



# Phasing and Prioritisation of 1140 hours of free Early Learning and Childcare



From August 2018



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The Government Standard

The Scottish Government has set a transformational agenda for Early Learning and Childcare by 2020. '*A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland 2017 – 2018 Action Plan*' was published in March 2017 and outlines the vision for Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) and the key policy principles.

The Scottish Government's vision is to almost double the entitlement of free ELC from 600 hours to 1140 hours per year by 2020 for all 3 and 4 year olds and eligible 2 year olds. The vision is underpinned by the key principles of Quality, Flexibility, Accessibility and Affordability.

East Renfrewshire Council carried out a consultation exercise in July 2017 to ascertain the views of parents on accessing 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare. The department consulted on models that would give parents both flexibility and choice in accessing this additional provision. The delivery model proposed, which is based on current parental demand, includes:

- Nursery sessions which match the school day
- Lengthening of nursery sessions to allow for longer days
- Stretching the provision over the calendar year
- Blended provision

## Phasing and Prioritisation

Every child in East Renfrewshire is entitled to 600 hours of free early learning and childcare, however in some cases we may be able to provide 1140 hours and as such the Education Department has planned a phased approach to introducing the increased entitlement.

## What will be available?

From August 2018 onwards East Renfrewshire Council will begin to introduce the following models:

### 1. Core Provision (Nursery Classes Only)

5 sessions of 6 hours per week (school days over the school year)

### 2. Extended Provision (Nursery Classes Only)

3 sessions of 10 hours per week (longer days over the school year)

### 3. Stretched Provision A (Family Centres Only)

5 sessions of 4 hours 45 minutes per week (half days over 48 weeks)

#### **4. Stretched Provision B (Family Centres Only)**

2 sessions of 9½ hours and 1 session of 4 hours 45 minutes per week (mix of full days and half days over 48 weeks)

#### **5. Blended Provision**

15 hours in LA Establishment and 15 hours with another provider working in partnership with ERC per week.

#### **6. Funded Provider Provision**

30 hours per week fully funded provision with a funded provider including private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sector providers and childminders.

Children will receive 1140 hours funded ELC in each school year that they are eligible and a pro rata amount for each part of a year in which they are eligible.

***Please note all local authority establishments close for public holidays and school in-service days.***

### **Proposed Timeline**

Initial capital investment from the Scottish Government has allowed us to expand provision in some of our communities. This investment combined with East Renfrewshire's continued commitment to providing children and families with high quality and accessible early learning and childcare will allow us to introduce 1140 hours provision in the following establishments from August 2018 onwards:

- Arthurlie Family Centre
- Braidbar Nursery Class
- Busby Nursery Class
- Isobel Mair Family Centre\*

*\*Extending provision for children with Additional Support Needs.*

**It should be noted that the phasing will run alongside our existing provision and models of delivery of 600 hours (core, additional, holiday, extended and private provider).**

## What is the priority system for early implementation of 1140 hours?

**Band A:** Child protection, Prevention, Looked After and Additional Support Needs

**Band B:** Children residing in areas of deprivation as described by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Level 1 & 2.

Children from households who are in receipt of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Job seekers allowance (income based)
- Employment Support Allowance (income based)
- Incapacity or Severe Disablement Allowance
- State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, and your income is less than £16,105\*
- Both maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit and your income is under £6,420\*
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit and your household take-home pay is £610 or less

*\*The income thresholds for Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit can vary annually*

**Band C:** Children where English is an Additional Language.

**Band D:** Children whose parents are returning to training or work.

*The criteria will be applied in the order shown above. If for any category the number of requests exceeds the number of places available, the next succeeding criteria will be used to prioritise these requests and so on until all priority criteria have been exhausted. If, after this process, two or more requests cannot be distinguished as having priority, then a ballot will be held to allocate the places available. This ballot will be organised by a senior education officer.*

## How do I apply?

A hard copy of the application pack can be requested from the Education Department's Business Support Section. Application forms should be fully completed and submitted either by email or post to Business Support Section.

You are encouraged to register your child for a place in a local authority establishment when they reach their second birthday. In this introductory year we would ask that all applications are received by the last day in July of the school year in which your child will attend nursery, with allocations made by August of the same year. Applications received after this date will be treated as late and will not be dealt with until after the August allocations.

Your child's nursery place is allocated for two years, returning children are automatically allocated a place for their pre-school year.

*\*Parents who have already applied for 600 hours of early learning and childcare and believe they are now eligible for the increased hours are required to make a further application for 1140 hours.*

**Education Department  
Business Support Section  
211 Main Street  
Barrhead  
G78 1SY**

Telephone: **0141 577 3288**

Email: **[earlylearningandchildcare@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlylearningandchildcare@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)**

## What happens next?

All East Renfrewshire Nursery allocations are considered with a view to meeting parents needs whilst still maximising provider occupancy.

On receipt of your application the Business Support Section will assess against the banding criteria for 1140 hours.

Every effort will be made to meet your preference. However, this will be dependent on the number of places available and the priority given to applications. Where demand for 1140 hours places exceeds availability the banding criteria will allow us to allocate places in an equitable way.

If you are offered 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare for your child in an East Renfrewshire Council nursery, you will be notified in writing and asked to confirm your acceptance of the place. You will then be invited to attend the nursery with the following documentation:

- Proof of the child's age (birth certificate/passport), and;
- Proof of your current address (council tax, rental/mortgage agreement);
- Evidence of benefits you receive. (if applicable)

East Renfrewshire Council is committed to providing 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare for all our families by August 2020; however it is anticipated that such provision shall take a few years to establish.

# PRIVACY NOTICE – 2, 3 AND 4 YEAR OLD PLACES IN EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

## Who will process your information?

The personal information you give to us through any of our forms relating to a 2, 3 and 4 year old places in Early Learning And Childcare and any other personal information we hold about you in this context will be processed by East Renfrewshire Council, Eastwood Park Giffnock G46 6UG for the administration of 2, 3 and 4 year old places in Early Learning and Childcare and any charges that may need to be applied to you.

## Why do we process your information?

Your information is processed to help us administer 2, 3 and 4 year old places in Early Learning and Childcare and collect fees where these apply. Your information may also be shared with other departments within the council and other organisations out with the council to check the information we have is accurate and to protect public funds.

## What is the legal basis for us to process your information?

The council processes your information in order to perform a task carried out in the public interest, and where appropriate to fulfil its legal obligations to ensure proper administration of the council's financial affairs in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The law gives certain types of information special significance because of its sensitivity eg health information. If we process this type of information about you in relation to 2, 3 and 4 year old places in Early Learning and Childcare we do so on the basis that it is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

These are the main points of our privacy notice. You can access the full privacy notice at [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/privacy) If you do not have access to a computer and wish a paper copy please contact your early learning and childcare establishment.

