

## FUNDED ENTITLEMENT

Every child is entitled to receive free early years education from the term after their third birthday until the end of the term in which they have their fifth birthday. Every eligible child is entitled to access **15 hours** of Universal Funded Entitlement per week during term time or their hours can be stretched across the year. Please note we only operate during term time. From April 2024, funding is also available for 2 year olds of working parents. Further information can be found here:

[Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK](#)

Some families with working parents/carers of 2, 3 and 4 year olds may also be eligible for an extra 15 hours per week of Extended Funded Entitlement. This means some children may be able to receive up to 30 hours of free childcare per week. Please note we are only open for 29 hours per week.

More information on the extended hours can be found here at

<https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

We also accept funding for 2 year olds who are eligible for the Funded Entitlement, provided a reference number is obtained from Buckinghamshire County Council and the Council confirms eligibility.

Further information can be obtained at [Help paying for childcare: Free education and childcare for 2 year olds if you get extra support - GOV.UK](#)

To enable children to access the full universal hours per week at Marlow Bottom Pre-school sessions are 3 hours long.

- Morning sessions are 9.00am – 12.00pm
- Afternoon sessions are 12.30pm – 3.30pm (Closes at 12pm on a Thursday)
- Lunch club is 12.00pm -12.30pm and is available to children attending a morning or afternoon session.

The Universal Funded Entitlement may be taken by attending one 3 hour session per day. However, it can also be taken flexibly, and can include Lunch club. For example, 13 hours can be taken by attending two full-day sessions, or 15 hours can be taken over three days. The additional Extended Funded Entitlement funding can be also be taken flexibly.

Our priority is to be able to provide every funded child with their Universal Funded Entitlement to early education. This may limit our ability to offer any extra hours beyond the 15 hours, should this be requested.

If Funded Entitlement is used, your child must attend Pre-school for the hours claimed – attendance is not optional. Sickness or holiday absences are acceptable but must be notified to the Pre-school Manager.

Your child may access the Funded Entitlement at more than one provider, but no more than two providers in any one day. Providing your child’s total hours across the two providers do not exceed 15 hours per week, they will be fully funded. You will need to ensure that both providers are aware that your child is also attending elsewhere.

Should your child attend for more than their funded hours, you will be required to pay the pre-school for the additional childcare hours.

If your child is eligible for Funded Entitlement and you wish to use this funding, Pre-school will ask you to complete a Parent/Provider Agreement. This Agreement sets out the days and hours you have agreed your child will be attending, and details your eligibility code if you are entitled to the extended hours. This form is sent to parents of eligible children before the end of the term in which they turn 3 (or 2 if eligible) and are required to be filled in to ensure that we can claim funding on your behalf. Any changes to sessions has to be recorded on an Amendment form. Parents are also asked to supply evidence of the child’s date of birth e.g. passport or birth certificate.

Buckinghamshire County Council will then reimburse the Pre-school for the hours your child attends.

**Early Years Pupil Premium**

The early years pupil premium (EYPP) is additional funding for early years settings to improve the education they provide for disadvantaged 2, 3- and 4-year-olds. As a setting we are responsible for identifying eligible children and providing the parents with the appropriate paperwork.

This policy was agreed and adopted at a Committee Meeting held on	
Signed .....	For and on behalf of Marlow Bottom Pre-school CIO