

# Funded Early Education and Care Funding



## Grass Roots Nursery Group: Funded Early Education and Care (FEEC) Policy

### Purpose and Principles

The purpose of this policy is to provide families with clear procedures regarding Funded Early Education and Care (FEEC) at Grass Roots Nursery Group. We are committed to ensuring families access their full entitlements through the following principles:

- Transparency: Clear eligibility criteria and funding amounts.
- Flexibility: Options for how and where to use funding.
- Accountability: Emphasis on attendance to secure continued funding.
- Support: Step-by-step guidance and open communication with families.

### Eligibility and Funding Amounts

In accordance with new government guidance, funding is available for children starting from 9 months old.

- **9 Months to 4 Years Old:** Eligible working families can receive up to 30 hours of funded childcare per week.
- **Universal Entitlement:** All children aged 3 or 4 are entitled to 15 hours of universal funded childcare regardless of working status.
- **Usage Options:** Funding can be used for 38 weeks (term-time) or stretched across 51 weeks (full year).

### Flexibility and Attendance

- **Provider Choice:** You may use FEEC funding at any registered setting or with registered childminders.
- **Combined Care:** Your entitlement can be split across different settings or childcare arrangements.
- **Attendance Policy:** Regular attendance is mandatory. Repeated absences on funded days without a written explanation may result in the local authority requesting repayment of the funding. Please inform your keyworker in advance of any absences.

### Application Process

To secure your funding, you must apply within the correct windows and provide your code to the nursery.

Funding Type	Where to Apply
Working Parents (9 months+)	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working">gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working</a>

2-Year-Olds (Gov Support)	<a href="https://calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/education-and-learning/childcare">calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/education-and-learning/childcare</a>
Universal 15 Hours (Age 3-4)	No application necessary; starts the term after the 3rd birthday.

Note: You must declare any FEEC sessions your child receives at other settings. Failure to obtain a code before the start date may result in being unable to claim funding for that term.

## Funding Timelines

### For Working Families (From 9 Months)

Start/Return to Work Date	Application Window	Access Entitlement From
1 Oct 2024 – 31 Jan 2025	1 Sept 2024 – 31 Dec 2025	1 Jan 2025
1 Feb 2025 – 30 Apr 2025	1 Jan 2025 – 31 Mar 2025	1 Apr 2025
1 May 2025 – 30 Sept 2025	1 Apr 2025 – 31 Aug 2025	1 Sept 2025

### For 2 and 3 Year Old General Funding

Child's Birthday	Funding Starts
1 September – 31 December	Spring Term (January)
1 January – 31 March	Summer Term (April)
1 April – 31 August	Autumn Term (September)

Contact Us: If you have questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact the nursery manager.

