



## 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](http://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 for 3 and 4 year olds

You must apply here [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

If you have applied and are eligible for 30 hours funding you will receive a code from the government. Please then send us a message to the office via Famly including the code and your national insurance number so that we can claim the hours. 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:

20<sup>th</sup> August

15<sup>th</sup> December

20<sup>th</sup> March

We cannot accept codes for the following terms after these dates.

### 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 requesting these through a Famly message to the office

Your child will not automatically be booked in for their funded hours during non-funded times (e.g. half term holidays), only for their paid hours.

### Can you pay for additional hours?

You can pay for other additional hours around your entitlement. Invoices are sent out around the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month and need to be paid by 28<sup>th</sup>. 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?

Choose between 3 or 5 hour blocks

#### 3 hour blocks

9am-12pm, 12pm-3pm or 3pm-6pm

#### 5 hour blocks

8am-1pm or 1pm-6pm

15 hours children can choose either 5 x 3 hour blocks or 3 x 5 hour blocks.

30 hours children can choose either 10 x 3 hours blocks or 6 x 5 hour blocks

Sessions can be slotted together to form longer days. Any hours outside of these times will be paid for.

### Do I have anything extra to pay?

We offer all-inclusive childcare. You drop your child off and we provide everything they need. We ask parents of funded children to contribute towards this care package at a cost of £1 per hour. Please read our handbook for details.