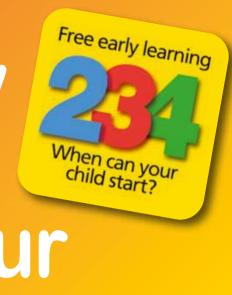
FREE early learning: when can your child start?

Walsall wants all of our young children to enjoy the benefits of free early learning for up to 15 hours per week before they start school





Walsall**FIS**



Like you, we want the best for our children

We know that attending free early learning can make a big difference

Your child can make friends, play and have fun, and learn and develop All children in Walsall can start the term after their third birthday. Some children can also start when they are 2. Talk to your local early learning providers and childminders. Or contact Walsall Council's dedicated team direct on 01922 653383, walsallfis@walsall.gov.uk or apply online at www.mywalsall.org/fis

We can help you claim your free hours and find a quality provider in your local area.

- Each child is entitled to up to 570 hours during a year.
- You can take your FREE hours either termly (over 38 weeks) or spread over the full year (up to 48 weeks), if available at your chosen provider.
- You have the choice to only take the FREE entitlement hours if that is all you
 want, and this is completely FREE to you. You don't have to buy extra hours.
- Your child can take a packed lunch if you do not wish to purchase a meal from your provider.
- If your child attends two different early learning settings, you can split the hours between the two.
- If you buy extra childcare hours, any bill/invoice you receive should be clear and should NOT show the FREE funded hours deducted from the total bill.
- Walsall Council pays your chosen provider directly for the FREE hours you receive.
- You DO NOT have to pay towards any FREE funded hours. Providers are not allowed to charge you for any difference between their own prices and the payments they receive from us.