



2022/23

## Deferred Entry to Primary School

### *Additional funded year of early learning and childcare*

Children normally start school in the year during which they have their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 defines the right for parents/carers to defer their child's entry to primary school until the following academic year if their birthday falls between the first day of school in August and the last day of February.

### **If your child turns four during the January and February ahead of the start of term in August:**

*Funding for an additional year of early learning and childcare is automatic. You should:*

- Complete the [Deferred Entry Application Form](#).
- [Register your child for school](#) - this will ensure your child's school place is available in the event that you change your mind closer to the time.

### **If your child turns four between the first day of term in August and the last day of December:**

*Funding for an additional year of early learning and childcare is not automatic. You should:*

- Complete the [Deferred Entry Application Form](#) to request funding for the additional year. Applications are considered in line with the [East Dunbartonshire's Deferred Entry Guidance](#)
- [Register your child for school](#) - this will ensure your child's school place is available if your application for funding is unsuccessful or if you change your mind closer to the time.
- If your application for funding for the additional year is unsuccessful, you must decide whether to self-fund this year or start your child at school.

### **Key dates:**

- **As early as possible:** Discuss your intentions for deferred year with your child's Depute Head of Centre
- **Monday 6 December 2021:** [Deferred Entry Application Form](#) goes live on the Council's website.
- **Monday 31 January 2022:** Closing date for deferred entry applications.
  - **JANUARY/FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:**  
funding automatic; application accepted.
  - **AUGUST – DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**  
**End February 2022:** deadline for supporting evidence from early years centres.  
**Around third week of March 2022:** Parents/carers informed of the outcome of application.  
**By end April 2022:** Funding unsuccessful – decision to self-fund or take up school place.

### **East Dunbartonshire Deferred Entry Guidance and frequently asked questions**

The [Council website and Deferred Entry Guidance](#) sets out the full process and includes a handy flow chart and FAQs. For any further information, please email: [earlyyears@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)