

## Free Early Education (Funding) for 2, 3 and 4 year olds

In England all three and four year olds and some 2 year old (see below) are entitled to at least 15 hours (570 hours) of free early education a week for 38 weeks a year. This is to give all children the opportunity to take part in planned learning activities and help prepare them for school through the early learning goals set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Some families may be entitled to additional 15 hours (30 hours in total, 1140 hours). You can usually get 30 hours free childcare if you (and your partner, if you have one) are:

- in work - or getting parental leave, sick leave or annual leave
- each earning at least the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage for 16 hours a week - this is £125.28 if you're over 25

### **Free education and childcare for 2-year-olds**

Your 2-year-old can get free early education and childcare if you live in England and get one of the following benefits:

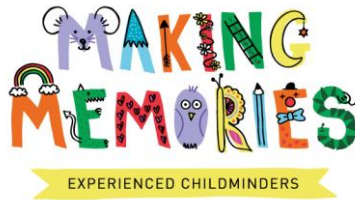
- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit - if you and your partner have a combined income from work of less than £15,400 a year after tax
- tax credits and you have an annual income of under £16,190 before tax
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- the Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

### **Procedure:**

Funding can be claimed the term AFTER your child's 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> birthday  
We claim the funding on your behalf from Surrey County Council

You must complete the registration form and provide a copy of your child original birth certificate or passport

Where you have claimed the funding in the previous term you must complete a declaration form



Parents must adhere to the terms of the funding

If you claim 30 hours you must provide us with your eligibility code. You must check your eligibility code every 3 months thereafter. This is your responsibility to do if you miss the deadline date then full fees apply.

If your circumstances change and you are no longer entitled to claim the free entitlement you must notify us immediately. Full fees will apply

If your child attends more than one childcare setting, you can choose to combine these services and use more than one childcare provider, if this suits you better. For example, if claiming 15 hours per week, your child could have 6 hours at the nursery, and 9 hours in a pre-school, playgroup or with a nursery.

As part of the Early Years Foundation Stage, we are required to work in partnership with other carers to ensure that the children have consistent learning. If your child is looked after by another registered provider, please let us know.

### **Additional charges**

There will be additional charges each month in your monthly invoices, which covers the following

- Meal, snacks and drinks
- Consumables including sun cream,
- Extra-curricular activities/ outings such as gymnastics
- Memberships such as Wisley and National Trust
- Resources including craft materials
- Additional activities such as at Christmas
- Additional events such as birthday parties.

### **How we calculate funding**

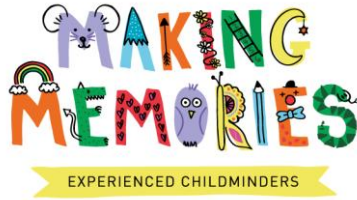
The formula we use to calculate the funding per month is:

*Hours in term ÷ months in term = Funding per month*

*Regular monthly fees – funding amount = total payable per month*

As such, the funding of each month within a term will be exactly the same amount, even though the actual number of days/hours your child attends nursery each month may vary slightly, due calendar discrepancies; i.e. May has 31 days, June has 30 days etc. and of course, the number of weekends in each month differs too. Funding is always spread across the months in each term evenly.

If you have any further questions regarding the funding, please see me, or visit more information on all funding options and to check your eligibility, please go to <http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>. If you are eligible for the Extended Entitlement



(30 hours), you will be given an eligibility code, which we will require to claim the funding on your behalf.