

Free childcare for 2 year olds

Worcestershire Children First provides free childcare for some two year old children within Worcestershire.

When should I apply for childcare for my 2 year old?

Children who meet the eligibility criteria will be able to access up to 15 hours of free childcare per week from the term following their second birthday.

Children who turn two between:	Please apply by:	You can start receiving your free hours from:
1 January and 31 March	Middle of February to end of March	April after the child's 2nd birthday
1 April and 31 August	Middle of June to end of July	September after the child's 2nd birthday
1 September and 31 December	Middle of October to end of December	January after the child's 2nd birthday

Who is eligible for two year funding?

If your child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit and household earnings are no more than £15,400 per year
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credits, with an annual household income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credits, with an annual household income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (paid for 4 weeks after a family stops qualifying for Working Tax Credits)
- support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act and you have a NASS number

Please note that you are not eligible if you claim working tax credits and child tax credits at the same time.

If you receive one of the benefits listed above your child may be eligible and you can apply for the funding.

Additional criteria

Children are also entitled to a free place if:

- they are looked after.
- they have a current Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- they have left care under a Special Guardianship Order, Child Arrangements Order or Adoption Order.
- they have arrived in the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme or the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

If your child meets one of the criteria above, please go to **apply via post**.

Non-EEA citizens who cannot claim benefits criteria

Children are also entitled to a free place if:

- they are the child of asylum seekers supported under Section 4 (refused) or 'Part
 6' (awaiting a decision) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- they are the child of a Zambrano Carer with an annual household income of no more than £15,400
- they are the child of a family with no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK under 'family or private life' grounds (Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR)) and an annual household income of no more than £15,400
- they are (at the time of application) receiving support from Worcestershire County Council as a 'child in need' or have a Child Protection Plan in place and an annual household income of no more than £15,400

What is my child entitled to?

Eligible children can receive up to 570 hours of free early education per year. This can be used in many different ways such as 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year, or less hours per week for more than 38 weeks of the year.

You can use your hours in the following ways:

- a maximum of two childcare settings in one day
- a maximum of 10 hours in one day
- a maximum of 15 hours over one week
- taken between 6am to 8pm any day of the week

Honeybourne Primary Academy Nursery can offer the full 15 hours funding per week, term time only (38 weeks) subject to availability.

If your child attends two registered settings, you must complete a Parent Declaration Form for both settings, which must contain accurate information about the number of hours your child attends at each.

For Further information and details of how to apply please speak to the Nursery Manager, Kate Drew.