

Early Years Education (EYE) for children in Hampshire

Before starting school children benefit from attending a nursery, pre-school, or childminder to receive early years education. This will help children develop friendships and prepare for school life.

EYE funded places can commence the term after a child reaches the eligible age.

Early years settings will ask families to complete a Parent Declaration form to enable them to claim EYE funding.

Every 3 and 4 year old child is entitled to receive up to 570 hours of EYE per year. This can be up to 10 hours in one day and up to 15 hours per week; delivered by an approved nursery, pre-school, or childminder. These hours can be taken during the school term or 'stretched' across the funding year to include holiday periods. If you stretch the funding through the holidays the number of hours you can take per week will be reduced (for example 11.4 hours over 50 weeks). The EYE can also be taken at more than one provider as long as your child's funded hours do not exceed 570 in a year.

Working Families Entitlements

From September 2025 children aged 9 months old up to attending school may be eligible for Working Families Entitlement and be able to access up to 1140 hours per funding year.

For more information and to apply see:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/childcare/paying-for-childcare/working-families-offer>

Disadvantaged 2 year olds

Families of 2 year old children who meet the eligibility criteria are able to receive up to 570 hours of EYE per year.

Eligibility criteria are based on family income and specified welfare benefits; or if a child has been in local authority care or adopted from care; or has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or the child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA).

For more information and to apply see:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/childcare/payingforchildcare/freechildcare/2yearoldoffer>

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Some families may meet the eligibility criteria for EYPP. This funding is paid directly to the early years setting(s) the child attends to improve the quality and support of their early year's education outcomes.

Families who think they may be eligible must complete part four of the Parent Declaration form.

For more information see:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/childcare/payingforchildcare/freechildcare/earlyyears pupilpremium>

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

If a child has an EYE funded place and is receiving DLA the early years setting can claim DAF which supports settings to make reasonable adjustments to their childcare provision.

DAF can be claimed once a year and by only one setting. If a child attends more than one setting, the family decide which setting should receive the funding.

Families who think they may be eligible must complete part four of the Parent Declaration form, question 4.3.

For more information see:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/childcare/payingforchildcare/freechildcare/earlyyears pupilpremium>

Further Information

If you have any questions speak to your health visitor, nursery, pre-school, or childminder.

You may contact Services for Young Children via our website:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/childcare/provider/sfyc-offices>

If English is not your first language and you need support with translation to complete an application, please contact [Ethnic Minority and Travellers Achievement Service \(EMTAS\) you can call the phone line](#) (school term time only).