



Policy statement on the admission of children to the University of Edinburgh

1 Scope

- 1.1 The principles and procedures set out in this policy statement apply to the admission of any applicant for a programme of study provided by the University of Edinburgh, including undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, international foundation programmes, and courses provided by the Office of Lifelong Learning, who will be under the age of 16 at the start of their programme.

2 General

- 2.1 The University welcomes applications from students of any age who have the potential to succeed on a programme of study at the University. There is no minimum or maximum age on entry, except where a professional body requires this. However, the University is an adult environment, and arrangements for students who are defined as children to attend the University need to be agreed between the University and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) prior to an offer of a place of study being made.
- 2.2 The University will make pre-application guidance available on its website for potential applicants who would be aged under 16 years at the commencement of their proposed programme of study. It will also provide information for the parent(s) / guardian(s) of such applicants about specific aspects of the University environment that they should be aware of in the context of ensuring the protection of their child.
- 2.3 Applications from children will be subject to normal screening and selection processes. Only once the decision has been made that the applicant is eligible to receive an offer according to academic criteria, will the applicant's age be taken into account.
- 2.4 Before an offer is made, the relevant School or the College admissions office will be required to carry out a risk assessment to determine if there are any specific risks attached to admitting the student to the particular programme. In particular, the risk assessment must consider whether anyone working with the student would be carrying out regulated activity and require PVG Scheme membership. It may be necessary to involve other services such as Accommodation Services or HR in the risk assessment process.
- 2.5 An admissions officer from the School or College admissions office will contact the applicant and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) to discuss any issues raised by the risk assessment, and any conditions which will be attached to an offer. Conditions will include clarification of parental responsibilities for the child while he/she is attending the University.
- 2.6 The School or the College admissions office will then prepare a detailed care management plan for the student which will be signed off by the University and the student's parent(s) or

guardian(s), and which will be reviewed by the student's personal tutor each semester to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

3 Supporting documents

- University of Edinburgh Admissions Policy

Approved: May 2015

Review due: May 2018