



## **FEEE POLICY**

Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) is the name given to the early education childcare funding parents may receive from the Government.

At Home from Home Childcarers, we can offer places for all the current Government schemes in operation, some of which are based on selective criteria such as income, meaning they may not be available to all parents.

The current funded schemes are broken down into each individual schemes as below, these are the current schemes in effect, with the entitlement for eligible 9 month olds and 2 year olds who meet the working family criteria being extended to 30 hours from 1st September 2025:

- For children aged **9 months old**:
  - 15 hours per week funded childcare, for working families who meet the criteria until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025.
  - 30 hours per week funded childcare, for working families who meet the criteria from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.
- For children aged **2 years old**:
  - 15 hours per week funded childcare, for working families that meet the eligibility criteria until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025
  - 30 hours per week funded childcare, for working families that meet the eligibility criteria from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025
  - 15 hours per week funded childcare for disadvantaged families that meet the eligibility criteria for example children with special educational needs, those on low incomes.
- For children aged **3 & 4 years old**:
  - 15 hours per week funded childcare for all children
  - 15 hours per week in addition to those above for working families that meet the eligibility criteria.

To find out what support you may be eligible for or to apply for funding please visit

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

When parents first apply for funding, we ask to see the child's birth certificate so we can verify the child's date of birth and eligibility for the funding.

### **Funding start dates**

Please note that all Early Years funding starts the school term after the child turns **9 months, 2 years** or **3 years old** and does not therefore apply immediately after the child's birthday. For example, if your child turns 9 months old in October, they will be eligible for funding from the following January, if your child turns 2/3 years in May, they will be eligible for funding from the September.

Please note that in order to be eligible for funding the term after your child turns 9m/2/3/4/years you need to apply for your funding code no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March, 31<sup>st</sup> August or 31<sup>st</sup> December, if you apply after these dates you will not be eligible for funding until the start of the next term. For example, if you apply for a code on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, you are entitled for funding from 1<sup>st</sup> January.

### **Early years funding**

We are registered with Essex County Council, and Ofsted to obtain the Government funding for the 15 hours or 30 hours funding, depending on parents' individual circumstances.

#### ***Children aged 9 months old***

Working families who meet the eligibility criteria, 15 hours funding (30 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) may be claimed. We offer this funding on either a "stretched" basis which gives up to 11 hours (increasing to 22 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) funded hours per week for 50 weeks per year or term time only which means the child will receive up to 15 (30 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) funded hours per week for only 38 weeks. It is the responsibility of parents to reconfirm their eligibility every 3 months (Government requirement). Please note that a failure in applying for 15 hours funding (30 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) may delay your eligibility, this also includes a failure to renew your funding code, in these instances you will be liable to pay the full fees. This funding begins the term after the child turns 9 months old. If your child is term time only please note that half fees will be charged, for all hours over the funded hours during all Essex school holidays.

#### ***Children aged 2 years old***

Working families who meet the '*working family*' eligibility criteria, 15 hours (30 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) funding may be claimed. We offer this funding on either a "stretched" basis which gives up to 11 hours (increasing to 22 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) funded hours per

week for 50 weeks per year or term time only which means the child will receive up to 15 funded hours (30 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) per week for only 38 weeks. It is also the responsibility of parents to reconfirm their eligibility every 3 months (Government requirement). Please note that a failure in applying for 15 hours funding (30 hours from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025) may delay your eligibility, this also includes a failure to renew your funding code, in these instances you will be liable to pay the full fees. This funding begins the term after the child's second birthday.

Families that meet the 'disadvantage' criteria, 15 hours funding may be claimed. We offer this funding on either a "stretched" basis which gives up to 11 funded hours per week for 50 weeks per year or term time only which means the child will receive up to 15 funded hours per week for only 38 weeks. Please note that a failure in applying for 15 hours funding may delay your eligibility, in this instance you will be liable to pay the full fees. This funding begins the term after the child's second birthday.

### ***Children aged 3 & 4 years***

All children receive a minimum of 15 hours funding per week, the term after they turn 3 years old. All children aged 3 & 4 years old are eligible to receive Early Years funding. We offer this funding on either a "stretched" basis which gives up to 11 funded hours per week for 50 weeks per year or term time only which means the child will receive up to 15 funded hours per week for only 38 weeks. This funding begins the term after the child's third birthday.

### ***Extended funding for children aged 3 & 4 years old***

Children of eligible working families aged 3 & 4 years old can apply for extended funding (sometimes known as the "30 hours funding"). We offer this funding on either a "stretched" basis which gives up to 22 funded hours per week for 50 weeks per year or term time only which means an eligible child will receive up to 30 funded hours per week for only 38 weeks. It is the responsibility of parents to apply for this funding the term before funding begins. It is also the responsibility of parents to reconfirm their eligibility every 3 months (government requirement). Please note that a failure in applying for 30 hours funding may delay your eligibility, this also includes a failure to renew your funding code, in these instances you will be liable to pay the full fees. This funding begins the term after the child's third birthday.

### ***Additional hours***

Parents are welcome to book additional sessions/hours. These are charged at our standard hourly rate, when booked in advance and cannot be cancelled with less than a weeks' notice. Please note that any extra sessions or hours required are subject to availability. Regular additional

contracted hours are subject to half fees when the child is not in attendance, providing 4 weeks' notice has been given, if no notice/less than 4 weeks' notice has been given, full fees will still be charged.

### **Funded sessions**

For families who only wish to use their funded hours, can use them in the following ways.

Funded only sessions are offered in the following ways for Term time only:

15 hours per week = x2 7.5 hour days

30 hours per week = x4 7.5 hour days

Funded only sessions are offered in the following ways for all year round (stretched) attendance:

11 hours per week = x1 7 hour day and x1 afternoon session (4 hours) from 1pm

22 hours per week = x2 7 hour days and x2 afternoon sessions (4 hours) from 1pm or x2 7 hour days and x1 8 hour day

All eligible families are able to access funding at our setting and spaces are allocated on a first come first serve basis, we have a waiting list that has the date of enquiry which means that when a space becomes available, we allocate to the first family that enquired (if they still require the space).

### **Consumables charges**

Government Funding is to cover the Basic Early Years Foundations Stage continuous provision which includes such things as: -

- Small world figures, role play, puzzles, books and basic craft supplies
- Sand and water play
- Loose parts and construction toys
- Staffing levels that meet the minimum Government ratios.

Enhanced provision that is not covered by the government funding:

- Any food or snacks
- Nappies, wipes and sun cream
- Tissues and nappy sacks
- Emergency spare clothes
- Enrichment activities such as to the park, the library, gardening, cooking etc.
- Celebration events & festivals

- Additional high-quality resources such as our climbing frame, our mud kitchen, our baking supplies, candles in the playdough area to make diva lamps, adding coloured rice or sand in the tuff spot to create rangoli patterns, flour, oil, salt, cocoa powder, cornflour, glitter, googly eyes, food colouring, cereals, and our sensory equipment to list just a few.
- Additional staff over and above the basic minimum.
- Additional Safeguarding Leaders
- All staff Paediatric First Aid Trained
- Access to online Learning Journal
- Extra-curricular activities and classes
- Bibs, sheets, blankets & laundry services of these
- Paracetamol, ibuprofen, Piriton & plasters
- Milton tablets & rapid cool water flasks
- Plates, cups & cutlery
- Daily cleaner

### ***Celebration events & festivals***

Please see the attached extensive list of additional festivals and celebrations which the children are encouraged to take part in, including but not limited to food tasting, purchasing resources specific to individual celebrations, that enhance their children's learning, understanding and participation. This also includes all children having a gift for Christmas and Easter.

### ***Voluntary enhanced provision charges***

Our voluntary enhanced provision charges are applied to all families at our setting, unless you choose to opt out. Our voluntary enhanced provision charges are broken down as follows:

- Enhanced provision - £10 per week
- AM snack - £0.50 per day
- PM snack - £0.50 per day
- Breakfast - £2.00 per day
- Dinner - £4.00 per day
- Nappy disposal - £1 per week (also includes disposal of soiled knickers and pants)
- Suncream - £7.50 – Summer term only- a charge will be applied to your account if it is not provided by 1<sup>st</sup> April each year. Each child will have their own named bottle of suncream.
- Graduation - £11.50 – Autumn term only – Only applicable to children who are leaving to go to school.

**All parents are required to provide a packed lunch, nappies and wipes for their child.**

## **Opt-out**

If you choose to opt-out we will supply you with a list of everything you will need to bring in for every session your child attends, failure to provide these items will result in you being charged the enhanced provision fee. You will also be required to provide your child with snacks in line with our Food and Drink policy, all nappies or soiled knickers/pants will be sent home for you to dispose of, Babys' Days will be used for invoicing, reporting accident and contracts only.

## **What is the difference between continuous provision and enhanced provision?**

Continuous provision refers to the available resources and areas in a learning environment that children can interact with, while enhanced provision is the intentional addition of resources and activities to build upon that.

## **What is the graduation charge for?**

The graduation charges cover the following costs: Graduation books (1 per child) including binding, paper, printing charges, laminating sheets, Graduation hats including ribbons, hall hire costs, cost for providing the children with sweet cones and bubbles, refreshments for parents and children, banners, balloons, graduation gowns. This does not include the cost we incur to cover staff wages to be present at the ceremony, nor does it cover the cost of staff making the Graduation books.

## **Registration fee**

- All families who are accessing additional hours on top of their funded hours and those who are privately funding their child's early education are required to pay a registration fee of £250.00, which will secure your child's space, this will be refunded when your child leaves the setting, providing there are no outstanding fees and 4 weeks' notice has been given. If you decide not to take up your place, your deposit will not be refunded.
- We do not charge a registration fee for those accessing FEEE only hours or those who are accessing the 2 year old disadvantaged 15 hours funding. We simply ask them to fill out the funding forms and our normal registration forms and provide the original birth certificate for the child as proof of age.

	<b>Date:</b>	<b>By Whom?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Created</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Linda Reynolds, Chrissie Morley & Zoe Shaw	New Policy
<b>Updated</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Linda Reynolds, Chrissie Morley & Zoe Shaw	Updated policy to ensure compliancy with the recent legal ruling relating to funded childcare and voluntary charges.
<b>Updated</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Zoe Shaw	Updated enhanced provision list
<b>Next Review</b>	2027		