



**Policy and Procedure:**

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**Additional Year of School Education – Policy Statement and Procedure**

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## **POLICY STATEMENT**

The Council is committed to the pursuit of educational excellence and aims to make the best possible educational provision for all, taking full account of the needs of each individual child or young person.

This policy applies to all children and young people of school age and follows the principles of Curriculum for Excellence.

Almost all children and young people will move through the primary and secondary stages, along with their same age peer group.

Evidence from research supports the view that it is beneficial for almost all children and young people that they will move through the primary and secondary stages along with their same age peer group, both with regard to social and emotional development and educational progress. The available research also demonstrates that children and young people who repeat a year tend to suffer from longer-term disadvantage, such as poorer mental health outcomes, negative attitudes towards learning and behavioral problems.

This policy recognizes that within each year group there will be a wide range of abilities and needs, and that these can be met within the year group with appropriate differentiation and support.

However, there may be exceptional circumstances in which an additional year at the same stage of education can be considered, and the procedure set out below will be followed where an additional year at the same stage is suggested or requested.

## **PROCEDURE**

The procedure sets out how the Council will decide on individual requests for additional years within all stages of education.

A parent/carer should make a request in writing to the Head Teacher of the school their child attends, detailing the exceptional circumstances why they wish their child to be considered for an additional year at the same stage of education.

Where a parent/carer requests an additional year for their child, at the same stage of school education, discussion will take place between the Head Teacher and the school's Education Officer. The views of the child or young person will be taken into account. The views of other relevant professionals will also be sought where appropriate.

Should an additional year be agreed in principle, there can be no guarantee of placement within the child's or young person's existing establishment as all places may already be taken up.

If the request is refused there is no right of appeal.