



Marsh Gibbon Pre-School Hardship Fund – Policy and Procedure

Marsh Gibbon Pre-School aims to provide a high quality Pre-School provision which is accessible to all. Where an unexpected event or circumstance results in potential disruption to a child's attendance, financial assistance to cover the cost of unfunded sessions can be requested. This is intended to assist Parents/Carers in the short-term, where continuity of attendance is believed to be in the child's best interest.

We will work with the local authority to see if you are eligible for the 15 hours free funding for 2 year olds.

Eligibility for 2-year-old-Funding

Your 2-year-old can get free early education and childcare if you get one of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- tax credits and you have an annual income of under £16,190 before tax
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- the Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

A child can also get free early education and childcare if any of the following apply:

- they're looked after by a local council
- they have a current statement of special education needs (SEN) or an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- they've left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

All requests will be considered by representatives from the Committee and Pre-School Leader on a case by case basis and reviewed each term. Any information provided by a Parent/Carer will be treated as confidential, and each individual case will only be discussed with those parties involved.

Evidence of Hardship may be requested.

Typical scenarios where assistance may be available could include:

- Parent/Carer experiences loss of prime income source
- Parent/Carer experiences loss of a Partner
- Parent/Carer becomes ill and extra sessions are required

UNCRC Article Links:

Article 1,2,3,4,15,26 and 28.

Articles can be read at the front of this Policy and Procedure folder.