



Government Funded Hours Fact Sheet

There are 3 types of government funded hours

15 hours for eligible 2 year olds
15 hours for all 3 and 4 year olds
30 hours for eligible 3 and 4 year olds

To find out if you are eligible you need to apply via either of these websites

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

or

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/childcare-and-pre-school/free-childcare>

You do not need to apply for the 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds

All funded hours start the term after a child's birthday. September, January or April

30 hours Funding

If you have applied and are eligible for 30 hours funding you will receive a code from the government.

Please then complete one of our 30 hours forms so that we can claim the code. You will need to validate this code 3 times per year You do not need to re-apply for 2 year old or any other funding

When first applying for the 30 hours you must provide us the code by these dates:

20th August

15th December

20th March

We cannot accept codes for the following terms after these dates

If you use the 3-6pm slot you will need to decide if you would like to send your child with a cold packed tea or if you would like to pay for tea. Tea is at 5pm. Please ask for details.

Are funded hours term time only?

Yes, Little Explorers offers funded hours during term time only.

Please view our term calendar here

<https://www.littleexplorershythe.com/documents-and-policies>

During non-funded times you can book and pay for extra hours by completing an additional hours form

Your child will not automatically be booked in for their funded hours during non-funded times, only for their paid hours

Can you pay for additional hours?

Yes, you can pay for the breakfast hour, 8-9am. We will provide breakfast

You can pay for other additional hours around your entitlement. Invoices are sent out around the 14th of each month and need to be paid by 28th. You are paying in advance for the following month

You will still be charged for these hours during non-funded times.

How can you use these hours at Little Explorers?

Children using 15 hours of funding must use blocks of 3 hours. 9-12pm and 12-3pm. Children who just use 15 funded hours and do not pay for any additional hours must choose between:

Monday 9 – 3pm, Tuesday 9 – 3pm and Wednesday 9 – 12pm or

or

Wednesday 12 – 3pm, Thursday 9 – 3pm and Friday 9 – 3pm

3 and 4 year old 30 hours can be used in blocks of three hours. 9-12pm, 12-3pm and 3-6pm. Many parents use five days a week 9-3pm

Children going home at 12pm will not have lunch at nursery.