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**Free Early Education Funding and Fee structure**

**Please go to the following link for more information on childcare entitlements** [**https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/**](https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)

**2 year olds**

Some 2 year olds may be eligible to receive funding known in Kent as the Free for Two Scheme (FF2) which is subject to meeting certain criteria. Eligible age ranges are shown in the table below. You can check the eligibility criteria by going to the Childcare Choices website above. To apply for FF2 funding go to [Free childcare – Kent County Council](https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/childcare-and-pre-school/free-childcare) and if you are eligible you will be given a 6 digit EY Voucher Code and we will ask you to provide us with the code to enable us to apply for the funding from KCC.

**3 and 4 year olds (The Universal Entitlement)**

All children become eligible for up to 570 hours per year the term after their third birthday. Eligible date ranges are shown in the table below.

**3 and 4 year olds of working parents (The Extended Entitlement)**

Some children may qualify for up to an additional 570 hours per year which is subject to meeting certain criteria meaning your child would be entitled to a total of 30 hours funding a week. Please go to the Childcare Choices website on the link above to apply. Your application must be made the term before you wish your child to access the funding (by the end of term 5 for September, term 2 for January and term 4 for April). If eligible you will be given an 11 digit code which we will need to be able to claim this funding from KCC. You will get reminders from HMRC every 3 months to re-confirm your code to remain eligible for the 30 hours funding.

A child isentitled to Free Early Education at the start of the term after their second (if eligible), or third birthday in line with the Department for Education table below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A child born on or between** | **Will become eligible for funding from** |
| 1st January and 31st March | The Start of Term 5 following their second or third birthday (after April Holiday) |
| 1st April and 31st August | The Start of Term 1 following their second or third birthday (after Summer Holiday) |
| 1st September and 31st December | The Start of Term 3 following their second or third birthday (after Christmas/New Year Holiday) |

For all the above funding streams we will ask you to complete a Parental Declaration form prior to your child taking up their Free Early Education to enable us to claim the correct number of hours from KCC, and termly thereafter.

**Our delivery patterns:** The following information details how your child can access their Free Early Education hours at this pre-school/nursery.

**Totally free Universal pattern over 38 weeks:** Two,three- and four-year olds will be funded to a maximum of 15 hours per week.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Day 9am to 3pm  Morning Session 9am to 12pm | 15 hours free over 38 weeks (term time)  15 hours over 38 weeks (term time) |

**Totally free Extended pattern over 38weeks:** Eligible three- and four-year olds will be funded to a maximum of 21/24 hours per week.

**Chargeable Patterns Including Free Early Education Hours:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Day 9am to 3pm | 15 hours free plus a charge of £6.33 per hour for unfunded hours. £19 per 3 hour session. |

* Children accessing sessions outside of their Free Early Education will be charged at our current rates as shown in the table. You will be invoiced in the usual way showing how many free hours your child has accessed in that period and what the additional charges are.

**Other funding available**

**Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)**

Eligible Children can start claiming EYPP in the term in which they become eligible for the 3 and 4 year old entitlement and is paid based on the universal funded hours only - not on the extended entitlement. To be eligible you need to be claiming certain benefits/credits or are caring for or have adopted a child from care of the local authority. This additional funding will benefit your child by enabling us to provide additional resources and activities. You will need to complete parts 5 and 6 of the Parental Declaration form giving us permission to apply for EYPP for your child.

**Disability Access Fund (DAF)**

Your child could be eligible for this funding if they are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA). This one off annual payment will help us support your child with their disability or special educational need and allow us to make any reasonable adjustments or purchase/loan suitable resources that may be required. Please see our SEN Policy and speak to our SENCO for further details.