



Humberstone Infant Academy

Nursery Admissions Consultation

What are we consulting you on?

The proposed changes at Humberstone Infant Academy are a result of changes in early years education by the Department for Education which over a number of years have impacted the numbers of children attending our nursery provision. Many families are now entitled to 30 hours per week of funded early years education, instead of the previous entitlement of 15 hours. This means parents are looking for more flexibility from nursery providers. This consultation is about a proposal to offer 15 hours education over 5 mornings a week. The nursery would offer this provision for the academic year 2023-24 academic year.

Humberstone Infant Academy is an infant school which currently runs a nursery class offering both 30 and 15 hours free early education to three and four year olds. The nursery 30 hour offer is currently for 4.5 days and the 15 hour sessions are 3 hours in the morning or 3 hours in the afternoon five days a week. The nursery is only open during school term-times.

Why are we doing this?

Since the introduction of the 30 hours free childcare offer for working parents in 2017, parents have been looking for more flexibility from nursery providers. As a school based nursery operating within the timings of the school day, this has led to the number of children on roll in the nursery dropping significantly. This has affected the funding the school receives.

Numbers on roll per academic year:

2017-18	73 children
2018-19	53 children
2019-20	51 children
2020-21	42 children
2021-22	52 children
2022-23	38 children

Other local provision

There are two other early years providers within 15 minutes of Humberstone Infant Academy; Humberstone Day Nursery and Humberstone Park Day Nursery
In addition there is a wide range of high quality childcare available with private, voluntary and independent childcare providers throughout the city.

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/nurseries-and-childcare/>

What impact will the proposed changes have?

The proposed change will close the 30 hours and the afternoon 15 hours offer. This means that parents who wanted their child to attend the school's nursery from August 2023 will only be able to apply for a 15 hour morning session.

Can I still apply for a place in the nursery class?

You can still apply for a place in the nursery class and if your child is already on the waiting list they can remain on the waiting list.

What other options has the school considered?

Over the past 5 years the nursery has changed it's offer in an attempt to increase numbers:

Academic Years 2017-18 and 2018 - 2019

15 Hours offered over 2.5 days (Monday and Tuesday full days, Wednesday morning and Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday full days)

Academic Years 2019-20 to 2022-23

30 hours over 4.5 days (Monday- Thursday full days, Friday mornings)

15 hours (choice of 3 hours in the morning or afternoon.

The consultation is open until 31st January 2023. If you have any comments please contact us via the school website.

Thank you
Annemarie Williams
Executive Head