

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

### Early Learning & Childcare Funding for 3 and 4 year olds – 2019/2020

#### Eligibility for Funding

**Pre-school children** – all children born between 1/3/15 and 29/2/16 are eligible to receive funding from 12th August 2019.

**Ante Pre-school children** – refer to table below to find out when their entitlement begins.

Date of Birth	Eligible from
1 March 2016 - 31 August 2016	Autumn Term - 12 August 2019
1 September 2016 - 31 December 2016	Spring Term – 7 January 2020
1 January 2017 - 28 February 2017	Summer Term - 21 April 2020

**NB – Children born between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 are NOT eligible for funding until August 2020**

Each eligible child is entitled to receive a maximum of 600 hours funding per year - the total annual funding available is **£2,340**.

The maximum number of hours that can be funded in a week is 16. The minimum funded hours per day is 3hrs 10min and the maximum funded hours per day is 8 hours.

The funding period starts on 12th August 2019 - if a child starts after that date, funding will be pro rata. Likewise, if a child attends for less than 16 hours in a week, funding will be pro rata.

**If the nursery has not added a funding application for your child in the term they become eligible, you will not receive funding retrospectively. You will only be paid for attendance from the date the application is input, or later, if the child is not yet eligible.**

#### **DELAYED ENTRY TO PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR SESSION 2019/2020**

Only children born between 12/8/14 and 28/2/15 **who have been granted delayed entry to primary school** are eligible to receive funding from the Autumn Term (August).

**Please note, any children born between 15/8/14 and 31/12/14 that are resident outwith the City of Edinburgh Council area, will not be funded by Edinburgh but may be funded by their own authority for a deferred year. If you are unsure whether or not a deferral has been granted, please check with the Early Years team before applying for funding.**

#### **EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE FUNDING**

The funding rate set for 2019/20 is £3.90 per hour and children will be funded for up to 600 hours per year, divided into 3 termly payments as follows:

**Children will be allowed up to 16 funded hours per week in a Partner nursery with a maximum number of hours each term:-**

- Autumn term (12/8/19 to 20/12/19) 272 hours - 86 days £ 1,060.80 - paid Nov/Dec
- Spring term (07/1/20 to 3/4/20) 183 hours - 58 days £ 713.70 - paid Feb/Mar
- Summer term (21/4/20 to 26/6/20) 145 hours - 46 days £ 565.60 - paid May/Jun

Where split placements are agreed with the Local Authority (LA) nursery, the LA sessions will take priority for funding. **NB** - Some LA nurseries can only offer placements for the maximum hours per week and if families accept these placements, **children will not be funded in a private nursery, whether or not they use the hours accepted.**

Split placements are not permitted between 2 Partner Nurseries.

If you do not inform the private nursery that your child attends a Local Authority nursery and this results in overpayment, the Council will reclaim all funding overpaid in the following term. Your child is only entitled to 15h 50m per week in total between Private and Local Authority Nurseries.

Likewise, you must inform the nursery in advance if your child is changing sessions or will be leaving. This may require you to pay back funding previously allocated.

Funding is paid to the nursery three times per year. **It is the nursery's responsibility to inform you how they will repay you.**

**Payment Process**

Payments will be made by the Council directly to the nursery once in each term.

Nurseries need to ensure that details of all eligible children are recorded accurately on the nursery management system otherwise payment cannot be processed. It is crucial that all contact addresses are kept updated so parents/carers must inform the nursery asap of any change.

If you have any questions regarding any aspect of early learning and childcare funding, contact your nursery in the first instance or email [transactions.earlyyears@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:transactions.earlyyears@edinburgh.gov.uk)