

Maidenbower Infant School Nursery

Early Years Funded Entitlement Policy



All 3 and 4 year-old children in England are eligible for 570 hours of free early education or childcare per year. At Maidenbower Infant School Nursery we offer 15 hours of Funded Entitlement a week for 38 weeks of the year.

To be eligible to claim Early Years Funded Entitlement, children must start in the nursery prior to the headcount day for the term. Headcount days are usually in January, April and September and are the dates when the nursery confirms to West Sussex County Council details of all the children that will be claiming Funded Entitlement.

If a child starts after this date, Funded Entitlement cannot be claimed until the following term (except in exceptional circumstances). When claiming Funded Entitlement, parents are committing to their child attending for the full duration of the session. The nursery is required to keep a record of each child's attendance and the reason for any absence. If a child's attendance is poor, the nursery has an obligation to liaise with WSCC about whether it is appropriate to continue to claim public funds for the child in future periods.

15 hours Funded Entitlement

When you can start claiming

The date you can start claiming depends on your child's birthday.

Child's birthday

When you can claim

1st January to 31st March

The beginning of term on or after 1st April

1st April to 31st August

The beginning of term on or after 1st September

1st September to 31st December

The beginning of term on or after 1st January

30 hours Funded Entitlement

Families where both parents are working (or a sole parent is working in a lone parent family) may be eligible for 30 hours Funded Childcare. Parents should check on the Government's web site to see if they are eligible. Where a parent is eligible they will need to apply at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/30-hours-free-childcare-eligibility> and provide the nursery with the reference number they are given. If this number is not provided any hours over the 15 hours will be charged at £7.00 per hour.

Two year old Funded Entitlement

Children are accepted at Maidenbower Infant School Nursery following their 3rd birthday. Two year old funding may be claimed by parents if they meet the criteria which can be found at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/childcare-and-early-education/free-childcare-for-2-year-olds/#is-my-child-eligible-for-free-childcare>

To obtain 2 year old funding parents should apply online at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/childcare-and-early-education/free-childcare-for-2-year-olds/#how-to-apply>

Parents should supply the nursery of the reference number they are given. Parents who are waiting for confirmation of funding will be required to pay for all nursery sessions at £7.00 per hour. In the event of funding not being granted parents will be required to adhere to the four weeks' notice period to change or terminate their sessions.

Our sessions are:-

8.30-11.30	this can be taken as 3 hours Funded Entitlement* or 3 hours paid
12.00-3.00	this can be taken as 3 hours Funded Entitlement* or 3 hours paid
9.00-3.00	this can be taken as 6 hours Funded Entitlement* or 6 hours paid or 3 hours Funded Entitlement* 3 hours paid
8.30-3.00	this can be taken as 6 hours Funded Entitlement* plus 0.5 hour paid or 3 hours Funded Entitlement* plus 3.5 hour paid,

* Funded Entitlement=Universal Funded Entitlement, Extended 15hours Funded Entitlement or 2year old Funded Entitlement

**THIS POLICY WAS REVIEWED BY THE HEADTEACHER / GOVERNING BODY OF
MAIDENBOWER INFANT SCHOOL AND NURSERY**

Date

Name:

Elaine Jenkins

Position

Chair of Governors

Next review date

November 2025