



A guide to Childcare and Funding at Ruislip Stars Nurseries

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As a parent, you can access childcare in a variety of ways, and it is important to find the childcare that is right for you and your child. In the brief guide, we will explain what Ruislip Stars has to offer and some important things for you to consider and be aware of.

Additional help available:

For example, fostering or adopted, you are in receipt of universal or tax credits, or your child is disabled.



Government funding & eligibility explained

9 months

If eligible, 9-month-olds can get up to 30 hours of funded childcare. Families with a 9-month-old child can receive funding to support up to 1140 hours of childcare each year from the start of the term after they turn 9 months.

2 years

If eligible, 2-year-olds can get up to 30 hours of funded childcare. This support covers up to 1140 hours per year starting from the school term after the child's second birthday. To qualify for the 30 hours of free childcare, the parents must meet the specific eligibility criteria.

There are two sets of criteria for two-year funding. If parents receive any of the following benefits, they can claim eligibility through the local authority where the nursery is located (Hillingdon)

- Income support
- Income based jobseeker's allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

Government funding & eligibility explained

3 and 4-year-olds (Universal funding)

Starting from the school term following their third birthday, all 3 and 4-year-olds are entitled to 15 hours of “universal” funded childcare. This provides support for up to 570 hours of childcare annually.

3 and 4-year-olds (Enhanced Support for Working Families)

Starting from the school term after their third birthday, eligible 3 and 4-year-olds can access 30 hours of “extended” funded childcare. This provides up to 1140 hours of support annually.

Government funding at a glance

September 2025		9 months – 2 years	2-3 years	3-5 years
Entitlement	All parents	-	-	15 hours
	Working families	30 hours	30 hours	30 hours
	Families with special circumstances	-	15 hours	

Ruislip Stars Nurseries fees

Ruislip Stars Nurseries Fees

Whilst government funding significantly helps with childcare fees, it only covers a limited number of hours and doesn't include all the essentials and extras that make Ruislip Stars special. To ensure we provide your child with the best start in life, we ask you contribute towards these costs in addition to remaining hours.

Full-time care over 52 weeks

Government funding only covers 38 weeks of the year. The funded entitlement provides 570 hours per year for the 15-hour offer and 1140 hours per year for the 30-hour offer. This means that if you utilise the full 30 hours per week, government funding will cover only 38 weeks annually. Ruislip Stars offers a 'stretched offer' distributing the hours more evenly throughout the year.

Stretched funding at Ruislip Stars

The standard 15-30-hour funding is allocated over 38 weeks of the year (term-time only). At Ruislip Stars, we stretch our funding over 52 weeks of the year and apply up to 11 or 22-hour funding per week, which provides more consistency over the course of the year. Please note a minimum of 3 full days is required to access this facility.

15 x 38 = 570 hours per year

11 x 52 = 572 hours per year

Ruislip Stars Nurseries fees

Term-time care over 38 weeks

We offer term-time care over 38 weeks, providing 30 hours of free care each week. This includes 6 hours a day, but please note that spaces are limited.

Fees and deposits

Fees are calculated over 52 weeks on an annual basis and divided into twelve equal monthly payments.

Ruislip Stars Nurseries funding overview

30 hours funded					
Session type	Session time	Charges			
Short day	9:00am-3:00pm – funded 38 weeks / no charges	cost of morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack £4.35. Payable daily			
Additional hours	8:00am-9:00am /3:00pm-6:00pm	£15 per hour plus the cost of any meal / snack during the additional hours			
15 hours funded					
Session type	Session time				
Morning session	9:00am-12:00pm – funded 38 weeks / no charges	morning snack £1.00			
Afternoon session	1:00pm-4:00pm – funded 38 weeks / no charges	afternoon snack £1.00			
Additional hours	8:00am-9:00am /4:00pm-6:00pm	£15 per hour plus the cost of any meal / snack during the additional hours			
Please arrange to meet with the nursery manager to review the nursery food and nutrition policy, to help you decide if you can provide packed meals and snacks in an insulated container suitable to be stored at room temperature.					
Registration fee non - refundable, £175					
Refundable deposit for only funded hours, £150 - full fees and stretched deposit amount is based on final monthly rate					
Overview of costs:					
Breakfast	Am snack	Lunch	Pm snack	Dinner	Total
£0.85	£1.00	£2.35	£1.00	£2.35	£7.55

Ruislip Stars Nurseries funding overview

Additional charges

Early bird sessions (7.30am – 8.00am) available on an advanced booking basis @ £12.50 per session.

Lateness - A strict late collection policy applies of for all sessions. An initial charge of £15.00 will apply and a further £15 charge will be made after every 10 minutes or part of.

DAYSHARE £10 a month

Consumable Charge – £10 per Month

The monthly consumable charge covers a defined set of additional experiences, materials, and events provided throughout the year. This fee ensures that all children can participate fully without the need for ad-hoc payments.

What the Consumable Charge Includes

- **Cultural and Seasonal Celebrations**

Costs associated with additional cultural, religious, and seasonal events, including themed resources, craft materials, decorations, and activity crafts. (this does not include a gift from Santa or Christmas lunch for parents, additional fees apply)

- **Stay & Play Events**

Contribution towards refreshments, materials, and resources used during stay-and-play sessions that are open to all parents and carers.

- **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Materials, and resources for activities such as gardening, science experiments, and other hands-on learning experiences, including preparing and enjoying food through play and cooking.

- **What the Consumable Charge Does Not Cover**

Core nursery provision already included in standard fees

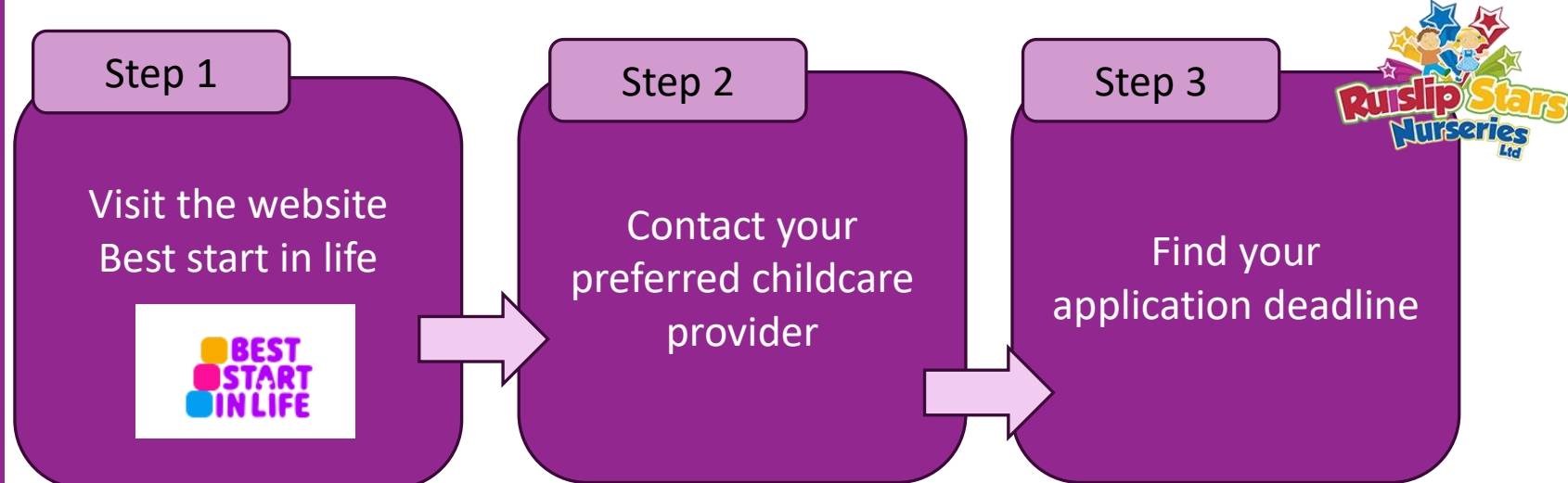
External trips or outings requiring transport

Personal items such as nappies, wipes, or spare clothing

Parents who wish to opt out from the voluntary charge can choose to provide the required resources/ ingredients themselves (the nursery can provide the list upon request). The child will continue to take part in other non-enhanced EYFS activities (continuous provision)

Applying for funding

How and when you need to apply for your childcare funding depends on your child's age, the scheme and some other factors. We've broken it down for you.



Find your application deadline

You can apply for your code up to 16 weeks before your baby turns 9 months old.

You need to apply online before the deadline to receive a code to give to your childcare provider. The deadline is the day before the new term begins, but we encourage you to apply earlier, and recommend applying at least 6 weeks before the deadline. Some providers may ask for codes before the deadline, so we recommend you speak to your provider to find out if this is the case. The deadlines are:

If my child turns 9 months old between	I can access 30 funded hours from	And I need to apply by
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	31 March
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	31 August
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	31 December

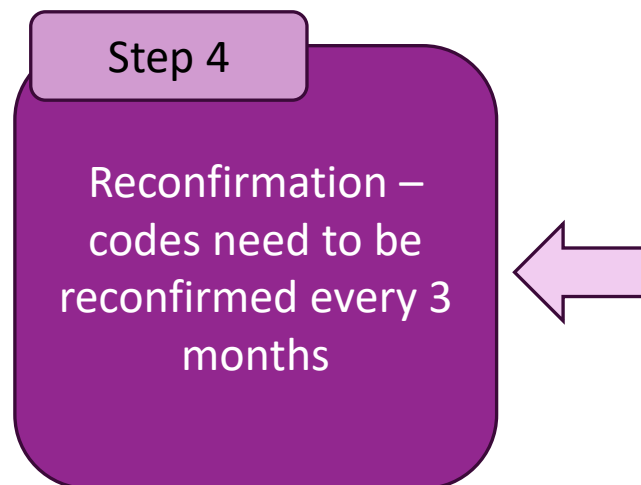
Before you apply, you'll need to make sure you have the following information to hand:

- your National Insurance number (or unique taxpayer reference if you are self-employed)
- the date you started or are due to start work
- details of any government support or benefits you receive
- the UK birth certificate reference number (if you have one) for your child

If you are a foster carer, there is a separate application process. Speak to your social worker to find out more.

Once you have applied, you will receive an 11-digit code to give to your childcare provider to access the entitlements.

You'll need to take the code to your childcare provider, along with your National Insurance number and your child's date of birth. Your childcare provider will check the code and then allocate your child a place if they have one available.



When can I apply for funding?

You may be curious about when your child can start using the 15 and 30 hours of government funding. The timing depends on their birthday, so it's important to plan accordingly.

When your child is 9 months old	When you can get your hours from	When to apply
1 st September to 31 st December	Term starting on or after 1 st January	The term before the 1 st January
1 st January to 31 st March	Term starting on or after 1 st April	The term before the 1 st April
1 st April to 31 st August	Term starting on or after 1 st September	The term before the 1 st September

If you're a parent of an eligible 2-year-old, the earliest you can apply for funding directly through your local authority is at the beginning of the term in which your child turns two.

Term times:

Autumn Term	1 st September and 31 st December	Eligibility starts when turning 9 months, 2 years or 3 years old on or before the 31 st of August
Spring term	1 st January to 31 st March	Eligibility starts when turning 9 months, 2 years or 3 years old on or before the 31 st of December.
Summer term	1 st April to 31 st August	Eligibility starts when turning 9 months, 2 years or 3 years old on or before the 31 st of March