



EEF (EARLY EDUCATION FUNDING) POLICY

Early Education funding is delivered within both the Statutory and local authority guidelines these may be updated from time to time.

At Playtime day nursery we aim to deliver the EEF in a way which best supports parental access but also ensures the sustainability of Playtime day nursery.

EEF Eligibility

- 3 and 4 year old funding – This is a universal funding which provides up to 570 hours of free childcare a year effective from the term following the child's 3rd birthday, this is normally for 15 hours over 38 weeks a year (term time). Funding is claimed for and paid directly to the provider from the local authority in which they are based.
- 2 year old funding – This is an eligibility based funding for up to 570 hours of free childcare a year effective from the term following the child's 2nd birthday. Applications for 2 year old funding are made to the local authority and places will only be allocated once eligibility has been confirmed. Eligibility is confirmed by the local authority that the provider is based within and then claimed and paid directly to the provider.

Admissions

All children are included and admitted according to availability of spaces. (Although 'looked after' children and children with special educational needs will take priority according to the need.)

Children who take up two year old funding at Playtime are not guaranteed progress through to a fully funded 3 and 4 year old place these places will be allocated subject to availability.

Delivery and charges

The nursery is open 52 weeks of the year and funded hours can be spread over 52 weeks (full year place) or taken as a term time only place (38 weeks in line with Royal Borough of Kingston term dates)

Please speak to the manager as we offer a range of flexible options to use the hours. Parents taking any additional hours on top of their free funded hours will be charged at the hourly rate. Parents who take their 15 hours over a mealtime will incur the cost of the meals.



Children accessing a place that are fully funded will not incur a deposit charge. A deposit will be charged for hours in excess of the funded entitlement

Starters and leavers

A child must be start at Playtime by the designated headcount week to be entitled to funded hours if they enroll after the headcount date they will be charged full fees until the following term starts term.

If your child leaves Playtime after the published headcount day (mid-term) then the funding available remains with playtime and cannot be transferred to another setting.

Parental declaration

Parents must complete a parent declaration form which will be provide by the setting. The forms must be completed in line with the deadlines set by the setting. Funding is dependent on the form being completed and submitted by the deadline date and the parent will be eligible for the cost of childcare if these deadlines are not met.

Queries and complaints

If parents have any queries or concerns regarding the way funded hours are delivered by Playtime they should in the first instance speak to the manager or deputy at the setting. If any issues cannot be resolved then parents can contact Achieving for children's early years team at early.years@achievingforchildren.org.uk