

Nursery Education Funding Guidance

nurseryeducationfunding@peterborough.gov.uk
[Peterborough Early Years and Childcare](#)

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Funding streams - 3 & 4 Year Olds

Universal Entitlement -

All 3- and 4-year-olds can receive up to 570 hours of funded early education and childcare per year (taken as 15 hours per week term time, or fewer hours per week if stretching). This is known as the universal entitlement, because it is available for all children. Parents do not need to apply for this entitlement and will not have a code. The entitlement starts the term after a child's 3rd birthday.

Extended Free Entitlement / 30 Hours funding - 30 hours funded childcare is currently available for eligible working families of 3- and 4-year-olds and is now referred to as the Working Parent Entitlement. The government is expanding this offer to children from 9 months to 2 years, in phases starting from April 2024. Parents apply via HMRC's Childcare service and, if eligible, will be issued an 11-digit code. Parents must reconfirm eligibility with HMRC every 3 months and so you will need to check codes via the Wizard funding portal to ensure they are valid for the period you wish to claim.

30 hours funding is available over 38 weeks per year (term time) or can be 'stretched' using fewer hours per week, each week of the year.

Birthday eligibility for Universal and 30 hours working parent entitlement (until September 2025)

A child who turns 3 on or between:	Will be eligible for the working parent entitlement from:
1 April and 31 August	1 September following their 3rd birthday
1 September and 31 December	1 January following their 3rd birthday
1 January and 31 March	1 April following their 3rd birthday

Funding periods for 30 hours working parent entitlement

Application made and code issued between:	Earliest start date for 30 hours:
1 April and 31 August	1 September
1 September and 31 December	1 January
1 January and 31 March	1 April

Funding streams - 2 Year Olds-

Funded childcare for 2-year-olds is changing from April 2024. There will be two schemes available with different criteria and application routes:

- 15 hours funded childcare for low-income families - **'disadvantaged entitlement'**: Eligible for parents or carers of 2-year-old children who receive certain income support benefits, Children who attract Disability Living Allowance and Looked After children. Parents apply to the Local Authority and are issued a 6-digit code. Parents do not need to reconfirm this funding; the code remains with the child until they become age eligible for Universal funding. You do not need to validate this code, the parents will have a letter or email from Peterborough Free for Twos supplying the code and the start date for funding. If the code has been issued by a neighbouring Local Authority we will need to convert it into a Peterborough code you can use. Email freefortwos@peterborough.gov.uk to do this.

- 15 hours funded childcare for working families - from April 2024: Eligible families can receive up to 15 hours funded per week for their child over 38 weeks of the year, term-time, or fewer hours per week, each week of the year. Parents would need to apply via HMRC's Childcare service and, if eligible, will be issued an 11-digit code. Parents must reconfirm eligibility with HMRC every 3 months and so you need to check codes via the Wizard funding portal to ensure they are valid for the period you wish to claim.

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Deadlines for 15 hours Working Parent Entitlement for 2 year olds

If a child turns 2 between	A code must be issued by HMRC before midnight on	If the parent wants the child to start 15 hours funded childcare from
1 April and 31 August	31 August	1 September
1 September and 31 December	31 December	1 January
1 January and 31 March	31 March	1 April

Funding streams - Under 2 Year-Old funding (from 9 mths)

- 15 hours funded childcare for working families - from September 2024:

Eligible families can receive up to 15 hours funded per week for their child over 38 weeks of the year, term-time, or fewer hours per week, each week of the year. Parents would need to apply via HMRC's Childcare service and, if eligible, will be issued an 11-digit code. Parents must reconfirm eligibility with HMRC every 3 months and so you need to check codes to ensure they are valid for the period you wish to claim.

From September 2025 the Working Parent Entitlement scheme is expanded so that children from 9 months (the term after the child turns 9 months old) will be eligible for up to 30 hours funded per week for their child over 38 weeks of the year, term-time, or approximately fewer hours per week, each week of the year.

The 11 digit code issued by HMRC stays with the child providing the parents successfully reconfirm their eligibility via their HMRC Childcare Service portal when required and without breaks.

From September 2024: A child who turns 9 months of age between:	Can access the Working Parent Entitlement from:
1 st April and 31 st August 2024	1 st September 2024 (15 hour per week)
1 st September and 31 st December 2024	1 st January 2025 (15 hours per week)
1 st January and 31 st March 2025	1 st April 2025 (15 hours per week)

From September 2025: A child who turns 9 months of age between:	Can access the Working Parent Entitlement from:
1 st April and 31 st August 2025	1 st September 2025 (30 hour per week)
1 st September and 31 st December 2025	1 st January 2026 (30 hours per week)
1 st January and 31 st March 2026	1 st April 2026 (30 hours per week)

Funding Supplements

EYPP Early Years Pupil Premium – Additional funding of £0.68/hr for children from families who may be in receipt of certain benefits. Use the EYPP checker in your Wizard portal to check whether a child is eligible. This is an economic check, and so parents' details are required. A child who is or has been Looked After automatically qualifies but you will need to email nurseryeducationfunding@peterborough.gov.uk to request a manually generated code. A child must be in receipt of a funded entitlement to qualify for this.

Deprivation Supplement - Additional supplement of £0.25/hr for children who live at a postcode where the IDACI score is 30% or below. No check required for this; it will be automatically generated at headcount. A child must be in receipt of a funded entitlement to qualify for this.

Flexibility Supplement - A flexibility supplement of £0.49 per hour for funded 3- & 4-year-olds will be allocated to early years providers meeting the following criteria:

- The provider operates under a single registration for a minimum of 50 weeks per year (not including bank holidays) and is open continuously for more than seven hours per day

Or

- The provider operates for less than 50 weeks but more than 40 weeks per year and is open for a minimum of ten hours per day.

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Flexibility Supplement cont...

In addition to meeting this criteria children must regularly be attending the provider each week the provider declares itself open and at the very beginning and end of each day. They must also be able to access continually through the day during opening hours, with no closure at lunch. The Provider should also actively promote the stretch entitlement to families accessing the provision.

DAF Funding - Disability Access Funding (DAF) is an annual payment of £910 (from 1st April 2024). Children must be in receipt of DLA and a funded entitlement. You must copy and retain the DLA letter as this will be requested on audit.

Early Years SEN Funding – All settings provide some provision for young children with SEN from their core funding. However, all local authorities are required to have an SEN Inclusion Fund in their local funding systems for children with SEND accessing the funded entitlement. The purpose of the fund is to support local authorities to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEND.

The funding is in addition to the funded entitlement and is paid to the setting for them to support children in their pre-school years to enable them to effectively meet the needs of children with SEND to access their 15 or 30 hours funded early education entitlement. To request funding all providers will need to ensure the child meets the criteria of being in receipt of the early years funded entitlement and already be accepted onto the Early Support Pathway. To access the Early Support Pathway the provider will need to complete the Early Help Assessment, the Privacy Consent Statement and the Consent Form for Early Support.