



# Funding for Early Learning and Childcare

West Partnership  
cross boundary agreement

# Background

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All children aged 3 and 4, as well as eligible 2-year-olds, are entitled to access increased free early learning and childcare provision. Each child is provided with 1,140 hours each year, which can be accessed in either Council-run nurseries or private nurseries and childminders which meet the required criteria.

The ability for families to access high quality funded early learning and childcare with the provider of their choice is known as Funding Follows the Child.

The West Partnership – which is made up of 8 Councils – has designed a cross boundary funding protocol to support the implementation of Funding Follows the Child. As well as the 8 local authorities that make up the West Partnership (Glasgow, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire), neighbouring local authorities in Argyll and Bute and East, North and South Ayrshire Councils operate in line with this protocol, however access and processes may differ.

This means that, where physical and financial capacity allows, these councils will work together to support families to access their funded hours in a different Council area from where they live.



# Procedure and timeline

Please Note:



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# Inter-Authority Cross Boundary Funding

## Parent/Carer and Partner Frequently Asked Questions

Please read this leaflet in conjunction with host authority funding process

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| <b>1 My child is 3 years old, when can I have a funded nurser place from for m child?</b>  | When a funded place has been approved by the local authority where you live, funding will be granted for your child from the term following the child's 3rd birthday in line with Scottish Government guidance. Some local authorities may fund earlier than this. You can ask the funded provider to check this for you or you can contact the local authority where your live for details of their policy. |
| <b>2 If m 2 ear old child is entitled to funding when can I have a funded nurser place from for m child?</b>   | When a funded place has been approved by the local authority where you live, funding will be granted in the Funded Provider Nursery from the term following your child's second birthday in line with Scottish Government guidance.  |
| <b>3 Do I have to appl for a cross boundar place or does the Funded Pro ider appl on m behalf?</b>   | "Cross Boundary" requests have to be made by the parent/carers or Funded Provider by the closing date for applications in the Council area where the child will attend.  |
| <b>4 Can I appl for cross boundar funding at an time throughout the school session?</b>  | Yes. Requests for cross boundary funding are considered in May/June each year. Requests received after the deadline will be considered at other points in the year, although there is no guarantee that late applications will be approved.  |
| <b>5 If there is a dela in m current nurser submitting a funding application to be considered b the local authorit here I live, ill the funding be backdated to the eligible funding start date?</b> | Late applications for funding will be considered from the first Monday following receipt of the application by the host authority or effective funding date if later.  |
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