



## One minute guide

# Free Early Education Entitlement

### What is Free Early Education Entitlement?

Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) is childcare and education for two to four year-olds. This is funded by central government.

Every child deserves the best possible start in life. Children develop quickly in the early years and a child's experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future. Evidence shows that regular, high quality early education has lasting benefits for children. Their social, physical and mental development is enhanced which helps prepare them for school and to fulfil their potential

All three to four year olds in England are entitled to FEEE and some two year olds are also eligible.

### What exactly are three to four year olds entitled to?

All three to four year olds are entitled to 570 hours of FEEE per year. This can be taken as 15 hours each week for 38 weeks of the year or fewer hours per week can be taken over 51 weeks of the year. Children become eligible from the term following their 3rd birthday, up until compulsory school age (the term after their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday).

Children of working parents may be eligible for an additional 15 hours per week or 570 hours of FEEE per year. Working parents must apply for these additional hours using the link in [this web page](#).

### Which two year olds are eligible?

Some two year olds are also eligible, from the term following their 2nd birthday to the term following their 3rd birthday when they receive three to four year old FEEE.

Eligible two year olds receive 570 hours of FEEE per year. This can be taken as 15 hours each week for 38 weeks of the year or fewer hours per week can be taken over 51 weeks of the year.

Your 2-year-old can get free childcare if you live in England and get any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit, and your household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, not including benefit payments
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit (or both), and your household income is £16,190 a year or less before tax
- the Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

2-year-olds can also get free childcare if they:

- are looked after by a local authority
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- get [Disability Living Allowance](#)
- have left care under an adoption order, special guardianship order or a child arrangements order

You may have to pay for extra costs like meals, nappies or trips. Contact your childcare provider or [FEEEqueries@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEqueries@leeds.gov.uk) to find out more.

### **If you're a non- UK citizen who cannot claim benefits**

If your immigration status says you have 'no recourse to public funds', you may still get free childcare for your 2-year-old. You must live in England and your household income must be no more than:

- £26,500 for families outside of London with one child
- £34,500 for families within London with one child
- £30,600 for families outside of London with two or more children
- £38,600 for families within London with two or more children

You cannot have more than £16,000 in savings or investments.

A parent or a childcare provider can contact the Family Information Service at [FEEEqueries@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEqueries@leeds.gov.uk) to check the eligibility of a two year old.

### **What do we have in Leeds?**

There are a variety of childcare providers in Leeds offering FEEE for both age groups including child-minders, pre-schools, playgroups, day nurseries, children's centres, academies and maintained schools.

[This link](#) can be used to search for childcare by postcode for settings registered to offer FEEE within Leeds City Council.

### **For more information**

For more information about FEEE, you can contact the Family Information Service

Email: [FEEEqueries@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEqueries@leeds.gov.uk)

Tel: 0113 378 9700