

ANNEX E – Information Sheet

FEEE rates and supplements, funding timelines, payment dates, delivery models and details of funding payments (estimates and adjustments).

Annex E will be updated for each academic year or if there are any changes/updates to the information included here.

1. Funding rates for FEEE places from April 2026

Base rates for FEEE delivery	Rate per hour
9 to 23 month olds Up to 30 hours for children from eligible working families	£10.96
2 year olds Up to 15 hours for Early Learning for 2 year olds for families receiving additional forms of support (FRAS) Up to 30 hours for children from eligible working families	£7.92
3 and 4 year olds Up to 15 hours Universal Entitlement Up to 30 hours for children from eligible working families	£5.49

All providers will be paid at least the applicable base rate and may qualify for one or more of the Supplements to be added to the base rate (see below).

Each Provider will therefore have a composite funding rate for 9 to 23 month olds, for 2 year olds and for 3 and 4 year olds (i.e., Base Rate plus Supplements where applicable). Details of this will be communicated to providers by the FEEE funding team.

Supplements to the base rates

Providers may qualify for **quality** and/or **deprivation** related supplements.

The amounts will be determined by the Funding and Grants FEEE Team, on an annual basis, every Spring term and will apply for the following summer, autumn, and spring terms. Subsequent changes to circumstances, which affect the supplements, will only be considered, and applied from the summer term in the following year.

Criteria for the supplements	Supplement added to base rates per hour
For Quality supplement:	
A member of staff is qualified as Early Years Professional (EYP) or with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)*	£0.16
For Deprivation supplement: On average, relevant funded children at the setting are from	
the 10% most deprived areas of the city	£0.21
from between 10% and 20% most deprived areas of the city	£0.10
from between 20% and 30% most deprived areas of the city	£0.05

*Documentary evidence for the EYP/QTS staff qualification will need to be submitted annually, every Spring term. The deprivation supplement will be determined by the funding team based on the spring term headcount each year.

Other funding that providers can receive

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Additional sum of money payable to childcare providers for qualifying FEEE children from families in receipt of certain benefits. The rate from April 2026 is £1.15 per hour per eligible child, for up to a maximum of 570 hours per year.

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

FEEE children in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) will be eligible for DAF which will be paid as a lump sum payment of £975 per year.

Parents / carers can nominate one setting only to receive this funding.

Further information on how to apply can be accessed via: [Disability access fund | LCC Family Hub](#)

Special Educational Needs Inclusion Funding (SENIF)

Additional financial support payable, subject to availability and conditions, for FEEE children with SEND to enable providers to undertake essential training or offer more appropriate staff to child ratios. Please speak to your area SENCo for more information.

2. Information applicable for academic year 2025/26

Important note:

The information stated is only relevant until end of Summer Term 2026.

From Autumn Term 2026, there will be some significant changes, mainly due to a systems change, for example to the delivery models, funded weeks, payment methodology and procedures.

Providers must refer to the e-mail communication in June 2026 from the Funding and Grants Team with detailed information about the changes and for the timelines, payment dates and other updates for the Autumn Term 2026.

Please contact earlyeducation@leicester.gov.uk if you would like the e-mails to be re-sent.

a. Timelines for submitting FEEE data

Headcount Portal data submission

For Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) group care providers and childminders

Term	Portal opening date	Portal closing date (at 23:59hrs)	Notes
Autumn 2025	Monday 1 September 2025	Monday 27 October 2025	Children who start after 27 October 2025 CANNOT be added to the headcount.
Spring 2026	Wednesday 24 December 2025	Monday 9 February 2026	Exception, for this term only, due to DfE census submission: New children who are enrolled to start after the submission date and will start attending by Friday 27 February 2026 can be added to the headcount (which must still be submitted by the deadline date). Children who start on or after Monday 2 March 2026 CANNOT be added to the Spring 2026 headcount.
Summer 2026	Monday 13 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026	Children who start after Friday 22 May 2026 CANNOT be added to the headcount.

Childminders to submit data for Estimate payments for all funded children (all cohorts)

Term	Information can be submitted from the following date onwards	Submission deadline 23:59hrs
Autumn 2025	Monday 7 July 2025	Monday 11 August 2025
Spring 2026	Monday 3 November 2025	Monday 8 December 2025
Summer 2026	Monday 23 February 2026	Monday 16 March 2026

PVI group care providers to submit data for additional estimate payments for new cohorts

Data submission for new cohorts only 9 to 23 month olds and 2 year olds from eligible working families	Submission deadline 23:59hrs
Autumn 2025	Monday 15 September 2025
Spring 2026	Monday 12 January 2026
Summer 2026	Monday 20 April 2026

Other submissions

Activity	Submission deadline
Actual Census Day (Estimated – 3 rd Thursday of the Month)	Thursday 15 January 2026
Census data to be submitted. This is a mandatory requirement for all FEEE providers	Saturday 31 January 2026 23:59hrs
Evidence for Early Years Professional (EYP) or Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) Which must be submitted to qualify for the additional quality related supplement as from the Summer Term 2026	Friday 13 February 2026 23:59hrs

b. Payment schedules for 2025/26 Payment schedule for PVI group care providers

Term	Estimate payments For 2 Year Olds (FRAS) and 3 and 4 Year Olds Universal and Extended	Additional Estimate payments for new cohorts For 9 to 23 month olds and 2 year olds Working Parent Entitlements	Adjustment payment and EYPP payment (All Cohorts)
Autumn 2025	W/C 1 September 2025	W/C 26 September 2025	W/C 8 December 2025
Spring 2026	W/C 5 January 2026	W/C 23 January 2026	W/C 23 March 2026
Summer 2026	W/C 13 April 2026	W/C 1 May 2026	W/C 6 July2026

Payment schedule for childminders

(Note: Estimate payments for childminders will be paid in 2 equal instalments)

Term	Estimate payment 1 (All Cohorts)	Estimate payment 2 (All cohorts)	Adjustment payment and EYPP payment (All cohorts)
Autumn 2025	W/C 1 September 2025	W/C 6 October 2025	W/C 8 December 2025
Spring 2026	W/C 5 January 2026	W/C 2 February 2026	W/C 23 March 2026
Summer 2026	W/C 13 April 2026	W/C 25 May 2026	W/C 06 July 2026

c. Delivery models for FEEE places (maximum funded weeks and hours per term)

The Council supports three models that Providers can choose to use to deliver their FEEE places.

(i) Standard 38 week per year 'term time' model 2025/26

15 or 30 hours (dependent on eligibility of the child) per week for 38 weeks per year.

This equates to a maximum of 570 hours (15-hour entitlement) or 1140 hours (30-hour entitlement)

Term	Maximum weeks AY 2025/26	Maximum hours 15-hour entitlement	Maximum hours 30-hour entitlement
Autumn 2025	15	225	450
Spring 2026	11	165	330
Summer 2026	12	180	360
Total	38	570	1140

For PVI group care providers and childminders the term-time funded dates for the academic year 2025/26 are as follows:

Term	Part Term	Term Time Funded Dates	Rounded weeks for funding purposes
Autumn 2025	i ii	Monday 1 September to Friday 17 October 2025 Monday 27 October to Friday 19 December 2025 Please note: Week beginning Monday 25 August to Friday 29 August 2025 is NOT a funded week for the 'term-time' model	15
Spring 2026	iii iv	Monday 5 January to Friday 13 February 2026 Monday 23 February to Friday 27 March 2026	11
Summer 2026	v vi	Monday 13 April to Friday 22 May 2026 (Except Bank Holiday Monday 4 May 2026) Monday 1 June to Friday 10 July 2026	12

Please note:

- Weeks for the whole Academic Year 2025/26 are 38 weeks.
- **The 48 week stretched model will not be available under the new system.**
For more details of the changes from the Autumn Term 2026, providers must refer to the e-mail communication (June 2026) from the Funding and Grants Team. Please contact earlyeducation@leicester.gov.uk if you would like the e-mails to be re-sent.
- The numbers of weeks for funding purposes are rounded up and there is no requirement for providers to offer alternative sessions for Bank Holidays. However, providers can choose to, and are encouraged to, offer alternative sessions where possible to make-up for the hours.
- PVI providers and childminders should inform all parents of the funded dates for 2025/26 and highlight that the week beginning Monday 25/08/2025 to Friday 29/08/2025 will not be a funded week for children who are expected to be funded on a term time basis in the Autumn Term 2025.

PVI providers and childminders who are open term-time only, and mainly deliver funded places, will have to take this into account when planning the working weeks/hours for staff members or childminder assistants and inform them of this.

Stretched Delivery models 2025/26 (up to Summer Term 2026)

The information given is valid up to the Summer Term 2026. Please refer to the note below regarding changes to the stretched offer models.

Providers can currently choose to offer either the 51 week or the 48 week stretched offer models.

Providers can choose to offer the term-time model only, or one of the stretched offer models only, or they can offer both the term-time model and one of the stretched offer models.

A child can access a term time model or stretched offer model at more than one provider. This is known as a 'blended offer' between the providers. However, both providers must offer the same model for the child i.e., the term-time model or the same stretched offer model.

(ii) 51 week per year 'stretched offer' model

190 or 380 hours per term (dependent on eligibility of the child) with 3 equal terms of 17 weeks each.

Term	Weeks (51 week 'stretched offer' model)	Total hours per term '15-hour entitlement'	Total hours per term '30-hour entitlement'
Autumn 2025	17	190	380
Spring 2026	17	190	380
Summer 2026	17	190	380
Total	51	570	1140

(iii) **48 week per year ‘stretched offer’ model**

190 or 380 hours per term (dependent on eligibility of the child) with three equal terms of 16 weeks each.

Term	Weeks (48 week ‘stretched offer’ model)	Total hours per term ‘15-hour entitlement’	Total hours per term ‘30-hour entitlement’
Autumn 2025	16	190	380
Spring 2026	16	190	380
Summer 2026	16	190	380
Total	48	570	1140

3. Detailed information on Funding - Estimate and Adjustment Payments

The information given is valid up to the Summer Term 2026. Please refer to the note below regarding changes to the funding, estimate and adjusted payments.

Payment of funding for providers is split into ‘estimate’ payments and ‘adjustment’ payments each term.

Estimate Payments

a. For PVI providers, the estimate is in two parts:

- i. For Early Learning for 2 year olds (FRAS), Universal Entitlement and 30 hour entitlement for 3- and 4-year-olds from eligible working families.

The amount for the estimate is calculated at the end of the financial year (March) based on the number of children funded at the provider over the previous financial year. The estimate payment amounts to 70% of the previous financial year’s funding, which is then divided by 3 and, this fixed sum is paid over the 3 terms of the new financial year (Summer, Autumn and Spring).

- ii. For the 30 hour entitlement for children aged 9 - 23 months and 2 year olds from eligible working families

The amount for the estimate is based on estimate data collected each term for these ‘new cohorts’ (new’ because these entitlements are relatively new/recent). The estimate payment amounts to 75% (was 70% until Mar-26) of the expected total funding for the given term, based on the estimate data).

Note: For new settings (not an acquisition of an established setting), the provider should contact the Funding and Grants Team to enquire about the estimate payments process that will apply for the setting.

Data collection dates and payment dates for these estimate payments for PVI providers are stated above.

b. For childminders:

- The estimate payment is based on estimate data collected for the term.
- The amount will be 70% of the expected total funding for the term, based on the estimate data.
- This 70% will be paid in two equal instalments

Note: New childminders should contact the Funding and Grants Team to enquire about the estimate payments process that will apply for them.

Data collection dates and payment dates for these instalments of the estimate payments for childminders are stated above.

Adjustment payments

The adjustment payment is the amount of funding payable for the whole term, based on provider headcount submitted, less the amount of estimate payments received by the provider.

Other information on payments

For PVI providers, the estimate payments for a term may occasionally exceed the amount the provider is eligible to claim for the given term. In this instance there will be no adjustment payment due for that term and the provider will be in a 'deficit' position. The normal process is to carry the deficit forward until the end of the financial year (in March) and then issue an invoice to the provider for the overpaid amount. However, the Council has the discretion to automatically deduct the overpayment from the next estimate payment or providers can request for the overpayment to be deducted from their next estimate payment. In these instances, if the provider is still in deficit at the end of the following term, they will then be issued with an invoice for the balance outstanding. Also, the Council has the discretion to reduce the estimate payment in the first place, where the numbers of funded children are significantly lower than the previous financial year or where the provider is restricted from offering new funded places due to being under FEEE compliance measures.

For childminders, if the estimate payments for a term exceed the amount of funding that is payable based on the headcount submitted, the childminder will be informed of the overpayment-which will be deducted from the estimate payment for the subsequent term. If the childminder is still in deficit at the end of the following term, they will be issued with an invoice to pay the remaining outstanding balance.

Important note: Changes to the funding, estimate and adjusted payments

The payment methodology and procedures for the funding have been reviewed with a view to improve these for providers. The information above is applicable up to the Summer Term 2026.

For more details of the changes from the Autumn Term 2026, providers must refer to the e-mail communication (June 2026) from the Funding and Grants Team. To be re-sent the email, please contact earlyeducation@leicester.gov.uk.