



Knowsley Early Years has a duty to ensure that there is sufficient, quality accessible, affordable childcare available for both working parents and for children who are entitled to receiving their free 2, 3 and 4 year old early education entitlement.

The Childcare Information Service provides information about all registered childcare provision and maintained nursery provision in Knowsley; and will act as a brokerage service to find provision in the borough to meet individual children and family needs and requirements. Registered childcare provision includes nursery settings, childminders, pre- school provision, out of school and holiday provision.

For further advice or information contact

0800 085 2022 (option 1) or 0151 443 5635 /5633

Children who are eligible for the 2 year old offer:

Parents must be in receipt of certain benefits or their child must have a current statement of special educational needs/Education, Health and Care plan, in receipt of Disability Living allowance or have left care through special guardianship or an adoption or residence order. From the term following their 2nd birthday they will be entitled to 15 hours free childcare per week over 38 weeks (school term times) or 11.5 hours per week spread over 50 weeks of the year including school holidays. Referrals can be made by contacting their Health Visitor, Local Children's Centre or by visiting their chosen nursery (if this is known). On receipt of the referral form the Early Years team will check that the child is eligible for the free place and will contact the parents to discuss provision available in the area to secure a place for the child.

The childcare provider / maintained school nursery has a statutory requirement to complete a 2 year old Progress check on all children who attend their provision. Each child will have a Key Person who is responsible for supporting the child in the setting, monitoring their learning and development progress and engaging with parents to promote home learning.

Children who are entitled to the 3 & 4 year old early education offer:

All children are generally entitled to receive 15 hours per week free nursery education the term after their 3rd birthday this can also be taken flexibly and stretched over a 50 week period. This can be accessed from mainstream nursery in most Knowsley schools or in a Private/ Voluntary nursery or a childminder. To apply for a place in a school nursery an application must be made directly to the chosen school. (for guidance refer to; Knowsley School Nursery Class Admissions – Information for Parents). For the Private/Voluntary sector or childminder contact the Childcare Information Service (number above) or contact the individual setting.