

# Free For 2 Funding



- Eligible **2 year olds** can get up to **15 hours** per week **free childcare** for 38 weeks of the year.

- We have the option of “stretching” these hours across 48 weeks in our Farm room.

(See Funding Questions page)

- You can apply for the funding when your child reaches the age of one year and ten months, on **GOV.UK**.

- If eligible, the **funding begins the term after your child’s second birthday**.

- Please **send your voucher code to us** via email by the deadlines set out below:

-10<sup>th</sup> August for funding to begin in the Autumn term (September)

-10<sup>th</sup> December for funding to begin in the Spring term (January)

-10<sup>th</sup> March for funding to begin in the Summer term (April)

- Once you have been confirmed eligible for a free 2 year old place, the funding will remain with your child until they take up their free 3 year old place – even if your circumstances change.

# 3&4 Year Old Funding



- **All 3 and 4 years olds** can receive up to **15 hours** per week **free childcare** for 38 weeks of the year. This is known as “universal funding” and you do not need to apply for this.
- Eligible **working parents** of 3 and 4 year olds can double the allowance to up to **30 hours** funded childcare. This is called “extended” funding.
  - We have the option of “stretching” these funded hours in our Sea room.  
(See Funding Questions page)
  - The **funding begins the term after their third birthday.**
- For the extended funding you will need to apply on **GOV.UK** and **send us your code** by the deadlines below:
  - 10th August for funding to begin in the Autumn term (September)
  - 10th December for funding to begin in the Spring term (January)
  - 10th March for funding to begin in the Summer term (April)
- **Every three months** you’ll have to **check and confirm you’re eligible** to get your funding code on your government childcare account. Make sure you’ve **set a reminder!** You may not receive the funding if you forget.

# Funding Questions



## What is stretched funding?

The Government funded hours only apply to term time (38 weeks), and since our Farm and Sea rooms are open for ten weeks longer than this, most of the parents in these rooms choose to “stretch” the allowance from September to August.

Stretching the funding can help with budgeting and balancing childcare costs across the whole year rather than paying for all sessions through the holidays.

The Farm and Sea rooms are open 48 weeks of the year, so we offer 12 hours free per week with a maximum of 570 hours per year for the universal funding and 24 hours free per week with a maximum of 1140 hours per year for the extended funding.

## What isn't covered by the funding?

The Government funding is not intended to cover the costs of meals, other consumables, additional hours, additional activities or administration costs.

We ask for a **voluntary parental contribution of £3.30 per week** to pay towards these costs. You do have the choice to opt out of paying this by emailing us, however we do appreciate the contributions as they enable us to continue being able to provide our healthy hot meals and extra-curricular activities that every child benefits from.

## What if my child attends multiple settings?

It is possible to use the funding across one or more settings, please get in contact to discuss this if this is something you are considering as we will likely need to communicate with the other childcare provider if splitting the funding.

## Any other questions

If you have any other questions, please contact Karla in the nursery who will be able to help or point you in the right direction.

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) is a very useful website if you would like to learn more.