

Cambridgeshire's Early Years Funding Scheme

Information for Parents/Carers whose children attend a Local Authority setting

Three and four year old children are entitled to free early years education – in pre-schools, day nurseries, independent schools, Local Authority maintained nursery school/classes, reception classes and special units.

If you have received this leaflet, your child is attending a Local Authority maintained nursery school/class, reception class or special unit and therefore taking up their free place in that setting or you are considering this.

This leaflet has been produced to clarify what you will be able to take up if your child is attending a Local Authority setting.

If your child attends a reception class or special unit

Unless you have made special arrangements with the school, confirmed by the Local Authority, your full entitlement of a free place is taken up at the Local Authority setting. This is due to the way Local Authorities are funded by Central Government as schools cannot recover the costs of the sessions not used. Children are normally phased into reception class and these phasing in weeks count as part of the free place taken at the school.

If your child attends a Local Authority maintained nursery class

The hours you take up will be counted towards your 15 hour entitlement e.g. if you take up 15 hours then your full entitlement is used at the Local Authority maintained nursery class; if you take up say, 10 hours then you have 5 hours remaining to be used at another early years setting. Hours claimed at a Local Authority maintained nursery class take precedence over hours claimed at a non-maintained early years setting.

Any hours taken at a non-maintained early years setting which are beyond the total 15 hour entitlement **will be chargeable at early years setting rate.**