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East Dunbartonshire Council

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Early Years

Early Learning and Childcare Expansion



Local Authority Early Years Centres

Guidance Notes

January 2021



What is the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare – and when is it happening?

The Scottish Government is increasing the funded early learning and childcare eligibility to 1140 hours per year. All eligible¹ two-year-old children and all children aged three and four years old will be able to take up the funded entitlement from August 2021.

The National Parent Forum of Scotland has provided a helpful leaflet 'Early Learning and Childcare in a Nutshell' (<https://www.npfs.org.uk/>) setting out all the key information parents and carers need to know about 1140 hours, the Scottish Government National Standard and the funding follows the child approach. This is also available on the East Dunbartonshire Council website.

The Council has a statutory responsibility to ensure that all eligible children living in East Dunbartonshire are able to access funded provision. The Council aims to ensure a choice of flexible, affordable, high quality provision. Providers in the private, voluntary, and independent sector - including childminders - work in partnership with the Council to deliver the expansion.

When - and how - do I apply for a place for my child?

Applications for the academic year 2021/22 run throughout January 2021 and close on the 28th of February 2021. Applications are completed online on the Council website. Parents and carers can speak directly to staff in their local early years centre for advice and information.

Any late applications received after the closing date will be processed after the main allocations process.

Please note: at the point of online application, applicants will be required to upload proof of residency, Council Tax bill, recent utility bill and child's birth certificate.

What is the Council's delivery model?

The delivery model for local authority early years centres is based upon consultation with parents and carers across communities in East Dunbartonshire. This consultation, in conjunction with early phasing of the model in some areas, has allowed the Council to understand the needs of children and families. This information has shaped the delivery model for August 2020, ensuring the provision is high quality, flexible, affordable and accessible.

Almost all early years centres - including the new build early years centres, but excluding Craighead EYC and Meadowburn Gaelic Medium EYC - will deliver 1140 hours on an extended day, extended year model. Children will attend five blocks of four hours and 45 minutes per week, over 48 weeks per year, which equates to 1140 hours. Examples of this could be five mornings or five afternoons or two and a half days.

Craighead Early Years Centre in Milton of Campsie and Meadowburn Gaelic Medium Early Years Centre will offer funded only places, on a term time delivery model, 9am to 3pm per day over 38 weeks per year from August 2021. This is reflected on the application form if these centres are chosen.

What if I need more than the funded hours? (more than 23 hours and 45 minutes per week)?

All Council centres (with the exception of Craighead, Milton of Campsie and Meadowburn Gaelic Medium Early Years Centres) will offer options for wraparound care – funded hours plus additional hours - where capacity allows. Any additional hours (or part thereof) over and above 23 hours and 45 minutes per week will be chargeable at the hourly rate specified in the Early Years charging policy. At January 2021, this is £4.68 (this may change in April 2021) per hour for children aged three years to those not yet attending school.

¹ Eligibility criteria is detailed on the EDC website: <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/early-learning-and-childcare/early-learning-and-childcare-provision#>



Early Years

Early Learning and Childcare - Local Authority Early Years Centres

EDC early years centre:

Do you require to purchase more than the funded hours?

No, I only want my child's funded entitlement

Are you choosing Craighead EYC or Meadowburn Gaelic Medium EYC?

Yes

Choose 9am-3pm, term time (38 weeks)

No

Yes, I wish to pay for wrap around care

FUNDED HOURS plus ADDITIONAL HOURS

Charges will apply

Select the blocks you require


Any hours(or part thereof) above 23 hours and 45 minutes per week / 1140 hours per year will be chargeable at an hourly rate.

Time	Hours	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
8am-12:45pm	4h 45m					
1:15pm - 6pm	4h 45m					
8am-5pm	9h					
8am-5.30pm	9h 30m					
8am-6pm	10h					

Choose 5 blocks


Half days = 1 block

Full days = 2 blocks



Time	Block	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
8am-12:45pm	1					
1:15pm - 6pm	1					
8am-5:30pm	2					

Apply online within timescales set in the admissions policy. Additional hours requested for purchase will be allocated where capacity allows.



What if there are any delays in the new centres opening?

The Council is working hard to make sure the new build centres in Bearsden, Milngavie and Kirkintilloch open in Spring 2021. If there are delays that affect the opening date, families of children allocated to the new centre will be kept up to date and will be given other options for early learning and childcare until such time as the centre opens. A list of all local authority early years centres is available on the Council website.

How are places allocated - and what if I don't get my first choice centre?

The Early Years Admissions Policy sets out the allocations process. This is available on the Council website. For some early years centres, the demand for spaces cannot be met. If this is the case, the allocations team will endeavour to offer the second choice centre, or another centre in the locality.

Where else can my child access early learning and childcare?

Parents and carers can use their child's funded hours with local authority early years centres, funded providers and childminders, and can use a blend of more than one setting. Contact information and further details for early years centres and childminders is available on the Council website (<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/early-learning-and-childcare>) or you can speak to someone at your local early years centre who can give you more information.

Does my child need to take up the full 1140 hours?

The early learning and childcare is an offer. Parents and carers can choose to take the amount of early learning and childcare that best suits their requirements.

Will meals and snacks be provided?

Children attending funded hours will receive a nutritious meal. Snacks and water will be provided as required throughout the day.

Further information

Further information is available on the Council website, including frequently asked questions (FAQs) which will be kept updated in response to questions received. For any other information, email the early years team on: earlyyears@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

The Parent Club website <https://www.parentclub.scot/>

Other formats and translation

This document can be provided in large print, Braille or in audio format and can be translated into other community languages. Please contact the Council's Communications & Engagement Team at:

East Dunbartonshire Council, 12 Strathkelvin Place, Southbank,
Kirkintilloch G66 1TJ Tel: 0300 123 4510

اس متن کو درخواست کے مطابق چینی، ہندی اور دیگر زبانوں میں بھیجا جاسکتا ہے۔ 0300 123 4510 پر کال کریں۔

اس متن کو درخواست کے مطابق اردو، پنجابی اور دیگر زبانوں میں بھیجا جاسکتا ہے۔ 0300 123 4510 پر کال کریں۔

اس متن کو درخواست کے مطابق گیلک، اسکاٹش گیلک اور دیگر زبانوں میں بھیجا جاسکتا ہے۔ 0300 123 4510 پر کال کریں۔

Gabhadh an sgrìobhainn seo cur gu Gàidhlig ma tha sin a dhìth oirbh. Cuinbh fòin gu 0300 123 4510

अनुवाद करने पर यह दस्तावेज़ हिन्दी में आपूर्ति किया जा सकता है। कृपया 0300 123 4510 पर कॉल करें।