

Lancashire Schools and Settings

**Let's work together to support
our children & families!**



Lancashire County Council aims to ensure that children, young people and their families are safe, healthy and achieve their full potential.

We need your help to provide young children with the best possible opportunities to develop physically, emotionally and socially. We know that you play an important role in supporting children and families at critical points in their lives. With your support in assisting families to access an early years funded place with a nursery or childminder, together we can help Lancashire's children to thrive.

All three and four year old children are entitled to up to 15 hours a week (570 hours per year) and so are 2 year olds who meet the eligibility criteria.

The families that you are working with may not know about this entitlement or may need a little help to take up their place.

Taking up these sessions helps:

- Support children to achieve an age appropriate level of development and promote school readiness and the best transition into school.
- Develop children's speech and language skills
- Promote positive outcomes in children's health and wellbeing, learning and behaviour
- Children to be active and develop physically through fun and play both indoors and out

2 year olds

Information about eligibility is available on our: [website](#).

If a family is on low income or in receipt of certain benefits please direct them to our: [eligibility checker](#).

If a family meets the other eligibility criteria (e.g. open to children's social care) their social worker or support worker can make a referral by completing this [form](#).

3&4 year olds

All 3&4 year olds are eligible for 15 hours a week (570 hours per year) and some working families are eligible for 30 hours a week (1140 hours per year). Help families learn more about this by signposting them to our: [website](#).

Helping families find a suitable place

You can also help families find a suitable childcare provider that will meet their needs by directing them to our: [childcare search](#).



A little extra support

Some families might need a bit of extra help in finding a place (e.g. they may have a child with special or additional needs). Please direct families to our Family Information Service who can be contacted by calling 0300 123 6712 or by emailing FIS@lancashire.gov.uk.

Further support/information

Further information about the early years entitlements can be found in our [guide for professionals](#) or you can contact the Early Years Entitlements team at:

fee234@lancashire.gov.uk

or telephone

01772 533552.

This email/telephone number is for professionals working with families.

Thank you in advance for your support!



