

Smarties Funded Hours Policy

September 2024

Summary of Calderdale Council Childcare Funding Offer:

Eligible children are entitled to 570 Universal Hours or 1140 Working Parents' Hours of funded childcare each year over a minimum of 38 weeks. The maximum number of hours a child can use in any one week is 15 Universal Hours or 30 Extended Hours and no more than 10 hours in any one day. Hours are usually taken during school term time, however some childcare providers offer to 'stretch' the hours all year round over the holidays.

In order to claim the funding parents/carers will be required to fill in a Parental Declaration form with the childcare provider where funding will be claimed (Smarties Nursery).

3 & 4 Year Old Universal Funding Entitlement:

All 3 & 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours funded early education, the first term after their child turns 3.

Working Parents' Entitlement:

3 & 4 year olds who meet working parents criteria can claim up to an additional 15 hours of funded childcare.

2 year olds of working parents may also be able to claim 15 hours of funded childcare.

From September 2024, children from 9 month plus, of working parents may be able to claim 15 hours of funded childcare.

From September 2025, children from 9 months plus, of working parents may be able to claim 30 hours.

To check a child's eligibility for the working parents' funded hours visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Attendance:

Parents / Carers should try to ensure that their child attends each funded session timely. However, if this is not possible Smarties Nursery must be notified of any reasons for absence, in line with ***Smarties Nursery Attendance Policy for Early Education Funding***.

Nursery Opening Hours: 7am to 6pm

Smarties Nursery Offer:

Smarties Nursery offer funded hours on both a term time and a stretched basis as follows:

- Term time hours are offered over 38 weeks a year in line with Calderdale school holidays.
- Stretched hours are offered over the 51 weeks a year we are open. (The nursery closes each year for one week at Christmas, bank holidays and training days). On a stretched basis the funding hours equate to the following:
 - 15 hours universal funding entitlement equates to 11 hours a week
 - 30 Hours entitlement (universal & working parents' entitlement) equates to 22 hours a week, for those that are eligible.

The only costs applicable during the funded sessions are for the meals and snacks provided during those sessions. (See below).

Term Time Only Attendance – Over 38 weeks a year

Term time only funded hours are provided in the following sessions:

Full day (10 hour session): 8.00am to 6.00pm

Mornings: (5 hour session): 8.00am to 1.00pm

Afternoons: (5 hour session): 1.00pm to 6.00pm

Parents/carers may choose from any of the above available sessions to the maximum of their universal and/or extended entitlement.

Term time only places are restricted and available on a “first come, first served” basis.

Please note: the 39th week of the term is not covered by your 38 weeks funding. If your child attends for week 39 this will be charged in your August invoice.

Stretched Hours Attendance – Over 51 weeks a year

Stretched funded hours are provided in the following sessions:

- Full day (10 hour session): 8.00am to 6.00pm
- Mornings (5.5 hour session): 7.30am to 1pm
- Afternoon (5.5 hour session): 12.30pm to 6pm
- Subsidised morning session (1 or 2 hour funded hours session, 3 or 4 hours FREE): 8am to 1pm

Parents/carers may choose from any of the above available sessions to the maximum of their universal and/or extended entitlement. For example:

- 22-hour entitlement options are: 4 mornings, 4 afternoons, 2 full days plus subsidised session or a combination not exceeding 10 funded hours per day.
- 11-hour entitlement options are: 1 full day plus subsidised session, 2 mornings, 2 afternoons or a combination not exceeding 10 funded hours per day.

Since we are only permitted to offer a maximum funded day of 10 hours, we are offering 3 or 4 hours free childcare to any parent wishing to use their residual hours to make up a full morning session.

For example, where a parent is entitled to 11 hours per week and has taken a full day (8am – 6pm), they will have 1 hour’s funding left over. They can use this towards a morning session and Smarties Nursery will fund the remaining charge of that session.

Similarly, where a parent is entitled to 22 hours per week and has taken 2 full days (8am – 6pm), they will have 2 hour’s funding left over. They can use these towards a morning session and Smarties Nursery will fund the remaining charge of that session.

Wrap around Service

We offer a wrap-around service for parents/carers who wish to extend their child’s attendance on the days they are taking their funded sessions. Sessions can be extended as follows:

Full day (10 hour session): 8.00am to 6.00pm – wraparound charge for 7am to 8am = £5.50

Mornings: (5 hour session): 8.00am to 1.00pm – wraparound charge for 7am to 8am = £5.50

Mornings: (5.5 hour session): 7.30am to 1pm – wraparound charge for 7am to 7.30am = £2.75

Meals and snacks provided during funded sessions

Morning sessions: Breakfast, snack and lunch are provided at a cost of £3.90 per session

Afternoon sessions: Tea is provided at a cost of £1.35 per session

Full day: Breakfast, snack, lunch and tea are provided at a cost of £5.25 per day

If you wish to provide your own meals and snacks for these sessions, they must comply with the Nursery’s policy on “Packed lunches and snacks”.



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Smarties Nursery Ltd, Field Top Road, Rastrick, Brighouse HD6 3XB.
Registered in England with company number 09578202.

