

Gwladys Street Primary and Nursery School

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Transition and Admissions policy

Golden Opportunities for Achievement and Learning



Approved by:

Full Governing Body

Date: September 2024

Last reviewed on:

September 2024

Next review due by:

September 2025

School aims

We want our school to be one:

1. Where everyone has access to an engaging, creative and challenging curriculum that promotes a love of learning.
2. Where everyone feels safe, happy and secure in our learning community.
3. Where everyone works in partnership with the wider school community.
4. Where Golden Opportunities are provided in an Inclusive Setting.
5. Where everyone respects each other and works as a team to achieve our GOALS.
6. Where children develop lively, enquiring minds, self-confidence and independence.
7. Which promotes a healthy lifestyle and positive, spiritual and moral values.

Rationale

The objectives of this policy:

1. To the wellbeing of all children is prioritised.
2. To ensure consistency across the Early Years Foundation Stage.
3. To ensure all children, regardless of their admission date have access to the same induction process.

Admissions

The vast majority of children begin the Early Years Foundation Stage at the beginning of a school term. In Nursery, we have three intakes in September, January and April. Children are permitted to join the term following their third birthday. In Reception the main intake is September. All children are required by law to be in full time education the term following their fifth birthday.

For pupils wishing to attend our Reception (Foundation 2) they must apply to Liverpool City Council central admissions. This can be done following this link <https://liverpool.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/how-to-apply/>

A visit is arranged with the Induction Team, which can include the SENDCo and/or Inclusion Manager, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Attendance Officer and EAL Manager, to show prospective families around and answering any questions they have.

Once a place has been secured, you will be asked to complete the admissions form with support from our Admissions Officer.

Home Visits

When children are admitted to Gwladys Street at a main intake point, a home visit is carried out by senior members of staff. The home visit allows staff to meet the child in an environment which is familiar to the child. It also provides parents with the opportunity to discuss any worries or concerns that they have in the privacy of their home.

Reception In-Year Transfers

Children entering the Reception year after the September intake are invited to school to meet the EYFS lead and other senior members of staff. During this meeting, parents and carers are encouraged to ask questions about the school and staff can answer any questions that parents and carers may have.

Settling in

We want all children to have a positive settling in period regardless of when they are admitted. Children in Nursery are initially invited in for one hour with their parent or carer. This enables children to develop positive associations of the school. During the second settling in session, parents are encouraged to leave their child for all or part of the hour session to begin to encourage independence. Following this, staff will communicate with parents to identify if the child would benefit from additional settling in sessions or if they are able to begin their full hours.

Children new to Gwladys Street Community Primary and Nursery School who begin Reception in the September intake are invited to a settling in session during the summer term. If required, parents are also invited in to support children to settle. Following this, children are invited to attend for half day sessions during their first week. If this settling in period needs to be extended to support the child's wellbeing, teachers will consult parents on an individual basis.

Children who join Reception following the September intake who have previous school experience will be invited to attend full time. Children who are new to the country or have no previous schooling experience will be given a settling in period consistent with the September intake. Children will be invited in to complete one week of half day sessions. This may be extended if necessary to support children to have a positive experience of school.

Children may remain on a reduced timetable before their fifth birthday, depending on their previous educational experiences, ability to cope away from the primary caregiver and special educational needs. The aim of an extended settling in period is to provide children with a positive experience of the setting.

Transition (From Nursery to Reception and Reception to Key Stage One)

Maintaining high levels of wellbeing as children transition from one year group to another is fundamental to ensure children thrive. At Gwladys Street Community Primary and Nursery School, transition is carefully planned to ensure it is a gradual process where children become familiar with their new surroundings. We achieve this by:

- New teachers meeting children in an environment familiar with the child.
- Current year teachers showing children their new learning environments and supporting children to become familiar with these.
- Children spending time with their new teacher in their new environment.
- Parents being invited to a meeting delivered by members of the Senior Leadership Team outlining details for transition and expectations for the year ahead.
- Time is protected for teachers to give a detailed handover to ensure that staff are familiar with all of the children in the class.

- Assessment details are handed over allowing children to continue to develop skills at a level which is appropriate for them.
- Children continue to have access to the same outdoor learning environment.
- Consistent formats and lesson styles across year groups.