



Hackney 2 Year Old Extended Free Childcare Pilot

Application Guidance

15th January 2010



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Overview

The 2 Year Old Extended Free Childcare Pilot is part of the Government's plan to reduce the impact of poverty and raise the outcomes of vulnerable 2 year olds.

The National Aims of the extended pilot are:

- By March 2011, to deliver free childcare to 20,000 two year olds in the most disadvantaged communities
- To improve learning outcomes and close the gap between those children and other children in the LA
- To improve outcomes for parents, by supporting them to take up training or to go to work
- To build evidence on the impact of the pilots to inform proposals for any further rollout

The Learning Trust (Hackney) has received funding as part of this pilot to provide access to childcare for 290 two year olds in 2009-2010 and 290 two year olds in 2010-2011. Parents will receive:

- Up to 15 hours childcare for 38 weeks per year
- Family and home learning support (if appropriate) from their local children's centre and/or aligned projects
- A planned transition into 3 year old free nursery education entitlement

To be eligible for the project, all families accessing the pilot **MUST** be in receipt of at least one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit at a rate higher than the family element
- Extra Working Tax Credit relating to a disability
- Pension Credit
- Asylum Seeker receiving support from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS)

Guidance for Parents/Carers

Fill out Pages 1, 2 and 3 of the application form with your chosen provider (Participating Provider List).

To access the scheme your child must be two years old – and we will be able to fund them from the first term after their two year old birthday. This is so we can ensure a seamless transition onto the three and four year old entitlement.

A child born on or between	Will become eligible for a place from
1 April and 31 August	1 September following their second birthday
1 September and 31 December	1 January following their second birthday
1 January and 31 March	1 April following their second birthday

To be eligible, you must be in receipt of at least one of the benefits listed on the application form. Supporting evidence may be required.

You must ensure the childcare provider section (page 3) is completed before sending in the application form. We cannot agree funding unless you have been offered a childcare place by a provider.

Not all Hackney childcare providers are part of the scheme, so check with your provider to ensure that they are or see the Participating provider List.

Please ensure that you bring a copy of your benefit(s) letter(s) and or other evidence to demonstrate your eligibility to the childcare provider. The childcare provider may want to make a photocopy.

Guidance for Childcare Providers

Discuss your service(s) and vacancies with the parent/carer/family.

If you can offer a place, fill out page 5 of the application form with the parent/carer.

Check the parent benefit(s) information to confirm that they are eligible to access the two year old pilot.

Take a copy of page 5 for your files.

Childcare will only be funded from the date of funding award as notified in the Award Letter you will receive from the Learning Trust.

Next Steps

Once pages 1-3 of the application form are complete, return the completed application form to:

The Learning Trust

2 Year Old Pilot Application

Level 2, 1 Reading Lane

Hackney E8 1GQ

FAX: 020 8820 7450

If scanned, please also email a scanned copy to 2yoldpilot@learningtrust.co.uk

On receipt of the application a decision will be made on funding and the parent/carer and childcare provider will be notified in writing as soon as possible.

Contact Details

Website

To download the application form and for further information go to:

www.learningtrust.co.uk/childcare/information_for_providers/free_childcare_pilot.aspx

Project Team

Peter Morgan

Project Manager

Peter.Morgan@learningtrust.co.uk

020 8820 7406

Claudia Thomas

Business Support Officer

Claudia.Thomas@learningtrust.co.uk

020 8820 7595