Admissions criteria for entry September 2020

Respective Functions of the Management Committee in relation to admissions.
The Management Committee have determined that, in the event of there being more applicants than places available the following criteria will be applied, in the order set down, to select children for the available places.

Children who are not normally resident in Northern Ireland will not be considered for places until all children who live in Northern Ireland have been considered.

Admissions Criteria
A timetable of pre-school admissions procedures setting out the dates by which an application is to be submitted is available at [www.eani.org.uk/admissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/admissions) under ‘Pre-School Admissions’. During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered.

The application procedure opens on 7 January 2020 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 30 January 2020 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 30 January 2020 will be treated as a late application.

As the pre-school admissions procedure is in two stages the timetable also specifies the relevant dates at Stage 2 which will determine if an application is to be considered as punctual or late.

Admissions Criteria - Statutory Criteria
1  Children from socially disadvantaged circumstances born between 2 July 2016 and 1 July 2017.
2  Children born between 2 July 2016 and 1 July 2017.

Note: Children from ‘socially disadvantaged circumstances’ means a child whose parent is in receipt of (i) Income Support, or (ii) Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, or (iii) an award of Income Support which has been converted into an Employment and Support Allowance and the level of benefit remains the same, or (iv) Universal Credit. When parents apply for places for their child on this basis they must have their Benefit Verification stamped by the Social Security/Jobs and Benefits Office to confirm that they are in receipt of a qualifying payment. This should then be sent by the parent directly to the provider of first preference.

Sub-Criteria
If there are more children satisfying the last criterion, which can be applied, then selection for the remaining places will be on the basis of:
(a)  Children who already have brothers or sisters attending previously.
(b)  Children with special educational Needs.

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion which can be applied, then selection for all remaining in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname in the order set out below:-


The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters of the alphabet. In the event of surnames beginning with the same letter the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames as printed on the birth certificate will be used, both in ascending order.

Duty to Verify
The Management Committee reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Management Committee by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

Waiting List Policy
The Waiting List Policy is available directly from the Playgroup.