

Royal Greenwich Children's Services

The Early Years Pupil Premium



From April 2015, the government is giving extra funding to childcare providers for children aged three and four. Nurseries, schools, preschools, childminders and other childcare providers will be able to claim extra funding called the Early Years Pupil Premium to support children's development, learning and care.

What is the Early Years Pupil Premium?

The Early Years Pupil Premium provides extra money for three and four year old children whose parents are on certain benefits. The amount is 53p per child per hour for the number of hours of statutory entitlement. This means up to £302 a year per child for early years settings where children are taking up the full 570 hours funded entitlement to early learning.

Who is eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium?

Your child will be eligible if you are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit (where the household income is no more than £16190)
- Working Tax Credit 4 week 'run on' (the payment made for 4 weeks after a person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Your child may also be eligible if he/she:

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- has been looked after by the local authority for at least one day;
- has been adopted from care;
- has left care through a special guardianship; or
- is subject to a child arrangement order.

How often will the checks be made?

The checks will be carried out when your child begins to access the free entitlement to early learning at three years old. There will be a further check at four years old but it will not be necessary to complete a second form if you have previously submitted one. The checks will be made by the local authority on your behalf and with your permission.

How will the extra funding benefit your child?

This additional money could make a significant difference to what we can provide for your child. Your school can use the extra funding in any way they choose to improve the quality of the early years learning that is provided. This could include for example additional training for staff for specialised areas such as speech and language. Schools can also buy more resources to support your child to learn.

It is well documented that high quality early education can influence how well a child does at both primary and secondary school so we do want to make the most of this additional funding. You may be aware if you have older children that the Pupil Premium has been available for school age children and it has proved to have given a real boost to the children receiving the funding. We want to do the same for our early years children entitled to this funding.

How will the money be paid?

The money will be paid by the local authority to your child's school.

Who can you contact if you have any queries?

Talk to your school if you need more information, or you can telephone or email our Families Information Service on:
020 8921 6921 fis@royalgreenwich.gov.uk