

Forge Integrated Pre-School Playgroup
20 Carolan Road
Belfast
BT7 3HE

Voluntary Playgroup
No of Funded Places (Part-time): To be determined
Session Times: Monday to Friday – Morning Session: 8:45am –11.15am
Afternoon Session: 12:30pm – 3:00pm

Telephone: 077 3298 8232

Fax: 0285 9064 1858

Person in Charge/Leader: Stephanie Cherry
Chair of Management Committee: Joanne Taggart

E-mail: scherry156@forge.belfast.ni.sch.uk
Website: www.forgeips.co.uk

Respective Functions of the Management Committee and Playgroup Leader in relation to admissions.

The Management Committee has drawn up the school's admissions criteria and has delegated to the leader its function and responsibility in relation to the application of the criteria and the admission of pupils to the school.

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 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 2021 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 29 January 2021 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 29 January 2021 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.

The following criteria will be applied in the allocation of places.

- 1 Children from socially disadvantaged circumstances who are in their immediate pre-school year.
- 2 Other children in their immediate pre-school year.

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 provide Benefit Verification to confirm that they are in receipt of a qualifying payment. This should be provided to the Pre-School of first preference and the application procedure for Pre-School will outline how this can be submitted.

Sub-criteria

If applications meeting the statutory criteria exceed the number of funded places available, the following sub-criteria will be applied in the order set down:

- (a) Children who have brothers or sisters currently attending or previously attended the playgroup.
- (b) Children who have brothers or sisters currently attending Forge Integrated Primary School.
- (c) Children who have brothers or sisters who previously attended Forge Integrated Primary School.
- (d) Children whose admission to the playgroup will maintain or promote a ratio of 40% Catholic children and 40% Protestant children and 20% of children from other faiths or none.

To facilitate this process, parents/carers are asked to complete the additional Forge Integrated Pre-School Playgroup application form, available from the playgroup. This form must be completed and attached to the open enrolment application if the playgroup has been listed as a preference.

Please note that failure to do so will mean that your application is incomplete.

In the event of over-subscription and there being a tie-break situation in the last criterion which can be applied then selection for all places remaining in this category will be on the basis of:

- 1 Children whose parents have elected Forge Integrated Pre-school Playgroup as their first preference.
- 2 Or another Integrated Pre-school Playgroup/Nursery School as their first preference (in order to honour our commitment to offer Integrated places to those parents for whom this is an important feature of their child's education) and;
- 3 In the event of there being a further tie break the initial letter of the child's surname in the order set out below:

H U P A E O G F I V T Q S R Y B D Mac Mc W L X N J C K Z M

Admissions criteria for entry September 2021

Please note the above criteria is used to allocate morning and afternoon places.

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 applicant's 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

Should a vacancy arise after 9 June 2021, all applications for admission in 2021 that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the publicized criteria applied.

This waiting list will be in place until the end of the academic year.

The setting will contact you in writing if your child gains a place in the setting by this method.

Your child's name will be automatically added to the list. Please contact the setting if you wish for your child's name to be removed from the list.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Management Committee will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form or attached to it.