

Funded places newsletter theme ideas

Benefits for children

Play and grow with a funded childcare place

Did you know that from the term after your child's third birthday, they can have a funded place up to 15 hours a week at a local nursery, pre-school or childminder? For most working families this can rise to 30 hours per week.

Some two-year-olds in Lancashire may also qualify for a funded place of up to 15 hours a week. This depends on your household income or if you are in receipt of certain benefits.

Taking up your funded hours with a nursery or childminder can provide lots of opportunities for your child to be active.

From great play areas to walks in the park, your little one will be ready for bedtime at the end of a tiring day of fun and play!

Join the thousands of parents across Lancashire who have a funded place with a local nursery, pre-school or childminder.

Find out more about funded places for 2, 3 or 4-year-olds at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/childcare.

Get ready for school with a funded place for 2, 3 or 4-year-olds

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Your children will learn essential skills at nursery or with their childminder such as:

- Going to the toilet themselves
- Eating with a knife and fork
- Putting on their coat, fastening it, taking it off and hanging it up.

This will encourage them to become more independent and will make the transition to school easier. If your child needs any extra help, they will identify these areas early and assist in getting them the right support.

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For further details about funded places for 2, 3 or 4-year-olds at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/childcare.

Learn and grow with a funded childcare place

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Singing, rhyming, reading and being read to with friends are just some of the fun activities used by nursery and pre-school staff and childminders to develop your child's speaking and listening skills.

This can lead to a love of language that will help your child to be a confident reader, making reading and spelling easier at school.

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Benefits for parents

Take up a funded childcare place and take time for you

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When your child is using their funded hours, this is also a chance for you to take some time for yourself.

You might want to:

- Start a part-time job
- Do some training or study
- Spend the time with your younger children or
- Relax with family or friends.

Whatever you choose to do, this is your time too.

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Find out more about funded places for 2, 3 or 4-year-olds at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/childcare.

Save thousands with a funded childcare place in Lancashire

Does the cost of using childcare seem daunting or are you getting all the help to pay for it that you may be entitled to?

Funded places are available for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds at a local childminder, pre-school or nursery. All 3 and 4-year-olds in Lancashire can take up to 15 hours per week (570 hours per year) funded by the government. For most working families this can rise to 30 hours per week (1140 hours per year).

The cost of childcare can be a challenge and the 15-30 hours that are funded by the government can really help. On average this saves you between £2,816 - £5,632 per year.

The government also funds up to 15 hours per week (570 hours per year) for some 2-year-old children. It's quick and easy to check if you can claim funded hours for your 2-year-old at www.lancashire.gov.uk/childcare.

Sessions at a nursery, pre-school or childminder can help your child to learn and develop through play. Other benefits include:

- Making new friends and building their confidence
- Improving speaking and listening skills
- Preparing your child for starting school
- Giving you time back to study, start a new job or spend time with family or younger siblings.

Find out more about funded places for 2, 3 or 4-year-olds and additional financial support at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/childcare.

For more support with your childcare, find the right offer for you on the Childcare Choices website: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>.

This includes Tax-Free Childcare (TFC). This gives eligible families up to £2,000 per child towards childcare costs, including the fees for breakfast, after-school and holiday clubs.