

What is funded early learning and childcare?

The Scottish Government fund early learning and childcare places for children aged 3 and 4 years and eligible 2 year olds.

A funded part-time place offers up to 600 hours of early learning and childcare which is normally delivered in 5 sessions of 3 hours 10 minutes per week. The quantity of sessions available may vary between providers.

Children from the age of 2 may also be eligible for a funded early learning and childcare place if the parent/carer is in receipt of Income Support, Income-based Job Seekers Allowance, any income-related element of the Employment Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disability Allowance, Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and your income is below £16,105, both maximum CTC and WTC with income less than £6,420, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 or Universal Credit.

Does my child have to attend early learning and childcare sessions?

Early learning and childcare is not a statutory requirement and it is for parents to decide whether they want their child to participate.

Who provides early learning and childcare?

A list of registered providers is available from Education and Social Care. There are currently 22 primary schools which provide nursery classes, and 37 centres which work in partnership with the local authority to provide early learning and childcare.

How will I know if a centre provides a good standard of early learning and childcare?

All centres must meet the standards set by the Care Inspectorate, and will be inspected regularly. Providers are required to observe national curriculum guidelines.

The Moray Council also works with centres to ensure quality, and to improve the experience offered to the children. If you have any concerns about a centre you can raise this with the centre itself or with The Moray Council.

All centres are registered under the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 and must meet and maintain the standards set by the Care Inspectorate.

When will my child receive a place?

Children in their pre-school year (those born between 01/03/2013 and 28/02/2014) are entitled to receive a full year of early learning and childcare.

Children in their ante-pre-school year (those born between 01/03/2014 and 28/02/2015) become eligible for a funded early learning and childcare place as detailed in the table below.

The table below confirms eligibility for the session 2017/2018:

A child whose date of birth is between:	Will be eligible for a funded place from:
01/03/2013 and 28/02/2014	15 August 2017
01/03/2014 and 31/08/2014	15 August 2017
01/09/2014 and 31/12/2014	8 January 2018
01/01/2015 and 28/02/2015	16 April 2018

How do I register for early learning and childcare?

In January 2017 an advert will appear in the local paper and posters are displayed within the local neighbourhood, inviting parents to register their child at their preferred early learning and childcare centre. If you are unable to register at this time, please contact Education and Social Care or your preferred early learning and childcare centre.

If your child's date of birth is within 01/03/2015 and 29/02/2016 he/she will become eligible for a funded place in the session 2018/2019, and you should register in January 2018.

Which centre should I choose?

The choice of centre is entirely up to you. You should register at the centre you would prefer your child to attend, but each centre will have a limited number of places available. The registration form asks you to list a second and third choice of centre, and The Moray Council will contact these centres on your behalf if your child can not be accommodated in your preferred choice of centre.

The Moray Council tries to ensure that places are well matched to meet the needs of both children and parents, but can not guarantee that your child will be placed at your preferred centre, or that you will receive your choice of a morning or afternoon place.

Will transport be available?

As early learning and childcare is not statutory, The Moray Council has no transport provision available.

Is there daycare provision in Moray?

Some partner early learning and childcare centres can offer daycare services, although the centre will charge you for the additional care element. Assistance towards the cost of childcare may be available through the Working Tax Credit. For more information telephone 0845 300 3900 or visit www.direct.gov.uk

If I decide to defer entry to primary school, will my child be entitled to a funded early learning and childcare place?

Yes, The Moray Council will fund a part-time early learning and childcare place. More details are available in the leaflet entitled 'Deferred Entry to Primary School.'

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT

THE HEADTEACHER OF YOUR
LOCAL SCHOOL, OR
THE MANAGER OF YOUR
PREFERRED EARLY LEARNING
AND CHILDCARE CENTRE

OR

EDUCATION and SOCIAL CARE
TEL. 01343 563374
Email educationandsocialcare@moray.gov.uk

The Moray Council
High Street
ELGIN
IV30 1BX
www.moray.gov.uk

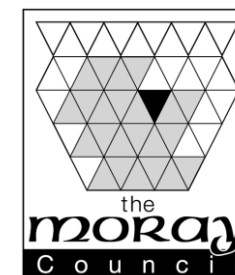
For alternative formats, languages or further
information, please ask an English speaking friend
or relative to:
Phone: 01343 563319
Email: equalopportunities@moray.gov.uk

This leaflet is one of a series of leaflets produced
for parents and carers.

FUNDED EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE (PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION) SESSION 2017/2018

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS and CARERS

produced by



EDUCATION and SOCIAL CARE

(Reviewed August 2016)