

La Petite Academy

Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) Information Sheet

Government funding is provided to support parents with nursery fees at different ages, with an increase in funding being rolled out throughout 2024 and 2025 so that all children of working parents can access funded care from the age of 9 months. More information on this can be found at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/upcoming-changes-to-childcare-support/>

How do I find out if I am eligible?

Currently some families with 2 year olds, and all families with 3 and 4 year olds, can access 15 hours of funded care. Some families of 3 and 4 year olds can also access an additional 15 hours if parents are in work. You can find out what funding you are currently entitled to by visiting <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> and entering your details. This page will also help you to claim tax free childcare, tax credits for childcare, universal credit for childcare and support whilst you study. The nursery cannot help you to determine what your entitlement is as this is dependent on several factors.

All 3 and 4 year old children are eligible for 15 hours of funding.

How do I prove I am eligible?

If you are eligible for 2 year funding or 30 hour funding you will receive a code which you will need to keep safe as you need to write it on your FEEE form every term. Your 30 hour code also needs revalidating every term to keep it updated. If you do not revalidate this code, then you may lose access to the additional 15 hours of care and be liable to pay for it yourself. The code itself will stay the same. Although the nursery will endeavour to remind parents to revalidate their code, this is the responsibility of the parent.

When will my child receive their funding?

Funding starts from the term after the child's birthday. Children born 1st September to 31st December access funding from January; children born 1st January to 31st March access funding from April; and children born 1st April to 31st August access funding from 1st September.

How do I receive the funded hours at nursery?

Funding can be taken as 'term time only' over 38 weeks of the year, or 'stretched' over 52 weeks of the year.

Term Time Only Funding

Term time only places are 8am to 1pm and 1pm to 6pm in Toddlers (2 year funding, 3 sessions per week) and 9am to 3pm (30 hour 3/4 funding, 5 sessions per week) or 9am to 4:30pm (15 hour 3/4 year funding, 2 sessions per week). If you want additional care outside of these times, then you can purchase wrap around care before and/or after these session times and in school holidays, which is detailed on our pricing structures. Term time only places are limited to 8 per day.

Stretched Funding

Stretched funding enables parents to send their child to nursery for 52 weeks per year, with the equivalent of 22 hours per week being funded for 30 hour places, and 11 hours per week funded for 15 hour places. Stretched funding sessions are 7:30am to 1:15pm, 7:30am to 6pm or 1:15pm to 6pm. Please refer to the pricing structures for current prices for the different sessions. No stretched places are completely free as they all include wrap around care and meals.

Due to the way that stretched funding is allocated across the year, children born between 1st September and 30th March will have either 2 or 3 weeks per year when they will not be funded. Unless parents state otherwise, then full price will be charged for these weeks. Please see the Admissions Policy for more information. Also, should your child leave mid-term on stretched funding your allocation will need to be reworked and there may be a top up balance required.

How do I tell nursery what my eligibility is?

Every term we will send you a FEEE form to complete. If you are a two-parent household then both parents details must be included. All yellow highlighted sections need completing, including the consent form and parent declaration- please ask if you need help to do this, particularly with section 8. When you send the form back to nursery, we then complete section 9.

You will be given a deadline for returning the form each term, this is linked to the Local Authority timescales for payment. Late return of forms can result in your child not being allocated your preferred session or loss of funded hours.

Can I have a free place at nursery?

Although the Government do advertise the funded hours as 'free' you will still have to pay for meals and any additional hours taken as wrap around care or stretched funding.

Each term we have 4 fully funded free places where parents provide packed lunches. There is usually a waiting list for these places so

please speak to a manager as soon as possible if you would like one. If you take up a fully funded free place you are not able to purchase meals as a 'one off' or have any food heated up for you.

All other places have a charge for meals and/or additional hours.

How do I know how much I will have to pay?

We provide pricing structures (otherwise known as fee schedules) for all the different options available to you. We do not organise bespoke sessions outside of these structures. When you are choosing your session package you will identify this on your FEEE form. If we cannot provide the sessions requested, you will be contacted to arrange an alternative.

Invoices are sent to parents on the 15th of each month for the following month's fees. This will require payment by the 1st of the month to which it relates. Your invoice will show which elements relate to funded hours and which relate to paid for aspects of your child's care.

We hope that you find this information useful. If you would like any further clarification, please speak to a manager.