



OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the funding allocation dependent on how much I earn?

No, it is not means tested.

What if my child attends a nursery in another borough?

That borough should pay the money for your child if the nursery is registered with their early years and childcare service.

I live outside this borough, but want my child to attend a nursery in Hammersmith & Fulham.

If your child attends an early years facility that is registered with the Hammersmith & Fulham early years and childcare service they will include your child in their funding claim.

If my child attends a free nursery class or school, can I get the funding?

No, the funding will go to the local authority nursery.

My child attends a free nursery in the morning and a fee paying one in the afternoon. Can I claim?

No, the funding will go to the local authority nursery. Nursery class registers will be checked to ensure a child is not attending a free nursery class whilst also claiming funding.

What about the extension to 15 hours per week?

Fifteen hours per week is being piloted nationally in ten local authority areas. Hammersmith & Fulham is not a pilot area. However, by 2010, some early years facilities in the borough will be providing fifteen hours per week, after consultation with the early years and childcare service.

If anything goes wrong, where do I get advice?

In the first instance, speak to your early years facility. If you need further advice phone the family information service on 0845 313 3933 (calls charged at standard rate).

Can I get further help with costs?

Working Tax Credit

Parents may be able to receive additional financial help with childcare costs through the childcare element of the Working Tax Credit.

For further information please ring 0845 300 3900 (open 8.00am to 8.00pm) or look online at www.hmrc.gov.uk

You cannot claim the childcare element for the time that your child is in receipt of a free nursery education place. You can only make a claim for any fees that you have to pay yourselves.

family information service
0845 313 3933

Further copies of this leaflet can be obtained from the family information service. Please quote ref: FIS 3&4 yr old offer Sept 2008

Visit our website:
www.lbhf.gov.uk

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If you would like any part of this document interpreted into your own language, please phone 0845 313 3933

Albanian
Nëse e dëshironi çelëndon pjesë të këtij dokumenti të përkthyer në gjuhën tuaj, ju lutemi telefononi në numrin 0845 313 3933

Amharic
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Arabic
إذا كنت ترغب بالحصول على أي جزء من محتويات هذه الوثيقة بلغتك الأم، يرجى الاتصال برقم الهاتف 0845 313 3933

Bengali
আপনি যদি আপনার নিজের ভাষাতে এই ডকুমেন্টের কোন অংশের অনুবাদ চান তাহলে দয়া করে 0845 313 3933 নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

Croatian
Ukoliko želite prijevod bilo kojeg dijela ovog dokumenta na jezik kojim Vi govorite, molimo nazovite telefonski broj 0845 313 3933

Farsi
لطفاً اگر مایل هستید هر بخشی از این نوشتار به زبان شما ترجمه گردد، با شماره تلفن 0845 313 3933 تماس حاصل فرمایید.

French
Si vous souhaitez quelconque partie de ce document dans votre propre langue, appelez le 0845 313 3933

Polish
Jeśli życzą sobie Państwo, aby dowolna część tego dokumentu została przetłumaczona na Państwa język ojczysty, proszę zadzwonić pod numer 0845 313 3933

Portuguese
Se gostaria de ter qualquer parte deste documento traduzida no seu idioma, por favor telefone para 0845 313 3933

Serbian
Ako želite da bilo koji deo ovog dokumenta bude preveden na vaš materinji jezik, molimo vas da nazovete ovaj broj telefona 020 8753 4040.

Somali
Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd in qayb walba oo kamid ah dukumintigan lagu turjumay luqaddaada, faclan soo wac telefoonka 0845 313 3933

Spanish
Si desea que le interpreten alguna parte de este documento en su idioma, por favor llame al 0845 313 3933

Urdu
اگر اس دستاویز کے کسی بھی حصہ کا ترجمہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم یہاں پر فون کریں۔ 0845 313 3933

FUNDING FOR THREE & FOUR YEAR OLDS



HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE SERVICE

is responsible for increasing early years education and childcare places in the borough. It also receives extra funding from the government to enable more three and four year olds to attend an early years education place. This funding is available to help parents/carers who pay for their child to attend an early years facility, and is called the three and four year old offer.

• family information service •

WHAT IS THE THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLD OFFER?

The three and four year old offer (formerly known as the nursery education grant) is funding towards the cost of early years education and will help provide a free part time nursery education place for every three and four year old whose parent/carer wants it.

As a parent/carer you are entitled to the three and four year old offer, regardless of your circumstances or income, as long as you meet all the following:

- Your child is aged three or four years
- You pay for your child's early years education
- Your child attends a facility that is registered in the Hammersmith & Fulham early years and childcare service directory.

A child moving to England from another country is entitled to free nursery education on the same basis as any other child regardless of whether they have British citizenship. Please note if your child goes to a childminder the funding is not currently available.

Call the family information service on 0845 313 3933 (calls charged at standard rate) to find out if your early years facility is listed in the providers directory.

HOW MUCH IS THE FUNDING?

The offer is currently £446.88* per term if your child attends five sessions per week in a facility that is open for less than 38 weeks of the year. If your child attends five sessions per week in a facility that is open 38 weeks of the year or more, you will receive £514.58*. If your child attends less than five sessions per week you will receive funding equal to the amount of sessions attended. For example if your child attends two sessions per week, you will receive two fifths of the total funding.

* Please note that this amount is subject to change and you should contact the family information service to confirm the correct amount.



WHEN DOES YOUR CHILD BECOME ELIGIBLE?

Three and four year olds born between:	Will be eligible for a free place for three terms from:
1 April and 31 August (inclusive)	The start of the autumn term following 3rd and then 4th birthday
1 September and 31 December (inclusive)	The start of the spring term following 3rd and then 4th birthday
1 January and 31 March (inclusive)	The start of the summer term following 3rd and then 4th birthday

TERM DATES

Term	Dates
Spring	1 January to 31 March
Summer	1 April to 31 August
Autumn	1 September to 31 December

In order to receive the funding your child must be enrolled at the early years facility by headcount day, which is an agreed date within the first two weeks of any new term. This is the date by which managers are required to send the names of all children who are eligible for the three & four year old offer to the early years and childcare service to secure their funding. Children enrolled after this date will have to wait until the next term to claim funding.

WHAT IS A SESSION?

One session is two and a half hours. The funding will pay for up to two sessions in a day to a maximum of five sessions per week. If your child's early years education costs more than the funding allocation you will have to top up the fees.

HOW DO I GET THE FUNDING?

Parents/carers of eligible children are NOT required to pay any fee for their child's free nursery education place. The fees that the facility usually charges should be reduced by your child's funding allocation. However, parents/carers will be expected to pay for any care which exceeds the free entitlement provided. Parents/carers who do choose to take up additional services should not be charged any more for those services than parents/carers of children who are not accessing a free place. The facility will ask you for proof of your child's age for eligibility of the funding.



HOW LONG WILL I GET THE FUNDING FOR?

Eligible children will receive the funding for a maximum of 38 weeks per year. All settings will divide this into three terms as shown in the term dates table. Eligible three year olds will receive a free part time nursery education place for the three terms after they turn three years old. All eligible four year olds will receive the funding for the three terms before they reach compulsory school age.

Your child could receive a maximum of six terms funding with the three and four year old offer.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

It may not be appropriate for some children with special educational needs to receive five sessions of nursery education a week. In this case, the provider should in cooperation with the child's parent/carer, seek advice from the local education authority on the amount of provision that would meet the child's needs.

As long as the facility is acting in accordance with this advice, they should be allowed to claim the full amount of funding.