



13 Free Entitlement Funding

This Policy was adopted by Ruskin Road Preschool On 1st September 2024.

Policy statement.

The Government provides free funding for children of 2, (subject to eligibility) 3- and 4-year-olds for up to 15 hours per week. This is available in the term after your child turns 2 / 3 and is claimed on your behalf by the Preschool. Each term we are asked by the Local Education Authority (LEA) to give estimated figures of 2, 3 and 4 year olds expected to be attending in the subsequent term. The term before they are eligible, we ask parents of qualifying children, to i) let us have sight of the child's birth certificate and ii) to complete a declaration form. These forms are then inputted on to the LEA portal with actual figures of children attending. The grant can be claimed for more than one setting, providing you do not claim for more than 15 hours in one week.

Extended Offer 30h

The Government has offered an extra 15 hours of child care a week to eligible families (please see www.childcarechoices.gov.uk for further information and eligibility and criteria). If you think you are eligible for the extended entitlement it is your responsibility to confirm eligibility using the links provided on the childcare choices website. If eligible, you will receive an eligibility code, you will need to share this code with your chosen child care provider by filling out a parent declaration form, the term before they are due to be eligible. Your code will be verified before your child starts attending. Ruskin Road Preschool are only able to offer 25hours and this will be offered as an extended lunch club (12.30-2.30) following the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. You are able to claim the extended free entitlement in more than one setting. We will endeavour to work with you and any other provider you choose to take up your free entitlement.

Procedures

We are able to offer the Universal Funding (15 hours) Monday to Friday 09.30-12.30, = 15 hours If you require the Extended Hours we will be able to offer you, Monday to Friday 09.30- 12.30 + Afternoon session 12.30-2.30 = 25 hours, or a variation of days and afternoons to suit your family's needs. ▪ The parent will need to complete the parent declaration form and return to the setting the term before the child is eligible for the funding. ▪ If the parent is eligible for the Extended offer, it is their responsibility to apply for the code and return it along with the parent declaration form to the setting. ▪ If the parents' code is not validated, or if they fall out of eligibility, it is their responsibility to inform the setting. The parent(s) will be liable for the fees for that period. ▪ Places are

allocated by arranging our waiting list in date order from the day we receive the application form. In addition, our policy may take into account siblings already attending the setting or for siblings who have recently left for Reception. (The full Admissions Policy may be seen on request)

Further guidance ▪ <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/>