

IS YOUR 2-YEAR- OLD- CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE?

Early Learning and Childcare Places for 2 Year Olds is applied in conjunction with the Council's general nursery admissions & charging policy

Who's eligible?

Under part 6 of the Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, an entitlement of up to 16 hours of nursery provision per week/ 600 hours per year has been introduced for some 2 year olds.

Two year old entitlement of 600 hours a year of free early learning and childcare applies to:

- children aged 2 who are (or have been at any point since turning 2) Looked After by the local authority
- children aged 2 who are subject to a kinship care or guardianship order
- children aged 2 from households where a parent or carer is in receipt of:
 - Income Support (IS)
 - Job Seeker's Allowance (income based)
 - Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance
 - Incapacity or Severe Disablement Allowance
 - State Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (CTC), but not Working Tax Credit and their income is less than £16,105*
 - Both maximum CTC and maximum Working Tax Credit and their income is under £6,420*
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
 - Universal Credit*

**This applies to children who have turned two on or after 1st March 2015. The income thresholds for Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit can vary annually.*

When does entitlement begin and end?

Children aged 2 years old from types of household listed in the categories above will be eligible for 600 hours a year of free early learning from:

The start of the first term AFTER their second birthday.

OR

The start of the first term AFTER the parent starts receiving those named benefits or tax credits.