

**BEST  
START  
IN LIFE**



**Reading**  
Borough Council  
Working better with you

Brighter  
Futures for  
Children

# Funded early learning for 2 year olds

Your child could be eligible for 15 hours a week of funded childcare

Funded early learning for



## How does it work?

If you have a child aged two-years-old and you meet the eligibility criteria (opposite) you are entitled to a maximum of 15 hours per week of funded early learning, for 38 weeks per year.

This will start from the term after your child's second birthday and will continue until they are entitled to the early years education for three and four-year-olds.

## Where?

At any Ofsted registered provider such as a local nursery, pre-school, playgroup or childminder that is eligible to receive funding. To find out about childcare options in your area, please contact our Family Information Service.

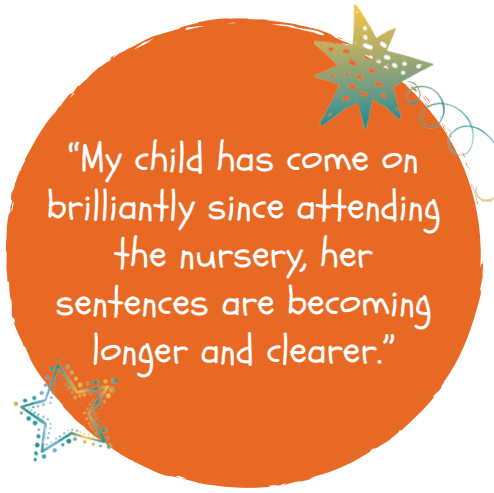
## The benefits

### Research has shown that good quality early learning can:

- Improve children's development, including learning and communication skills
- Help them learn to socialise and play with new friends
- Give your child the experience of playing new activities including messy play that you may not want to do at home!
- Be the first steps towards getting ready for school

Childcare is also good for families.

It gives you a bit more time to spend with other children, take up a college course, volunteer, go back to work, or just have some you time.



*"My child has come on brilliantly since attending the nursery, her sentences are becoming longer and clearer."*



## Are you eligible?

To receive funded early learning, you must receive one of the following benefits or meet one of the criteria below:

### Economic criteria:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit, and your household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, not including benefit payments
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

### Non-economic criteria:

- Your child has been in local authority care for one day or more
- Your child has been adopted from local authority care, has left local authority care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or an adoption order
- Your child has a statement of special educational needs (SEN) or an education, health and care plan (EHC)
- Your child receives Disability Living Allowance

### Non-UK citizen who cannot claim benefits:

If your immigration status says you have 'no recourse to public funds', you may still get funded early learning for your 2-year-old. You must live in England and your household income must be no more than:

- £26,500 for families outside of London with one child
- £30,600 for families outside of London with two or more children
- You cannot have more than £16,000 in savings or investments

## How do I apply or find out more?

To find out about childcare options in your area or to apply for the funding, please contact:

### Reading's Family Information Service

Find out more at [readingfis.org](https://www.readingfis.org)

Call **0118 9373 777**, option 2

Email [fis@reading.gov.uk](mailto:fis@reading.gov.uk)

To find out about support and activities you and your child could benefit from, visit:

[www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org](https://www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org)

  
2 year-old  
funding page



Brighter Futures for Children is part of Reading Borough Council and delivers children's services across Reading.

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Reading Borough Council

