

Payment Periods

Academic Period	From	To
Autumn 2017	1 st September 2017	31 st December 2017
Spring 2018	2 nd January 2018	15 th April 2018
Summer 2018	16 th April 2018	31 st August 2018

Please be aware that a child can claim a maximum of 570 hours of Free Early Education (universal entitlement) in an academic year and, if eligible, a further 570 hours of free childcare (extended entitlement). Please be aware that the child's funding year now runs alongside the academic year.

Funded Weeks

Since September 2017 providers have the option of stretching the funding up to 52 weeks in the year. In line with the Kent Provider Agreement, all Providers **must** offer 15 hours over 38 weeks as a minimum, regardless of whether they opt to include the stretched offer as part of their provision. However, where providers are unable to open for the 38 weeks and this has been agreed with KCC, the provider must ensure that parents are made aware prior to taking up their place that they will not be able to access their full free entitlement with them.

Funding over 38 weeks - Non Stretched		Funding maximum weeks (up to 52) - Stretched	
Autumn 2017	14 weeks	Autumn 2017	17 weeks
Spring 2018	11 weeks	Spring 2018	15 weeks
Summer 2018	13 weeks	Summer 2018	20 weeks

Settings offering Stretched funding

In the case of a parent taking up the 'stretched' offer, they must be made aware that they may exceed their free early education hours and be given the option of either (a) removing their child from the setting or (b) paying for the additional hours. Under no circumstances can you insist that the parent pays; they must have the option to remove their child if this best suits their circumstances. The terms around these extra hours must be agreed between yourself and the parent at the time they sign the Parental Declaration. Please be aware that the choice of whether to stretch the funding is up to each Provider and is not obligatory.

For those offering stretched funding settings are now able to claim up to 52 weeks of the year. Please see the example below showing possible weeks/hours that can be claimed and the total no. of hours that will be capped:

Total number of weeks	Total weekly hours to be claimed	Total yearly hours claimed	Total hours to be capped in Summer Term
52	11	572	2
51	11.25	573.75	3.75
50	11.5	575	5
49	11.75	575.75	5.75
48	12	576	6

Providers should be aware that the universal and extended funding will be capped at 570 hours a year (the maximum number of hours the Department for Education fund Local Authorities) so MI will deduct any overclaimed hours in the final term of the funding year.

Estimate

Estimate payments will be paid at 50% of the termly hours submitted

Headcount Weeks for 3 and 4 Year Old Funding

Autumn 2017: Monday 11th – Friday 15th September 2017

Spring 2018: Monday 15th – Friday 19th January 2018

Summer 2018: Monday 23rd – Friday 27th April 2018

Payment Dates for 3 and 4 Year Old Funding

Autumn 2017: Interim: Monday 4th September 2017
Balancing: Monday 30th October 2017

Spring 2018: Interim: Thursday 4th January 2018
Balancing: Monday 19th February 2018

Summer 2018: Interim: Monday 16th April 2018
Balancing: Monday 4th June 2018

Term	3 Year Olds	4 Year Olds	Whole DOB Range
Autumn 17	01/09/2013 to 31/08/2014	01/09/2012 to 31/08/2013	01/09/2012 to 31/08/2014
Spring 18	01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014	01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013	01/01/2013 to 31/12/2014
Summer 18	01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015	01/04/2013 to 31/03/2014	01/04/2013 to 31/03/2015
Autumn 18	01/09/2014 to 31/08/2015	01/09/2013 to 31/08/2014	01/09/2013 to 31/08/2015

Compliance Visits

KCC will carry out annual sample checks and/or audits on all registered childcare providers to ensure compliance with the requirements of Free Early Education funding. KCC will also carry out checks as a result of a complaint or concern.

Kent Term Dates

Details of the Kent term dates can be found on

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/term-dates>