



Rainbow Admission Criteria

Aim: To provide short-term specialist Early Years resource provision, in order to prepare children with social communication difficulties for mainstream education.

Educational settings are able to make applications to Rainbow via the Early Years Inclusion Panel (see the flowchart below).

For admission to the Rainbow Resource a child should:

- Be aged 3 to 4 years old at the time of admission to the Resource.
- Have been identified or diagnosed as having social and communication difficulties, which may or may not include a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder.
- Ideally be able to attend the setting for two terms or more before they enter Key Stage One.
- Demonstrate intentional communication skills, these may be verbal or non-verbal, for instance the use of PECS or communication boards.
- Have evidence of advice from at least one external agency, for example, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Educational Psychology or the Child Development Centre.
- Be working within "Development Matters" or "Derbyshire Small Steps".
- Be dual-registered with their designated school.

Referral from Early Years setting. Application is considered by the Early Years (EY) Panel in relation to the Rainbow admission criteria.

The EY panel agree that a child meets the Rainbow admission criteria pending an observation at the child's current setting by Rainbow staff.

Decision communicated by the school to parents and current setting on behalf of the Local Authority.

The EY panel decide child is not suitable for placement at the Rainbow Resource or, following the child's observation by Rainbow staff, make this decision. The school communicate this to the child's parents and current setting, on behalf of the Local Authority.

Please discuss with your Early Years setting (pre-school, nursery or child-minder) for referral.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan, this must be discussed with your SEND caseworker as the process will be slightly different.