

Welcome

Early Years Schools Briefing

10th February 2026

8am and 4pm

Microsoft Teams

Cheryl McLean: Early Years Funding Co-ordinator

Katherine Crossley: Early Years Project Manager



**Nottingham
City Council**

Early Years Entitlements

**Terms are nationally set:
1st January, 1st April and 1st September**

- **Universal 15 hours entitlement**

All children the term after they are 3.

- **Early Learning for 2 Year Olds 15 hours entitlement**

Eligible 2 year olds the term after they are 2, up until the term after they are 3. They apply for this through the Families Information Service and can start from the date on letter.

- **Working parent funding**

Eligible children aged 9 months + entitled to 30 hours.

Families must apply for a working parent code via the HMRC at [Best Start in Life - Best Start in Life](#) they can only use the code the term after it was applied for or the term after they are the relevant age, whichever is later.



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Early Years Funding 2026/27

	From 1st April 2026
Early Learning for 2 Year Old (previously FRAS) Base Rate	£9.85 per hour (increase of 90p on April 2025 rate)
Working Parent of 2 Year Old Base Rate	£8.73 per hour (increase of 63p on April 2025 rate)
3 & 4 Year Old Base Rate (Universal & Extended Hours)	£6.05 per hour (increase of 53p on April 2025 rate)
Deprivation Supplement	£1.15 per hour (increase of 15p on April 2025) for up to 30 hours per child per week (equivalent) for 3 & 4 year olds attracting EYPP
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) Supplement	£1.15 per hour (increase of 15p on April 2025) , up to 15 hours per child for children across all age groups, accessing the Early Years Entitlements
Disability Access Fund (DAF)	Increased to £975 (increase of £37 on April 2025 rate) per eligible child. Any child claiming DLA.

Funding Example

- Example of a 15 hour place on a 3 & 4 year old base rate;
 - Basic Hourly Rate **without** EYPP or Deprivation Supplement = £3,448.50 p/a (equivalent of £6.05 p/h)
 - Basic Hourly Rate **with** EYPP & Deprivation Supplement = £4,759.50 p/a (equivalent of £8.35 p/h)

Difference of £1,311



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Accurate Portal Claims

- Termly Portal Claim = Data Schools Funding Team use to make payments to schools
- Submit ahead of deadline in order to pick up any potential queries.
- The following should be included on your claim:
 - All nursery and F2/reception children within the specified Date Of Birth range
 - Parent/carer details if wishing to make an EYPP check

Accurate Portal Claims: Nursery Children – 2's/Rising 3's

- Must be eligible for either early learning for 2 year olds and/or working parent entitlement. Those entitled to both must be recorded in both entitlements.
- Children in this cohort could also be eligible for EYPP but can only receive this additional payment if they receive early years entitlements funding as well
- Boxes will only open if eligible. The first 3 boxes are information only and are not the payment information boxes.

Accurate Portal Claims: Nursery Children – 3 and 4 year olds

Universal 15 hours funding

- All 3 and 4 year old children are entitled to 15 hours universal funding the term after their 3rd birthday

Working parent funding

- Some children are eligible for 30 hours funding and a code from HMRC needs to be obtained the term before
- The extended boxes will only open if there is a valid code i.e. it is in date and has an eligible from date the term before.

Children attending more than one setting

- Parents are able to split their funded hours over more than one setting. You need to ensure that this is recorded clearly i.e. where the child is taking the hours and on what days.
- Particularly important if child is entitled to 30 hours:

For 3 & 4's you need to record which setting is claiming for the working parent hours and which setting is claiming for the universal. If parents fall out of eligibility it is the universal setting who can continue to claim.

For 2 year olds who are entitled to both working parent and the early learning for 2 year olds, you need to record which setting is claiming for the which stream. If parents fall out of working parent eligibility, it is the setting claiming the early learning for 2's funding who will continue to claim.
- If a child aged 2 up until the term after they are 3 are only entitled to 30 hours working parent funding and fall out of eligibility, the full 30 hours will cease.

Accurate Portal Claims: EYPP/Deprivation Funding

- In order to check EYPP eligibility, parent/carer details need adding onto your headcount task
- If a child is eligible, they will attract an additional £1.15 for EYPP.
- In addition, a deprivation supplement of £1.15 per child per hour is paid to 3 and 4 year old children who are eligible for EYPP.

Accurate Portal Claims: Reception/F2 children

- Any children that fall in Date Of Birth range who attend Reception/F2 need to be added
- Only complete weeks, average hours per week and hours per term - **Remove universal and extended hours**
- **Decline to give** parent/carer details as not eligible for EYPP

Summary

- Children are only entitled to the appropriate funding stream the term after they are the eligible age.
- Children are only entitled to working parent funding the term after the code was applied for (the 'eligible from' date is the date they applied).
- Ensure you claim the correct number of weeks and hours depending on start date.
- Input parent/carer details, where you have permission, in order for us to run an EYPP check (nursery children only).
- If hours are being split over more than one setting, ensure you are claiming the agreed funding stream.
- Ensure that where children have moved from another settings, that they are giving the correct notice.

Q & A

Schools Portal Training

eyfunding@nottinghamcity.gov.uk