

MY CHILD IS TURNING 2 YEARS OLD CHILDCARE FUNDING EXPLAINED

We know that many parents have been looking forward to the time when they can claim childcare funding for their 2 year old. In most cases, funding won't start from the day your child turns 2. Here is a factsheet on how the childcare funding scheme works and when you can expect to start receiving childcare funding after your child's 2nd birthday.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR 15 HOURS FUNDING?

Eligible working parents will receive 15 hours (570 free hours per year) of funded childcare from the term after their child turns 2 years old. You can check your eligibility here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working>

DOES THIS MEAN MY CHILDCARE WILL BE FREE?

No, our nursery is open 51 weeks of the year and government funding is not available all year round, so you will receive a deduction of 47.5 hours a month. There are still fees to pay outside of those funded hours plus a consumable fee that covers meals and incidentals.

DO I NEED TO BOOK A MINIMUM NUMBER OF SESSIONS?

There is a minimum booking requirement of 2 full days if you are claiming (15 hours) 570 hours funding for a 2 year old.

If you would like to change your child's booking to receive your full funding allocation, please contact our bookings team at admin@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk ensuring you give 2 months' notice for any changes to your child's booking.

You may opt to use your funding at a different setting, if this is the case then full fees are payable or you can split the funding between the two childcare settings. Please contact our office team if you will take this option.

WHEN WILL MY FUNDING START?

This depends on when your child turns 2. The local authority has three funding cycles. If your child's birthday falls between:

- 1st of January – 31st of March your funding will begin in **May**
- 1st April -31st August, your funding will commence from **September**
- 1st September -31st December your funding will apply from **January**

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

To find out if you are eligible and to apply for this funding, you must obtain a Reference Code directly from HMRC and send this to us by the due date provided in your funding letter. We will provide you with the necessary forms to complete and sign in advance of claiming funding. It is very important that these forms are completed and returned by the due date or we will not be able to make a claim and full fees will be payable. You also need to provide your child's ID, this can be a passport or full birth certificate.

ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@WISEOWLSCHILDCARE.CO.UK](mailto:info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk)