

# APPLICATION GUIDANCE FOR 1140 hours

## FOR 3-5 STATUTORY FUNDED PLACE 2026/2027

### Application Guidance Notes for Parents/Carers applying to an Early Learning & Childcare (ELC) provider

You should complete this form if your child will become eligible for a free funded place according to North Lanarkshire Council's Admission Policy for children aged 3 to 5 years.

For full details go to [northlanarkshire.gov.uk/ELC](http://northlanarkshire.gov.uk/ELC)

#### Eligibility for entitlement

All children who will be three years of age before 1 March 2027 are entitled to receive up to 1140 hours statutory funded place during session August 2026/2027:

- Children who reach three years of age between 1 March 2026 and 31 August 2026 can take up their ELC placement from August 2026. (day after their 3rd birthday, up to the 31 August 2026).
- Children reaching three years of age between 1 September 2026 and 31 December 2026 can take up their ELC placement from January 2027.
- Children reaching three years of age between 1 January 2027 and last day of February 2027 can take up their ELC placement from April 2027.

North Lanarkshire Council offers several models for 1140 hours provision. The council is in a framework agreement with a number of partner providers (private, voluntary and independent nurseries and childminders), and this offers flexibility for parents/carers in how they use their 1140 hours.

Council Nurseries offer the following options:

**Term Time 38 weeks:** 6 hours per day, over 38 weeks of an academic school year.

**Full-Time 48 weeks:** 4 hours 45 minutes sessions per day, 5 mornings, 8.00am to 12.45pm or 5 afternoons, 1.15pm to 6.00pm.

Parents/carers can select for example a provider that offers AM and PM placements within a Full-Time provider but only select to utilise it over 38 weeks. The remainder of funding may be utilised for a split placement with another provider.

**Mixed Models:** Offering a choice of Term Time sessions or Full-Time sessions.

**NB** 48 week establishments will close for the following public holidays; 1st and 2nd January, Good Friday and Easter Monday, Mayday Holiday, Friday and Monday of May Weekend Holiday, Fair Monday, Friday and Monday of September Weekend Holiday, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day. They will also close during the 3 days between Christmas and New Year and In-service days.

**Funded Providers:** these include childminders and private, voluntary & independent nurseries that have entered into a framework agreement with North Lanarkshire Council. These funded providers can offer a variety of models between 38-51 weeks per year. Funded providers should be approached directly for details of the models they provide.

**Split Placements:** Parents/carers can choose a split placement allowing funding to be split between 2 providers. An example of this is a child attending 2 council establishments, council and a funded provider or 2 funded providers. A fully completed application form **MUST** be submitted to BOTH ELC provider that you wish your funding to be split between.