to day management of admissions to the academy

Introduction

Good quality pre-school experiences are directly related to the better cognitive, social and behavioural development of young children.

The Childcare Act 2006 requires local authorities, health agencies and other partners to work together to tackle childhood poverty and reduce inequalities between young children aged 0-5. Local authorities are required to take the lead in ensuring sufficiency of childcare and ensure information on early childhood services reaches all parents, especially those who may find it difficult to access them. The Family Information Service Children's Information Link provides information for families through a helpline, Children's Centres and a range of outreach activities.

All registered early years education providers work within the framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage. In Bradford the delivery of a range of national initiatives to support improve outcomes is focussing on supporting and improving links between schools and settings and sharing practice to benefit children's learning opportunities.

The types of settings providing early years foundation stage provision includes:

- Nursery schools/Children's Centres
- Nursery classes in primary schools

- Private day nurseries
- Pre-schools
- Playgroups
- Accredited childminders
- Independent schools

Entitlement

All three and four year olds are entitled to 15 hours free early education place before they reach statutory school age (the beginning of the school term immediately following the child's fifth birthday).

Iqra Academy retains a waiting list for the Nursery and places are offered in the following oversubscription criteria:

1. Looked after children – a child who is looked after by a local authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989(b) at the time an application is made.
2. Children with exceptional grounds, such as special educational, social or emotional needs, as evidenced by a professional from health, social services or education – for example, children:
 - who have a significant medical condition and the child's consultant or paediatrician says they must go to a particular nursery;
 - who have social reasons supported by a relevant professional, for them to attend a particular school nursery class; or
 - children in lone parent families who have no other local family support.
3. Children who already have an older sibling who will be attending the school at the point of admittance and live within the priority area – 'sibling' includes biological brothers and sisters, as well as stepchildren and fostered children who are part of the same family living at the same address, but does **not** include cousins or children from different families sharing the same house. Every effort will be made to ensure that twins, triplet or children from other multiple births are able to attend the same nursery class. If this is not possible every effort will be made to support the family to gain places at another nursery.
4. Children who already have an older sibling who will be attending the school at the point of admittance, but live outside the priority area or for primary schools without an admission priority area with a nursery class attached, children who already have an older sibling who will be attending the school at the point of admittance.
5. For primary schools with an admission priority area children living within the priority area.

Other children living closest to the school's main entrance – this will be determined using the Authority's Graphical Information System process and will be the distance between the child's home address and the school's main entrance measured in a straight line. A child "home address" is the address at which they live permanently. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, the parents must decide which address to use for the allocation process. We cannot use the address of a relative or childminder.

The offer of a place at our nursery does not guarantee the child a place in the reception class at the Academy. A fresh application will be required in accordance with the criteria for admission to reception classes.

Settling Children into the Nursery

Every child is an individual and therefore no prescribed time can be set for a settling in period.

Parental views and the needs of the child will to an extent determine this. In any case all parents will be encouraged to support their child in the first few days allowing longer time where appropriate.

Children’s needs will be carefully assessed and help and support given accordingly. In some cases parents may be asked to collect their child before the end of the session if this is deemed necessary towards their settling in period.

All children arriving in the nursery are expected to be fully toilet trained.

Attendance

We do expect all children to attend regularly. This is not only important for their academic and social development but will also promote good habits and punctuality. If your child is ill please let the academy know as soon as possible.

If your child fails to attend for a period of 2 weeks without contact with the academy, then the child’s name will be taken off the register and the place allocated to the next child on the waiting list.

Nursery Session Times

The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 11.45am and 12.30pm to 3.30pm during Term Time only and follows the academys holiday dates. Children will be offered a morning **or** afternoon session only. Parents may express their preference, but whilst every effort will be to accommodate this, there is no guarantee. Once a session has been allocation this cannot be changed.

Parents are responsible for bringing and collecting their child from the nursery.

Declaration of Responsibility

This Admissions Policy for Nursery was formally adopted by Iqra Academy on

..... Signed Named Governor

..... Signed Principal

..... Date