

# Two Year Early Learning Funding – Families receiving additional government support

## Who is eligible?

Many families across Sunderland can benefit from funded early learning places for two-year-olds if they meet the relevant eligibility criteria:

The family are in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Employment and Support Allowance – Income Related
- income based Job Seekers Allowance
- guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit – with an annual **net** earnings threshold of £15,400
- are in receipt of Child Tax and/or Working Tax Credit **and** have a household income below the threshold of £16,190
- are in receipt of the Working Tax credit 4 week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

The child:

- is cared for by the local authority
- has a current Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- has left the care of the local authority through arrangements for Special Guardianship or Residence Order or through Adoption

## **Non-UK citizens who cannot claim benefits (No Recourse to Public Funds)**

If a family are non-UK citizens and their immigration status states that they have 'no recourse to public funds', they may be able to get a place. They must live in England and their household income must be no more than:

- £26,500 for families with one child; or
- £30,600 for families with two or more children.

The family cannot have more than £16,000 in savings or investments.

### **When can the place start?**

If your child is eligible, you can start claiming funded childcare the term after your child turns 2, depending on when their birthday is.

- Children born between **1 April and 31 August** will be eligible to a place in the **Autumn** term beginning on or after **1 September**
- Children born between **1 September and 31 December** will be eligible to a place in the **Spring** term beginning on or after **1 January**
- Children born between **1 January and 31 March** will be eligible to a place in the **Summer** term beginning on or after **1 April**.

Once a child has started attending a setting the place will remain valid until they move onto an Early Learning place for 3- and 4-year-olds.

Further guidance is available in the [Family Portal User Guide](#).