

## **ENTRANCE AGE**

It is the policy of the Board, in accordance with Alabama statutes, that a child must be five (5) years old on or before September 2 to be admitted to kindergarten or six (6) years old on or before December 31 to be admitted to first grade for that school year. \*A state birth certificate or verification is required for proof of age. It is the recommendation of Opelika City Schools that a student complete a year of a quality kindergarten program in order to be properly prepared for a rigorous first grade experience.

A child who has successfully completed a qualified state kindergarten during the past year and is not six (6) years old by December 31 can attend Grade 1 in the Opelika City Schools. Appropriate documentation must be presented.

A child who started Grade 1 in another state, according to that state's entrance code, and is not six (6) years old by December 31, is considered a transfer and admitted to school to continue in Grade 1. Children transferring to Opelika City Schools from private schools within Alabama may enter kindergarten or Grade 1 only if the state age requirement for entry has been met.

\*An opinion of the Attorney General states in effect that under the common law one's age is computed by including the day of birth so that a given age is obtained the day before the birthday anniversary.

**ADOPTED: May 11, 2004**  
**REVISED: September 15, 2016**

**LEGAL REF: Code of Alabama 16-11-16; 16-28-4**