

Nursery Rhymes Funding Information



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Nursery Rhymes

'Providing a home from home setting where children are happy, loved and secure, and where quality learning and experiences take place.'

Nursery Rhymes - Stoneygate

What is the 'Early Years Funding'?

As the early years funding can be complicated, we hope that the information below will help you.

The 30 hours funding is made up of the "universal" 15 hours funding which every qualifying child over 9 months of age is entitled to (from the term following turning 9 months of age). In addition to the universal 15 hours, parents/carers may be entitled to an additional "extended" 15 hours (Funded 30). 30 hours funding is being extended to all qualifying children over 9 months of age from September 2025.

At Nursery Rhymes – Leicester, we realise the value for children on attending a high-quality Early Years setting and therefore offer the Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE).

Our main demand is for full time or full day – all year round – places. Our business model, staffing commitments and facilities are all set-up to meet this demand. For business sustainability purposes we have to manage our allocation of places to ensure, where possible, that the take-up of nursery sessions is consistent across all days and all year round.

Applications for full-time places may need to be allocated before those for part-time places, and bookings for full day sessions and all year-round places may need to be allocated before those for part day sessions and term-time only places. In order to reserve your child's place, a registration fee is usually payable.

Funded Ages and Eligibility Criteria



Eligible parents of 2-year-old children may also be entitled to 15 hours childcare support if they receive some additional forms of government support.



All working parents/carers of children 9 months plus- are entitled to 15 hours a week childcare support with a registered childcare provider.



Eligible working parents and carers of children aged 3-4 can also get an additional 15 hours childcare support, bringing their total up to 30 hours a week.



From April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours childcare support.



From September 2024, 15 hours childcare support will be extended to eligible working parents of children from the age of 9 months to 3-year-olds.

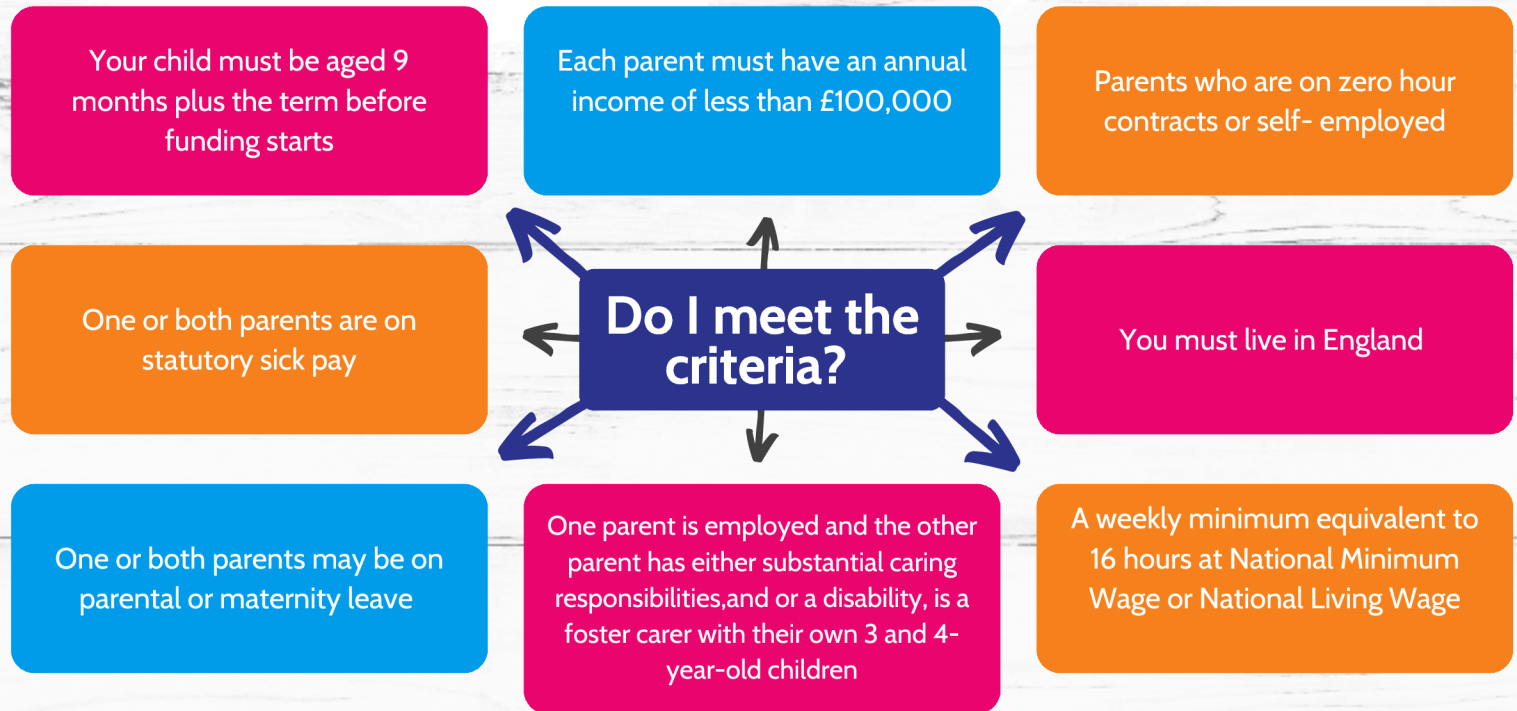


From September 2025, eligible working parents of children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare a week.

Eligibility rules for 30 hours funded childcare:



You will need to confirm your eligibility on the following government website to see if you are entitled to claim: www.beststartinlife.gov.uk



Your child can start using their funded hours the term after they are 9 months of age. You must have received a valid eligibility code before the start of the new term.

When to apply

It can take 20 minutes to apply. You may find out if you're eligible straight away, but it can take up to 7 days. Once your application has been approved, you will get a code for funded childcare to give to your childcare provider. You have to reconfirm your eligibility every 3 months. If you apply more than 3 months before the term starts, you'll have to reconfirm your eligibility in your account in order to keep your code valid.

If you already have a tax free funding account you may have to wait until you reconfirm your information to apply for your code.



Your Child's Birthday	When hours can start from	Recommended time to apply
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October to 30 November
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January to 28 February
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 31 July

- To keep your 15 or 30 hours childcare place you need to check your details are up to date every 3 months.

"Our nurturing environment follows the EYFS framework, fostering curiosity, creativity, and social interaction."

- Nursery Rhymes

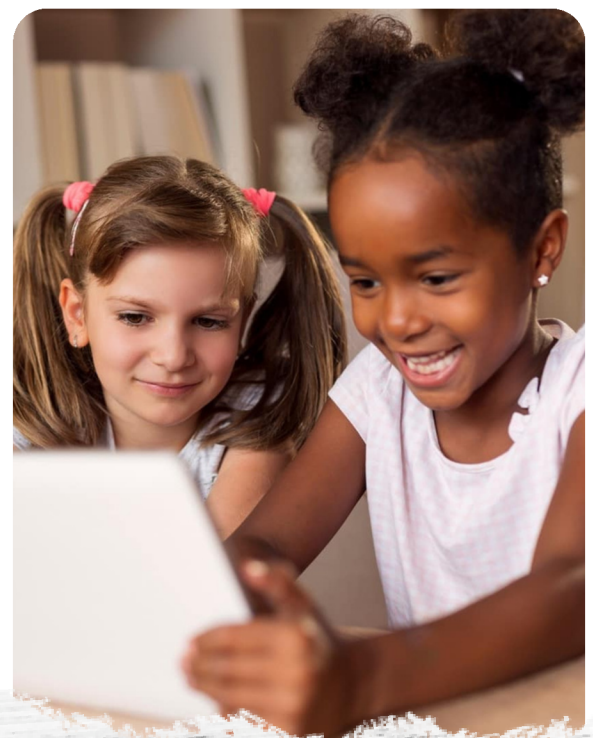
Funding information explained:

The government only provide **30 hours funding over 38 weeks per year**, which is term time only. For Nursery Rhymes, this is calculated as 30hrs x 38 weeks = **1140 funded hours per annum**.

As you might have heard recently in the news, the funding given by the government does not cover the costs of providing top quality childcare with meals and many other facilities/services. Along with the annual increases in business rates, Living Wage rates, pensions, food and general running costs for the Early Years sector, quality high end settings will ask parents for 'Additional Services' not covered by the Early Education Entitlement Funding.

The Early Years Funding has been calculated on the assumption that all settings are working to their maximum ratios permitted and to the minimum numbers of qualified staff permitted.

Please visit **Champagne Nurseries – Lemonade Funding** which shows a quick video explaining the lack of funding to Day Nurseries to implement the 30 hours. - <http://www.champagnenurseries.com>



What is the Early Years Funding used for?



The Government has issued guidance for all to explain how the early years funding is used to support parents and nurseries.



Government funding is intended to deliver 15 or 30 hours a week of free, high quality, flexible childcare. It is not intended to cover the costs of meals, other consumables, additional hours, or additional activities.



Parents can therefore expect to pay for any meals offered by the provider alongside their free entitlement. Parents can also expect to pay for other consumables or additional activities offered by the provider, such as nappies or trips.



Where parents choose to purchase additional hours of provision, consumables, or additional activities, this is a private matter between the provider and the parent.

Care Package Information:

In order to offer the funding whilst remaining sustainable we therefore charge to cover the costs of all consumables and additional services for children receiving the funding.

This is known as our “Care Package (essentials & extras)”.

What's included in our Care Package:



Healthy, nutritious, allergy-controlled quality hot meals created by our own in-house chef.



Nappies and wipes



All trips and routine educational walks in our locality have a higher adult to child ratio of staff than the statutory required minimum.



Learning experiences not covered by the funding
eg - French, yoga, music, visits from local professionals, trips to local attractions such as Botanical Gardens, Abbey Park, soft play, museums etc.



We are proud to have fully qualified teaching staff, plus level 5's / Early Years Teachers across our settings.



Includes parent access to our amazing "Family app". View all of your child's activities, learning journeys, and all financial info and payments.



Includes enhanced cleaning & PPE costs.

Our care package (essentials & extras) will be reviewed from time to time and alongside our annual fee review and is subject to change. Parents will receive at least 28 days notice of any increase via letter or email.

Funding Rate Explained:

The government only provide 30 hours funding over 38 weeks per year, which is term time only. For Nursery Rhymes, this is calculated as 30hrs x 38 weeks = 1140 funded hours per annum.

As a full year private day nursery, we spread the 1140 hours over the full year: $(1140 / 51 = 22.35$ hours per week). This enables parents to benefit from savings all year round at a fixed rate each month.

Only our Full days are available for funded children. Part days are not available once a child is receiving funding.

Any additional hours over 22.35 hours of funding are charged at our standard non funded rate.

Should you not be eligible for the Funded 30 hours, you may be able to utilise the Funded 15 hours. These are calculated the same way as the funded 30 examples based on a stretched weekly funding of 11.18 hours per week $(15\text{hrs} \times 38\text{wks} = 570\text{hrs} / 51\text{wks})$ where the Care package charge (Gold Membership) is just £29 per week (April 2025).

Some "FEEE only" (completely free) places will be offered, subject to availability, as part of our allocation process. No additional charges will be made for these places, but attendance will be limited to specific hours and availability. A registration fee is not payable for "FEEE only" places. From time to time there may be special offers running at either individual Nursery setting. Funded and non funded rates will be reviewed annually, with a minimum one month notice period.

Funding Membership Options:

We have 2 membership packages available to parents:

Gold Membership

Gold Membership (including Care Package):

- ✓ Freshly prepared meals by our own in-house chef
- ✓ Access to 'Family' app
- ✓ Extra curricular activities, such as French, yoga, sport, dance
- ✓ Forest school activities
- ✓ Access to Q Bell system
- ✓ Graduation events
- ✓ Nursery events
- ✓ Local trips
- ✓ Nappies & Wipes
- ✓ ...and so much more!

Gold Membership Costings:

Funded 30 = 22.35 Funded hours Per Week Cost to Parent **£0.00**

Funded 15 = 11.18 Funded hours Per Week Cost to Parent **£0.00**

Care package (including all meals, consumables & extras detailed above)

Funded 15 Care Package = **£29 per week**

Funded 30 Care Package = **£58 per week**

Plus, any non-funded hours above 11.18 or 22.35
(at our usual non funded rate) **£8.95** per hour



Funded 15 Session examples:

Days / (hours) Per Week	2 (20 Hours)	3 (30 hours)	4 (40 hours)	5 (50 hours)~
Funded Weekly Hours	11.18	11.18	11.18	11.18
Cost Per Month	£459.09	£839.46	£1,219.84	£1,520.18

Funded 30 Session examples:

Days / (hours) Per Week	2 (20 Hours)	3 (30 hours)	4 (40 hours)	5 (50 hours)
Funded Weekly Hours	20	22.35	22.35	22.35
Cost Per Month	£221.00	£538.01	£918.38	£1,233.82

The Gold Membership is our default package meaning you agree to pay the weekly care package charge (as detailed in this document) You wish for your child to benefit from all that is within our Care package (including all meals) which is additional to that which the basic funding for education covers.

Additional Information:



There are a number of additional sources of funding available that we can use to support individual children and raise the quality of childcare.



Tax Free Childcare

Did you know you can use Tax Free Childcare alongside the 15 or 30 hours funding? You could be entitled to up to £2000 per child. More information and how to apply can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/applyfor-tax-free-childcare>



Early Years Pupil Premium

Early years pupil premium (EYPP) For disadvantaged 3- and 4- year-olds, you may be eligible for the early years pupil premium. Speak to your local council about this.



Disability access fund

Disability access fund (DAF) For any 3- or 4-year-olds who receive disability living allowance (DLA), our setting is eligible to receive disability access funding. Speak to your local authority about this.

We operate an equality and inclusion policy and ensure that all children have access to nursery places and services irrespective of their gender, race, disability, religion or belief or sexual orientation of parent(s).

If you would like to increase your hours to reflect the additional support you will be receiving once you become eligible for funding, please let the Nursery know so we can check availability. For any further questions on the Funding please email: finance@nurseryrhymesleicester.co.uk



Childcare Funding Code

Parents receive a childcare funding code from HMRC after they apply for and are eligible for government-funded childcare. The code is sent to a secure online account, called the Government Gateway.

How to get a childcare funding code

1. Complete an online application form
2. If eligible, HMRC will create a Government Gateway account for the parent
3. The parent will receive a Government Gateway ID and an eligibility code

How to find the childcare funding code

1. Log in to the Government Gateway account
2. Click 30 hours free childcare
3. The 11-digit code will be displayed

What to do with the childcare funding code

- Show the code to the childcare provider
- Provide the child's date of birth and National Insurance number
- Reconfirm eligibility every three months to keep the code active

Where to get more information

- Visit beststartinlife.gov.uk for more information

FAQ:

Q) If I pay for extra hours and don't use them, can I be refunded?

A) Unfortunately not. We have to make sure we're covering all our running and team costs to provide high quality care for every child.

Q) I'm planning to take my child on holiday. How will this affect my funded childcare?

A) Please let us know of any absences, long or short. We will need to check with the local authority about whether funding can continue.

Q) What should I do if I need to change how long my child attends nursery?

A) We ask for one month's notice - but please do come and chat with us first.

Q) Can I roll over my funded hours into the next term?

A) Sorry, due to restrictions by our local authority we can't roll over your hours, but we can stretch your child's funding instead. If you're eligible for 15 hours, by stretching, you can claim your child's full funding allowance.

"Nursery Rhymes – Leicester, a local family-owned Day Nursery, is committed to delivering exceptional care and education for children during their crucial early years. Our unwavering dedication lies in providing the utmost quality experiences for children in their developmental stages."

- Nursery Rhymes